

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Seek to Avert Mass Starvation In Europe; New Wage-Price Plan Seen as Spur to Production

Released by Western Newspaper Union. (EDITOR'S NOTE: When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of Western Newspaper Union's news analysts and not necessarily of this newspaper.)

WORLD RELIEF: Need Great

In calling upon the American people to pull in their belts and get along on a smaller and less varied selection of meats, cheese, evaporated milk, ice cream, margarine, salad dressing and beverages, President Truman declared that the threat of starvation overseas was greater today than at any other time in history.

While Americans have been consuming about 3,300 calories per person, he said, more than 125 million people in Europe will have to subsist on less than 2,000 calories a day; 28 million will receive less than 1,500 calories a day, and large groups will get as little as 1,000 calories.

In shaping a nine-point program to enable this country to meet relief requirements overseas, the administration placed emphasis upon conservation of dwindling wheat supplies to assure fulfillment of export goals of 225 million bushels.

No less than 25 million bushels of wheat were expected to be saved during the first half of 1946 by raising the quantity of flour produced from a bushel of wheat to 80 per cent. As a result, more dark bread will be made. Another 20 million bushels of grain are to be conserved by discontinuing the use of wheat in the direct production of alcohol and beer and limiting the use of other grains for beverage alcohol to five days' consumption per month.

At the same time, the department of agriculture will seek to cut down on use of feed grains by encouraging the speeding of marketing of hogs and beef cattle and culling of poultry.

The other provisions of the administration's nine-point program include the acceleration of rail shipments of wheat, corn, meat and other foods; exportation of 375,000 tons of fats and oils, 1,600,000,000 pounds of meat, and increased supplies of canned milk and cheese; establishment of wheat and flour inventory controls on millers, bakers and distributors; and efforts to move more copra for coconut oil from the Philippines.

WAR CRIMINAL: No Reprieve

Having been convicted by an American military commission for countenancing atrocities in the Philippines, Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita's life rested in the hands of President Truman after the Supreme court had validated his trial and Gen. Douglas MacArthur refused to mitigate the sentence.



General Yamashita

As the President considered clemency there was resentment in Japanese circles over MacArthur's orders that Yamashita be stripped of his uniform, decorations and other army accessories in being hanged. Declaring that Yamashita was an adherent of the ancient Samurai warrior tradition, Nipponese generals said he was entitled to a soldier's rather than a common criminal's death.

In ordering Yamashita's hanging in disgrace, MacArthur asserted that the Jap had dishonored the military profession by countenancing troop rapacities instead of insisting upon their protection of the weak, whether friend or foe. Scoring the Japanese sack of Manila, MacArthur compared the destruction with American respect for the city in 1942 despite its impending loss.

CONGRESS: Labor Curb

Despite quick house action in passing the drastic Case bill with its restrictive labor legislation, the senate was expected to proceed more slowly in considering the measure.

Holding their lines solidly throughout the week-long debate on the bill, a coalition of Republicans and conservative Democrats beat down all efforts to take the teeth out of the legislation by modifying provisions or eliminating all enabling clauses to reduce the measure to a mere declaration of policy.

While liberals assailed the bill as one of the most vicious anti-strike laws to come before congress, proponents clung fast to provisions setting up a mediation board to consider disputes; requiring 30-day cool-

ing off periods before strikes; making both management and labor liable for contract violations; outlawing violence and intimidation, and banning sympathy walkouts or boycotts.

WAGE-PRICE: New Policy

Culmination of a long and strenuous tug-of-war between government and industry, and between administration officials themselves, a new wage-price formula loomed with the expectation that it would pave the way for labor peace and start up full-scale production.

Pushed by Reconversion Director Snyder, and at first vigorously opposed by OP Administrator Bowles, the new program reportedly called for general wage increases approximating 17 per cent and corresponding price boosts to permit industry



OP Administrator Bowles (right) answers newsmen.

to absorb the added expense. Though admitting that a rise in living costs would result from the policy, administration leaders declared that the volume output following resumption of work would bring prices to normal, reasonable levels.

In developing the new formula, President Truman affirmed his belief in a previous plan he had proposed under which prices would have been raised only if industry had proven its inability to absorb wage increases. While the plan would have worked with full production, he said, obstructions to large-scale output necessitated a revision of policy.

