

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Major Aerial Blows Smash Germany; Allies Finish Conquest of Solomons As Troops Entrench in Green Islands; Cut Civilians' Share of Canned Goods

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



China—Chiang Kai-shek's infantrymen are shown sweeping through streets of Changteh, capital of China's rice bowl, after bitter forty-day battle with Japanese, in which the city changed hands four times. Few of the city's 10,000 buildings remained undamaged.

SOLOMONS:

Campaign Ending

"For all strategic military purposes, this completes the campaign for the Solomons Islands."

Thus spoke Gen. Douglas MacArthur after U. S. and New Zealand troops landed in the Green Islands in the northern Solomons, cutting off 22,000 Japs in their last strongholds from their supply bases of Rabaul and Kavieng. Hemmed in by the Allies' newest positions, even the Japs' efficient barge system by which they have been able to send in supplies at night in almost undistinguishable craft, now is jeopardized.

Because the Japs' communications have been hampered by the Allies' landings, General MacArthur said: "With . . . their barge traffic paralyzed, relief of these scattered garrisons is no longer practicable and their ultimate fate is sealed . . ." Thus did the Solomons campaign begun August 7, 1942, approach its victorious conclusion.

EUROPE:

Pave Invasion Path

France's invasion coast of Calais received steady aerial pounding as the big hour for the second front neared, while Allied and German armies slugged it out below Rome in Italy.

As masses of Allied bombers rocked the Calais area, where the enemy has installed heavy defenses and rocket guns, other planes carried on a 2,800-ton raid on Berlin, leaving the oft-battered German capital smoking in ruins. Of 900 bombers participating, 45 were lost.

Allied forces at the Anzio beach-head below Rome fought viciously to break the armored steel ring the Germans closed around them, and U. S. airmen hammered at Nazi supply lines feeding embattled enemy troops in the region. Forty miles to the southeast, doughboys inched ahead in the Cassino mountains, struggling for heights dominating the enemy's supply routes in the area. Shattered by Flying Forts seeking to prevent its use by the Germans, the historic abbey of Cassino founded by St. Benedict in 529 A. D., lay in rubble.

AXIS PROPERTY:

In U. S. Hands

More than 300 business enterprises and 30,000 patents controlled by Axis nations in the U. S. have been seized by the Alien Property Custodian Leo T. Crowley, and the operation and use of many of them are being carried on for benefit of the American war effort.



Leo Crowley

Patents of great military value have been licensed on a royalty free and non-exclusive basis to American interests and 100 businesses have been taken over by U. S. management for the production of dyestuffs, photographic equipment, electrical apparatus, optical instruments and pharmaceuticals.

Valued at 375 million dollars, Axis investments seized by the Alien Property Custodian include trademarks, copyrights, real and personal property, ships, and property administered by the courts in addition to the businesses and patents. Cash and securities are being held by the treasury.

MODERN EDUCATION: Proposes New Courses

Among the foremost in the development of modern education, President Robert Maynard Hutchins of Chicago university has called for abolition of the "colossal frivolities" of present day schools.



Dr. Hutchins

Although football was among the frivolities assailed by Dr. Hutchins, his chief criticism was directed against the present methods of educating students by standard courses, which he called the "adding machine" system of summing up credits.

Declaring the present system of eight years of elementary schooling, four years of high school and four years of college were full of duplication and wasted effort, Dr. Hutchins said colleges could be closed without affecting liberal education in any way. For present day college teaching, Dr. Hutchins would substitute lectures, general reading and general examinations.

NURSES:

28,000 Students Needed

To maintain the national health at minimum standards, the U. S. Cadet Nurses corps must recruit 28,000 more students by July 1, to bring total enrollment to 65,000 for the period beginning last September. To bring service up to 1941 levels, 115,000 student nurses would have to be recruited during the 10 month period.

Shortages of nurses first began to be felt in 1942, with many hospitals being compelled to close departments for lack of personnel. Chief bottleneck in training now is in the scarcity of instructors, with many graduate nurses being offered scholarships to take teaching courses.

Heroic service of U. S. nurses on the battlefronts has been brought sharply to the fore during the bitter beachhead fighting below Rome, where five of them have been killed by shell-fire and aerial bombardment, while attending the wounded in field hospitals.

Now the 3,000 residents of Batesville, Ind., know how it feels when manna is showered from heaven!

When a break occurred in the pumping equipment of a pipeline running through the town from Texas to the East, the dry bed of a creek was flooded with gas, threatening the local water supply.

While volunteers feverishly built an emergency dam to prevent the gas from spilling into the water reservoir, some townspeople gathered along the creek with buckets, tubs and barrels to scoop up the precious fuel and lug it home, while others backed their cars to the site and filled their tanks with dippers.

NATIONAL INCOME:

For Farmers

Out of America's record national income of \$141,717,000,000 in 1943, the U. S. farmers' share was estimated at \$19,009,000,000 from sale of crops and produce. Because of increased returns from livestock and livestock products, income jumped \$4,000,000,000 over 1942.

