WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS.

Farmers Set for Big Crop Year; Reds Plan Industrial Expansion, Peron Victory Poses Problem

(EDITOR'S NOTE: When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of



With money cheap and goods scarce, German women dicker with Russian soldiers for clothing in Berlin black market. Despite efforts to suppress illegal trade, pressing demands for goods result in reappearance of practice.

FARMERS: All-Out Again

In stepping up crop acreage this year in answer to government demands for increased food production, farmers are banking on the continued good growing weather of the war years and no adverse turn of the present tight labor, ma-

chinery and equipment situation. Though falling short of government acreage goals for 16 major crops by 3 per cent, farmers plans call for planting 3571/2 million acres this year in comparison with 357 million in 1945 and 355 million for the 1934-'43 average

Of critical crops needed for overseas relief, wheat is expected to exceed goals while prospects for vegetable oil seeds are less favorable. Oats, peanuts, tobacco and rice are also expected to surpass goals with corn, hay, sorghums, barley potatoes, sugar beets, dry beans and peas falling short.

With the indicated acreage of corn down from last year and also to the further development of only oats of all the feed grains exductions in livestock feeding through 1947 were forecast.

U S Drinking Heavy

Americans spent an average of \$58 for every man, woman and child in the country on alcoholic drinks in 1945 as consumption reached 190 million gallons, 14 per cent more than the previous year As a result of continued high taxes, the federal government collected about 21/2 bil-lion dollars on total sales of almost 8 billion dollars, with the states tak-ing another half billion.

UNO:

Back Iran

Maintaining its firm position against encroachment on the sovereignty of small nations, the U S. pressed for UNO's consideration of Iran's complaint against Russian occupation of the country in the face of Soviet opposition

Evidencing no inclination to back down on its strong statement that it could not remain indifferent to Russian activities in Iran the U S. bucked the Reds' request for a postponement of Iran's complaint because of their professed inability to assemble pertinent data in time for the hearing. By opposing the Russian demand, the U S. substantiated reports from Teheran that this country had pledged Iran to back its rights under the UNO charter.

Iran's complaint against Russia was the second filed since UNO got underway, Teheran having previously protested against Red support of an autonomous movement in Azerbaijan province. Basis of the second complaint, Russia's occupation of Iran was seen as a move to exert pressure for obtaining oil concessions in the northern half of the country adjoining the Red petroleum fields around Baku

LABOR BILL: Senate Version

Minus the stringent restrictions of the house-approved Case bill but providing for free movement of perishable farm goods to market or processing centers without interference, the senate's education and labor committee drew up its own labor measure for consideration of the upper chamber

Wheras the Case bill had called for 30-day cooling off periods and creation of a labor management board to investigate disputes, the senate measure would establish an independent mediation board designed to avert strikes by conciliat-

ing differences between workers and

While the Case bill would make unions liable for contract violations and outlaw inter-union boycotts of employers engaged in disputes, the senate measure would impose fines and imprisonment upon anyone resorting to violence and intimidation in seeking to stop truckers from hauling perishables to their destination. Sponsored by Senator Aiken (Rep. Vt. the provision was opposed by a committee minority which charged discrimination against non-farm carriers

RUSSIA: Industrial Plan

Looking not only to the rebuilding of its war-shattered economy but new five-year-plan affecting industry, housing, education and re-

For industry, Russia plans a three to four-fold increase in automobile production; one and one-half boost in chemical output, and a 17 per cent raise in food processing. In addition iron production would be stepped up to 19 million tons annually, steel, 25 million tons; coal, 250 million tons; oil, 35 million tons and electric power, 85 billion kilowatt hours

Over 31/4 billion dollars are scheduled to be spent on housing over the five-year period and prewar expenditures for education and culture would be increased two and onequarter times to over 131/4 billion dollars

Substantial sums also were reserved for scientific research, including the release and ultilization of atomic energy and weather fore-

DIPLOMACY: U. S. Embarrassed

Juan Domingo Peron's smashing victory in Argentine's presidential election has greatly complicated the U S s diplomatic position in South America since this country not only openly opposed his candidacy but also repeatedly insisted that it could not sign any treaty with a government headed by him

Second-guessers were quick to jump on the state department's back for underestimating Peron's strength among the working classes and farmers and going out wholehog for the opposition. The workers idolize Peron for having pushed legislation for raising wages, establishing social security and assuring vacations with pay, while the farmers are in sympathy with his agrarian reforms.