UNO: Save Face

At odds in the United Nations organization over the question of the presence of British troops in Greece, Russia and Britain patched up their differences with acceptance of a face-saving formula under which the security council dropped consideration of the issue without a formal pronouncement.

By dropping the question without further ado, UNO avoided the possibility of impairing the prestige of Russia by refusing its charges that the presence of Tomies in Greece threatened the peace of the world or of offending Britain by acknowledging the Red accusations.

Russia's charges that the Tomies' alleged protection of rightist interests in Greece against leftist elements would have international repercussions followed close upon what it believed were British inspired Iranian complaints against Red interference with orderly government in that country. Occupying a strategic position along the British life-line in the eastern Mediterranean, Greece, along with oil-rich Iran, ranks as a key spot in the Near East.

Debate Site

While residents of the Stamford-Greenwich, Conn., area recommended to UNO as a site for permanent headquarters, protested against the selection, a strong movement against approving the locality developed within UNO itself.

In leading opposition against the Stamford-Greenwich site, Australian Delegate W. R. Hodgson declared that purchase of the land for \$20,000,000 was too costly, residents did not welcome UNO and no central facilities for interim operations were available in New York.

Despite proposals for purchasing the area recommended for from \$600 to \$800 per acre, residents of both Greenwich and Stamford voted against the inclusion of town areas in the site.

Liquor Revenue Up

Federal revenue of 2.4 billion dollars—an all-time high—were collected for the government in 1945 by the alcoholic beverage industry, an analysis of Bureau of Internal Revenue data shows.

Comprising federal receipts from high wartime excise taxes and from occupational and other special taxes, the figure represents an advance of approximately 14 per cent over the previous peak figure.

FULL EMPLOYMENT: Water Bill

With Democrats and Republicans alike expressing agreement, the house passed a diluted version of an administration-backed "full employment" bill that would have committed the government to providing jobless work at prevailing wages.

As finally framed by a house-senate conference committee and pushed through congress, the new bill sets up a council of three economic advisers delegated to prepare annual reports on levels of employment, production and purchasing power and draw up a program for correcting maladjustments. A congressional committee of seven will then act upon the recommendations.

In typical comment on the measure, Rep. Manasco (Dem., Ala.) declared that it was high time congress announced an unwillingness to continue deficit spending except in extreme emergencies, and Rep. Judd (Rep., Minn.) said the bill could do no harm and may do good.

LABOR: Bloody Outbreak

Murder charges were filed against four armed guards of the Toledo, Peoria and Western railroad following an altercation between employees of the company and pickets near a siding at Gridley, Ill., in which two strikers were killed and three others wounded.

Climaxing the T.P.W.'s tempestuous labor relations with the railroad brotherhoods, the bloody affair developed after the company had run its first train over its eastern division since the union walkout last October. At that time, the government had returned the T.P.W. to its owners following its wartime operation of the strategic 239 mile line after taking over the property in 1942. Seizure resulted from T.P.W. President G. P. McNear's refusal to arbitrate a dispute.

Having followed the train along a paralleling highway, about 25 pickets parked their cars close to a siding in Gridley and moved toward a nearby switch which the four armed guards approached to "throw." As the guards and pickets neared each other, shots were fired and the strikers fell. Though it was admitted that the pickets carried rocks, police sought to determine whether any had been armed.

One group comprises the radar experts who earnestly promise we'll be rocketing to the moon and back by 1996—stopping to refuel along the lunar skyway at filler-up stations suspended in space and perhaps plucking moonflowers in a hanging garden.

The second group is the National Planning association—specifically its agriculture committee—which expects the farmer not only to grow up, but to live at least to the age of 65, at which time he will want to retire. Making that retirement possible is the subject of a new NPA bulletin by Murray R. Benedict, professor of agricultural economics at the University of California.

Why is the farmer so favored? Is he the only worker who wants to retire and live out his old age in reasonable financial security? What about the tired-out typist? Isn't the weary welder worthy?

Be that as it may, Mr. Benedict's retirement plan is based solely on bringing the farmer into the federal social security system. Most industrial and white collar workers like typists, welders and butchers, are already covered by social security. When the time comes for them to quit work for good, they can count on a small, but regular monthly income from social security benefits.

Not so the farmer. When he can work no longer, he has to live off what he's saved or by selling the south forty—and if he hasn't saved anything, that's his hard luck—or whoever has to take care of him.

Administration Proves Problem The farmers were not included in the social security setup when it was inaugurated in 1935, because the lawmakers and administrators felt they couldn't cope with his peculiar problems at the time. For the same reason, they passed over the self-employed worker, the domestic employee, the government and railroad worker, the employee in non-profit organizations. Such workers posed too much of an administrative problem, the legislators felt, so they left them out, as far as social security was concerned.

Now, however, the system has been operating for more than 10 years, and it's high time, Mr. Benedict thinks, to ring farmers in on its benefits. He feels the other uninsured groups mentioned above should be included, too, but he concentrates on the case of the farmer. The farmer, like everyone else, faces the grim prospect of dependency and want in old age. Like everyone else, he strives to guard against such contingency by working hard and trying to save money. But in 1939, more than half the farm owners of the country marketed less than \$75 worth of products from their land. Deduct from that the products the farmer's wife used at the table, the farm equipment he has to buy, shoes for the children, and an occasional Saturday night trip to the big city—and it's plain there is going to be precious little money left to stow away under the mattress or in the sock.

Hired farm workers fare no better in this matter of saving money than does the man who owns the farm. The hired man may earn \$27.30 a month if he eats "in." If he boards out, his monthly wage may be \$35.32—when he works. It's quite possible he's a seasonal worker—shifting from job to job as crops mature and orchards blossom, which means his annual income is far from fixed or steady.

So the farmer and the hired farm worker, no matter how hard they work, may find it impossible to save money toward the time when they can no longer wield the scythe and hay fork. Nor is the farmer able, in many cases, to put by a little money to provide for his wife and family, should he die prematurely or be disabled.

Consequently there are more and more aged persons in rural areas who have to be cared for by county and state on a charity basis—a procedure which is not only expensive but unfair, since it treats thrifty and thrifless exactly alike. The charity or "old age assistance" as it's called, lumps together the persons who strive to take care of themselves during their working years but failed, with those who squandered their earnings.

Mr. Benedict guesses there'd be fewer such charity cases and fewer farmers haunted by the spectre of becoming such charity cases were workers in agriculture allowed to participate in the social security system. As everyone knows, the system is really a huge mutual insurance company. Each person makes a regular compulsory payment which is geared to his ability to pay.

Evolve Plan For Payments If the farmers were covered by social security (and Mr. Benedict isn't the only one who thinks they should be, most of the important farm organizations have okayed the idea; both presidential candidates in the last election, endorsed it, and the social security board on January 28 once again impromptu congress to include farmers in, it would work something like this:

Farmer Jake Duncan adds up his year's sale of farm products and finds he has marketed less than \$75 worth. That's his gross cash income. Under Mr. Benedict's plan, Jake would be brought into the social security system as a self-employed worker on an assumed net income of \$400 a year.

Now Jake is "self-employed"—and at the present time there is no provision in the social security act for insuring the self-employed, either in agriculture or in private business. The way it works now, the employed worker who IS covered pays into the trust fund 1 per cent of his wages; his employer contributes 1 per cent in his behalf.

Since Jake has no employer, Mr. Benedict suggests that Jake contribute both the employer and employee share, in other words, 2 per cent of his net income.

And his net income, as stated earlier, is \$400. So Jake would pay \$8 a year. If he makes these payments continuously for 30 years, he will have paid into the social security fund \$240. At retirement, he would be entitled to approximately \$13 a month. Not a magnificent sum by any means, but perhaps just the little bit extra which, added to whatever other assets he has, may keep him from going to the poorhouse in later years. And his social security contributions pay off rapidly. In a little more than two years after he has retired, Jake will have received back every cent he paid in, plus interest. Not only that but during the 30 years he will have had the protection of survivorship insurance. That is, if he should die prematurely, his widow would not be left completely penniless. She would get three-fourths of the monthly sum to which he was entitled at the time he died.

Washington Digest

Social Security Need Of Low-Income Farmers

Amazingly Small Cash Marketings of Large Group Leaves Little to Be Put Aside; State Units Carry Relief Burdens.

By BAUKHAGE News Analyst and Commentator.

WNU Service, 1616 Eye Street, N.W., Washington, D. C.

(This is the first of two articles on "Social Security for the Farmers.")