Now seated firmly in the saddle. Peron could relieve U S. embarrassment by acting against the Nazi industrialists and agents he is accused of harboring. While Britain has gone along with the U.S. in diplomatic protests against Fascist penetrations in Argentine, observers believe London could not be expected to apply pressure against Peron because of Britain's dependence upon the South American nation for wheat and meat

Will Air Gripes to Ease G.I. Lot

Critics of the army': so-caued | operation in the army "caste system' will be given the opportunity to express their convictions on military life soon before a special civilian board of former enlisted men and officers headed by

Lt. Gen. James Doolittle. Witnesses will include ensisted men and officers both in and out of the army, and non-military personnel who have viewed first hand the

The subject of inquiry will be relationships between officers and enlisted men both on and off duty. In establishing the board, Secretary of War Patterson requested its members particularly to look into such questions as housing, clothing, living conditions, and recreational facilities of enlisted men and women as compared with officers

JAPAN: Production

Severely crimped by U. S. bombings through the war, Japanese industry is making a slow but steady recovery under American military direction despite difficulties created by reduction of imports of material, damaged plants and a riddled transport system.

Showing a willingness to rebuild their once thriving economic machine in accordance with democratic principles laid down by General MacArthur, the Japanese have made noteworthy progress in reconverting war production facilities to peacetime output of farm machinery, household utensils, marine engines and parts for motor trucks. At the same time, there has been an increase in the manufacture of consumer goods from stocks of raw material: on hand.

In line with government encouragement, labor unions have been springing up, especially in manufacturing, transportation and coal mining. While workers have been pressing for better conditions and pay, no strikes have been called.

While the Japanese production outlook improved, the immediate food situation caused grave concern, leading General MacArthur to recommend monthly imports of 200,000 tons of wheat, rice and other commodities to avert starvation.

Much of the country's food trouble has been attributed to farmers' withholding of substantial rice tonnage from the market. On top of the November harvest being one of the worst in years because of climatic conditions, producers have shipped only 52 per cent of the rice demanded by the government for urban centers.

Besides hanging onto their rice, ate! farmers have withheld their meager supplies of vegetables caused by diversion of acreage to rice last year. Farmers have also been getting substantial amounts of seafood because fishermen have gone to the rural areas to trade their catch for more rice.

FRENCH BLUEBEARD: Waves Flag

Charged with committing 26 murders for gain during the German occupation, Marcel Petiot went on trial in Paris, France, insisting that he had killed 63-not 26-persons because they were traitors to the cause of liberation.

In pressing its case, the prosecution charged that Petiot had lured his victims to his home on promise



Marcel Petiot (left) confers with attorney in court

of rustling them out of Nazi-occupied France, but then had slain them to steal their money and jewels. Mangled corpses, human skeletons and charred bones were found in his residence, along with rotted bodies in a lime pit in his garden.

With luggage of his victims piled Bluebeard indignantly denied killing for gain. Waving the flag, he said victims included gestapo men, French police spies and informers.

PEARL HARBOR:

Late Testimony

In his long sought testimony to the congressional Pearl Harbor investigating committee, former Secretary of War Henry Stimson revealed that President Roosevelt's cabinet had overruled his proposal for attacking Japan first late in November, 1941, and rather decided upon the dispatch of a secret appeal to the mikado.

Submitting a written statement to the committee because of inability to personally testify on account of illness, Stimson said that he had counselled action after learning of Japanese movements southward off the Asiatic coast. High officials in Washington were convinced that Japanese expansion to the south threatened the Philippines and aggression against British and Dutch holdings constituted a menace to

U S. security, he added Stimson also disclosed that the U. S. had considered proposing a three-month diplomatic truce to the Japanese late in 1941 on condition that the Nipponese would pull out of China. While the truce might have afforded additional time for negotiation, Stimson said he feared the Japs would have rejected it because of its stringent demands

NATIONAL INCOME:

Total income payments to individuals set an all-time high in 1945. with a total of \$160,749,000,000, according to the Alexander Hamilton institute. This was an increase of

2.5 per cent over 1944. Salaries and wages in 1945 totaled \$110,162,000,000; somewhat under the 1944 figure of \$111,734,000,000. However, a comparison of the 1945 figure with that of \$45,658,000,000 for salaries and wages in 1939 indicate that the war years brought about a 141 per cent increase

Washington Digest

Hoover Hears Call To Help Feed Hungry

Cites Great Need for Food Grains Overseas; Asks Americans to Pull in Belts, Invite 'Invisible Guests' to Their Tables.