When the navy announced its plan for the biggest postwar boom in history — its intention to blow a 97-ship fleet skyhigh with the atom bomb—I couldn't help recalling the answer which a little girl gave to a reporter before the war ended. He asked her: "What do you want to be when you grow up?" The youngster replied, "Alive."

In this atomic era, it's pleasant to note, then, that there are at least two groups of people in this country who not only assume that most of us will stay alive for a reasonable period, but who are making plans based on that assumption.

One group comprises the radar experts who earnestly promise we'll be rocketing to the moon and back by 1996—stopping to refuel along the lunar skyway at filler-up stations suspended in space and perhaps plucking moonflowers in a hanging garden.

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Suppose Jake finds it hard to scrape together eight dollars at one specific time? In that case he might use a stamp book. A book perhaps similar to war stamp books. Jake's social security stamp book would probably be issued by the post office or by the social security board. Whenever he had a little extra money, he could buy stamps to paste in it. When the time came for him to make his annual eight dollar payment, he would turn in the stamp book plus whatever cash was needed to make up the balance.

Jake would have a social security account number and he'd have to report his yearly earnings but the report would be very simple. All he'd have to do would be to state how much gross cash income he received for the year, sign his name, and that's all there'd be to it.



Ammonium Nitrate or Nitrogen for Hay

Proper Application to Increase Tonnage Urged

Farmers can increase their hay production from three-quarters to one and one-half tons per acre by applying ammonium nitrate as a top dressing in April or early May, according to Prof. C. J. Chapman of the soils department of the University of Wisconsin.

Professor Chapman recommended the use of 150 to 200 pounds per acre of ammonium nitrate on timothy and other grassland meadows.

In addition to increased yield, the fertilizer treatment improves the protein content and feeding value of the hay, he added. Professor Chapman declared that ammonium nitrate is excellent as a treatment for grassland pastures, since it greatly increases milk production and provides a week's earlier grazing.

The value of ammonium nitrate and other nitrogenous fertilizers as



This Raleigh county, West Virginia, farm has proven value of fertilizers to the hay fields.

a top dressing for pastures and hay fields was demonstrated.

Most of the treatments were at the rate of 200 pounds per acre, with a few at 150 pounds and one at 400 pounds. The average profit for all the demonstrations, over and above the cost of the fertilizer was \$16.82 per acre.

Professor Chapman pointed out, however, that the continuous use, year after year of ammonium nitrate or any other straight nitrogen fertilizer will eventually result in the depletion of the available reserves of lime, phosphate and potash in the soil.

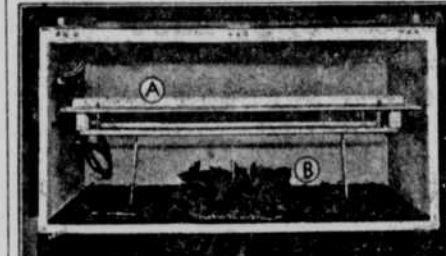
"It is therefore recommended," he said, "that the mineral reserves of the soil be maintained through the application of lime, phosphate and potash fertilizers, together with the systematic use of stable manure."

Improved Machinery Harvester Control

Combine can be made into a one-man machine by the installation of an electric harvester control placed on the market by the Gleener Harvester corporation, Independence, Mo.

The moving part of the lift consists of a lead screw which is turned by the electric motor. As this screw turns in either direction, a large nut follows it up or down, thus raising or lowering the harvester unit.

Fluorescent Hotbeds



A hotbed in which plants may be started in the basement, barn or any other building has been developed by Dr. V. T. Stoutemeyer and Albert W. Close of the USDA.

The diagram (a) is the fixture and reflector holding two 40-watt fluorescent lamps, and (b) the trays or flats in which seedling plants are grown.

'1080' Super Rough-On Rats Becomes Available The DDT of the rat world, the new chemical rat-killer, has recently been released from wartime duty. This product, "1080" was developed by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife service and the Wildlife Research laboratory. The poison is sodium fluoroacetate. It has been proven to be the most deadly stuff ever tried out on rats. But it will also kill any other animal. It is now available for release.

At the rate we are demobilizing, we ought to be on an equal footing with Nicaragua before long—and of equal influence in international affairs.

Tugucigalpa, capital of Honduras, is the only city in the world without any railroad connections. But it's just as much fun to watch the plane come in.