> By BAUKHAGE News Analyst and Commentator.

Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON, D. C. - The speed with which the American people have run away from the war is incredible. Like the lazy workman who drops his hammer and leaps for the dinner pail at the first toot of noon, we began a stampede for the dining table on V-J Day.

Stampedes always make trouble for someone. Many hundreds of people will starve as a result, and heaven only knows how the cause of democracy throughout the world may suffer.

We could not foretell, but we could have made allowance for possible crop failures. They were catastrophic in many countries. We could have pursued a different food policy at home. We shook with fear lest there would be surpluses, we tried to get the people to eat up their stored supplies and counselled restrictions on food production to prevent a glutted market, especially in eggs and poultry. And how we

That is why, a few days ago, service. He said he had promised settled by conciliation without

WNU Service, 1616 Eye street, N.W., | ing lives. Then, near the close of the interview, he said in the same matter-of-fact tone, "There is one message I would like to give to the households of America." There was a long pause. Finally he spokelooking at nobody, as is his habit-"I would like to have them entertain at their tables an invisible ticeship courses for veterans under

And so the old engineer, so often accused of having a heart of wood, rights. the man of slide-rule and logarithms, painted a deeply moving picture in the simplest of words and in the ica had been stuffing itself since the the biggest food bill in history) we would be willing to conserve enough so that Mr. Hoover's invisible guests wouldn's leave our tables hungry.

Semantics—Aid to Strike Settlements

cent White House press and radio conference, talked about the hunwe hailed back Herbert Hoover into dreds of labor disputes which were 73,553 applications for loans on



Mr. Hoover (left) addresses press conference on food situation.

ed when he heard that ominous phrase on the telephone, "White House calling." He may have been reluctant to leave the enticing, fishfilled Florida waters but there is no doubt that it was a keen satisfaction to him to get back into harness again, especially since he was called upon to do a job he knew he could do well. Whatever the public that snowed him under in the 1932 elections may have said and felt at that time, however glad the high in the courtroom, the accused | Republicans were to edge him out of politics, there were few who would deny that he was a success at feeding the hungry during and after World War I.

Ex-President Inspires Press

It was really inspiring to hear him. Not that Mr. Hoover could ever pull you out of your seat with frenetic oratory or raise your emotions to a fever heat with his personality. It was, indeed, the matter-of-fact, almost prosaic way in which he made his appeal that gave it weight. We were gathered in a small hotel "parlor." It was crowded. We overflowed the chairs and sat on tables and in the window niches. Many of us couldn't see him. Most of the time I could catch only a glimpse of one fold in his generous, pink neck.

He had the facts and the figures all right - nine million tons of grain alone were needed to prevent starvation. At present there was only enough good grain in sight to make up 60 per cent of the need, etc. But he gave us more than facts as he explained what America must do and what he was sure Americans would do. He gave us faith.

He tossed the idea of rationing with cards out of the window without even a gesture. He said the American people would ration themselves, said they would have done it in the war that way too.

And when reporters asked questions with political implications he refused even to discuss that phase of the subject. He was talking about human beings, he said, about sav- ill.

his family for years to go fishing | strikes and which never made the with them and he had only got start- headlines, I couldn't help thinking of a conversation I had with Maj. Charles Estes, one of the labor department's anonymous heroes of these bloodless and successful encounters.

Estes has what it takes to be a conciliator and in his case it includes, along with a keen sensitivity to the human side of all relationships among workers and employers, a keen sense for the nice use of words. Indeed, semantics (the science of meanings, as contrasted with phonetics, the science of sounds) is his hobby.

"The ultimate goal of the conciliation service of the labor department is not merely the settlement of disputes but the prevention of disputes," said Major Estes the other day. And then he went on to expand on his thesis that the crux of labor - management relations is human adjustment, the adjustment of one person to another.

The main trouble, he says, is poor communication, which is poor for three reasons: 1, poor reception, or imperfect listening and perception; 2, poor digestion, or inaccurate interpretation and assimilation of what is read or heard; and 3, poor transmission, or inadequate use of speech and language.

Estes can go on for hours on that subject and will, at the drop of a hat. In fact, once when, interested self away for a pressing engagement, I could only do so after consemantic. I wish I had space to develop his ideas for they represent President put it.

conciliation service's methods are his pension raised?-Mrs. T. O. G., based on a solid foundation of long, Milwaukee, Wis. hard preparation and represent the concentrated ounce of prophylactic ans administration board in Milwauexhausting arbitration, administ to this board. You have right of aptered after the patient is already peal.

BARBS ... by Baukhage

Our government says it doesn't | think Franco is a threat to international peace. So that's that. And the democratic elements in Spain seem to be no threat to Franco.

No one can be really objective about the contents of a book, any more than a dog can be philosophical about the contents of a butcher

The Swedish discoverer of Greta Mrs. J. B., Foxworth, Miss. Garbo has just died at 64. It's a nice life while it lasts.

gle for independence, another American revolution. There is far more ations than there is between mocha | wards. and java.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This newspaper, through special arrangement with the Washington Bureau of Western Newspaper Union at 1616 Eye Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., is able to bring readers this weekly column on problems of the veteran and serviceman and his family. Questions may be addressed to the above Bureau and they will be answered in a subsequent column. No replies can be made direct by mail, but only in the column which will appear in this newspaper regularly.

Apprenticeship Training Plans for Veterans

State approved labor-management committees are now recognized by the veterans' administration as institutions eligible to provide appren-Public Law 16, for disabled veterans, and under the G.I. bill of

The committees when approved by the appropriate state agency will be responsible for: (1) acceptance simplest of ways. I left the interview of applications for veterans trainfeeling sure that however Amer- ing; (2) determination of establishments in which training is to be end of the fighting (we have run up provided; (3) arranging for placement of veteran and (4) assurance the establishment is providing a standard course.

Veterans administration commitments on homes under the guaranty provisions of the G.I. bill now amounts to \$134,545,000, on business loans, \$6,814,000, and on farms, \$2,-When President Truman, at a re- 721,205. Of 97,728 applications for loans received up to February 23, 81,632 were approved. There were homes approved, 2,233 on farms and 5,576 on business loans.

> Approximately one in four of the 10,610,000 veterans discharged as of March 1, have enrolled for readjustment compensation and survey shows that the average veterans only draw about five or six weeks' allowance. Approximately 2,500,000 have received compensation and less than half that number are currently enrolled. Some 500,000 withdrew their claims before receiving first checks. This indicates the peak of demobilization has passed and that veterans are rapidly obtaining jobs, the VA said.

allotment or aid from the government while he is there? - Reader. Webster, Mass.

A. If your brother was actually separated from the marines and obtained his honorable discharge. the answer is no. The general rule is that he cannot be discharged unless he is physically fit. It could be that some repair job was done and surgeons wanted to check it at the end of a year.

Q. My son enlisted in the navy in May, 1945. He had an allotment paper made out and sent to me, but at the time I did not feel that I really needed it and did not fill out the questionnaire. Ever since he had this paper sent to me he has only received a small amount of his pay. What can he do to get his full pay check?-Mrs. P. C., Orrick, Mo.

A. The navy department says there is no paper for the wife or mother to fill out. If the allotment, however, has been deducted from his pay, write to Field Services, Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, Navy Department, Cleveland, Ohio, giving serial number, name, duty and rate.

Q. My husband and I have been separated six years. He has a bonus from World War I that has never been cashed. He left it with me and said it was mine. He is now in very poor health with a heart ailment. In case of death, could I cash this and if so, how?-Mrs. H. R. R., Battle Creek, Mich. A. The veterans' administration

says this is a legal question. In general the bonus would go to the legal though I was, I had to tear my- heirs or assigns of the veteran. Suggest that you write to your nearest veterans administration office and vincing him that I was not anti- give them full particulars, or consult your attorney.

Q. My husband has chronic arthria practical system which he and tis of the spine and right hip and his colleagues have demonstrated is totally disabled. He is only rated in "hundreds" of successes as the 20 per cent and thinks he should receive more. He was denied more Like most successful systems, the over a year ago. How can he get

A. There is a sub-regional veterprocedure that is worth a pound of kee. Suggest you appeal your case

Q. My son volunteered for the navy in November, 1941. He has spent 45 months overseas. I want to know if he is eligible for a discharge or state-side duty and if so who does he get in touch with?-

A. A general rule is that a "tour of duty" at sea is 24 months when he would become eligible for shore You can't dispose of the Indone- duty in the States. It is, however, sian situation as just another strug- up to the theater commander and depends on whether your son enlisted in the regular navy before difference between the two situ- Pearl Harbor or was drafted after-

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Questions and Answers

Q. My brother, after being discharged last March, 1945, from the marines for wounds received on Guam, is now called to the hospital for observation for 30 days. Will his wife and children receive any allotment or aid from the marines or aid from the markets. Chicks sexed or unsexed.

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