The Triple "A" says that landing ships which once dropped tanks on far away enemy beaches may be used as auto ferries. They could carry a hundred autos per trip—and still skippers wouldn't be afraid of bursting peanut shells.

Poor Richard would probably say today: Take off price controls and you lose your purse-control.

A Trio of Blouses For the Wardrobe



THREE pretty blouses to add a touch of glamour to your wardrobe. You can have a youthful round neck with gathered or cap sleeves, or a flattering V neck with short or three quarter sleeves. All button down the back. Choose the prettiest fabrics you can find and trim with ruffling or your favorite jewelry.

Pattern No. 8964 is for sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 44 and 42. Size 14, gathered sleeves, 1 1/2 yards of 35 or 38-inch; cap sleeves, 1 3/4 yards; short sleeves, 1 1/2 yards.

Due to an unusually large demand and current conditions, slightly more time is required in filling orders for a few of the most popular pattern numbers. Send your order to: SEWING CIRCLE PATTERN DEPT. 530 South Wells St. Chicago 7, Ill. Enclose 25 cents in coins for each pattern desired. Pattern No. \_\_\_\_\_ Size \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Upset Stomach

Relieved in 5 minutes or double money back. When excess stomach acid causes painful, indigesting gas, sour stomach and heartburn, doctors usually prescribe the fastest-acting medicine known for symptomatic relief—medicines like those in Bell's-asa Tablets. No laxative. Bell's-asa brings comfort in 5 to 15 or 20 minutes. Back on return of bottle to us. See at all drugists.

PAZO for PILES

Relieves pain and soreness. PAZO IN TUBES! Millions of people suffering from simple Piles, have found prompt relief with PAZO ointment. Here's why: First, PAZO ointment soothes inflamed areas—relieves pain and itching. Second, PAZO ointment lubricates hardened, dried parts—helps prevent cracking and soreness. Third, PAZO ointment tends to reduce swelling and check minor bleeding. Fourth, PAZO ointment is easy to use. PAZO ointment's perforated Pile Pipe makes application simple, thorough. Your doctor can tell you about PAZO ointment. SUPPOSITORIES TOO! Some persons, and many doctors, prefer to use suppositories, so PAZO comes in handy suppository form also. The same soothing relief that PAZO always gives. Get PAZO Today! At Drugstores!

EASE YOUR COLD'S MISERIES THESE 3 WAYS

Grandma's mutton suet idea made better by science, that's Penetro. Rub it on and (1) Ease chest muscle soreness, (2) Relieve pain at nerve ends as medication gets into skin, (3) Loosens phlegm, coughing lessens, as vapors help you breathe easier. Favorite for children, all the family, 25c. Double supply 35c. Get PENETRO SPECIAL MUTTON SUET BASE

Invest in Your Country—Buy U. S. Savings Bonds!

Kidneys Must Work Well—For You To Feel Well

24 hours every day, 7 days every week, never stopping, the kidneys filter waste matter from the blood. If more people were aware of how the kidneys must constantly remove surplus fluid, excess acids, any other waste matter that cannot stay in the blood without injury to health, there would be better understanding of why the whole system is upset when kidneys fail to function properly. Burning, scanty or too frequent urination sometimes warns that something is wrong. You may suffer nagging backache, headache, dizziness, rheumatic pains, getting up at night, swelling. Why not try Doan's Pills? You will be using a medicine recommended the country over. Doan's stimulates the function of the kidneys and help them to flush out poisonous waste from the blood. They contain nothing harmful. Get Doan's today. Use with confidence. At all drug stores.

DOAN'S PILLS

HONEY OUTPUT: Up

Totaling 233,070,000 pounds, honey production in 1945 topped 1944 output by 23 per cent and was 19 per cent above the 1939-44 average.

While boosting production, beekeepers also enjoyed higher prices resulting from the sugar shortage, an increase in the packing of one-pound and five-pound containers to take advantage of higher ceilings, and a rise in retail sales.

Farm Land: Sales Drop

A continued rise in farm land values and a moderate decline in the volume of sales were leading developments in the farm real estate market during the year 1944-45, the agriculture department said.

For the United States as a whole, land values during World War II (1939-45) increased 50 per cent as compared with a 25 per cent increase during World War I (1914-18).

BARBS . . . by Baukhage

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