In the face of record marketings, receipts from hogs were high in all sections, with a 41 per cent boost in the western north central regions. Because of higher average prices, income from poultry and eggs rose, with Georgia's intake doubling.

Returns from wheat fluctuated, increasing 13 per cent in north central regions, with North Dakota alone enjoying a 40 per cent boost, but slumping 2 per cent in the western area, with Kansas City showing a 5 per cent drop. Although cotton income jumped 29 per cent in the West, it fell 24 per cent in the western north central regions and 5 per cent in the south central area. Receipts in the South Atlantic region approximated 1942.

Because of soaring receipts in the north Atlantic and south central regions, income from oil bearing crops leaped 70 per cent higher, and returns from vegetables and truck crops increased in all regions, with the south Atlantic showing the biggest gain.

For Workers

The American workers' share of the national income for 1943 amounted to \$100,603,000,000—nearly \$21,000,000,000 more than in the preceding year, and \$48,000,000,000 more than in 1929.

Payments of \$1,561,000,000 in interest and dividends during December, brought total disbursements of this kind to \$9,940,000,000.

Not included

Washington Digest

Status of Commonwealth Worry to Mother Country



England Wants Closer Cohesion of Domain; Lord Halifax's Statement Opens Controversial Subject in Canada.

By BAUKHAGE
News Analyst and Commentator.

WNU Service, Union Trust Building, Washington, D. C.

One of the most beautiful buildings in Washington is the Pan-American Union with palm-and-parakeet-ed patio, its great lily pond with an ancient Inca idol idly dreaming beside its waters.

But there is one valuable object d'art in the cellar, swathed in protecting burlap and excelsior which is not displayed. It is a chair which matches a suite of 21 others which stand around a great table in the hall of the Americas, each of which bears the seal of a Latin-American republic.

The chair in the cellar has the genial beaver, Canada's national pet, carved upon it.

The news is that that chair is threatening to burst out of its cements and walk on its four legs up the cellar steps to its place at the table.

Two men, more than any others, are responsible for the restlessness of this piece of furniture. One is tall, gray, dynamic Leighton McCarthy, Canadian ambassador to the United States. The other is Prime Minister Mackenzie King.

There probably never has been a time in history when the United States and Great Britain have been closer in thought and action, despite their multifold points of difference in peace time, than they are today.

But, paradoxically, it is some of the points of difference that have brought Canada nearer to the United States than our Lady of the Snows has ever been before. The United States very nearly occupies the position of an interpreter between the mother country and the domain on some points, but the great bond between the Yanks and the Canucks is probably the simple, common sense fact that we look upon Canada as Rudyard Kipling (who once almost became an American citizen) wrote, (making Canada the speaker):

"Daughter am I in my mother's house, but mistress in my own."

The 'Tentative'

That is why so many people in Canada or the States were NOT surprised when the government in Ottawa and the Canadian press rejected politely but firmly what the diplomats call a "tentative" put forth by Lord Halifax, British ambassador to the United States a week or so ago.

That is why so many people in the United States and Canada who ponder such matters WERE surprised that Lord Halifax, undoubtedly with the advice and consent of that frequent visitor at the White House, Winston Churchill, broached the suggestion at all. (The fact that Mr. Churchill said emphatically that Lord Halifax was speaking for himself, not the British government, merely proves—well, you know how diplomacy works.)

Lord Halifax had said:

"But what is, I believe, both desirable and necessary is that in all the field of interests, common to every part of the Commonwealth—in foreign policy, in defense, in economic affairs, in colonial questions and in communications—we should leave nothing undone to bring our people into closer unity of thought and action. It may be that we shall find it desirable to maintain and extend our present wartime procedure of planning and consultation, which itself adapted and extended the methods we practiced in time of peace. The question admits of no easy answer."

Now let me say at this point, if there are any Fenians or their descendants in my audience, who think I am stirring up anti-British feeling or echoing the anglophobia of the Colonel McCosmics, let them take no comfort from me. I am speaking the attitude of a loyal subject of His Majesty King and Emperor.

necessary for her strength. She wants a closer cohesion of the Commonwealth. Lord Halifax made the suggestion, not officially, and with great restraint.

Earlier, Field Marshal Jan Smuts of the Union of South Africa had made a speech urging closer cooperation of the smaller European countries with the United Kingdom. On the Monday following Lord Halifax's speech, Prime Minister Mackenzie King was questioned concerning its meaning in the Canadian house of commons.

King stated that he was sure the speech had been misinterpreted, that he had been assured that it was not the official attitude of the British government, but he also said it was "unfortunate." He said further:

"With what is implied in the argument employed by both these eminent public men (Halifax and Smuts), I am unable to agree."

Then he made this statement: "In meeting world issues of security, employment and social standards, we must join not only with commonwealth countries but with all like-minded states, if our purposes and ideals are to prevail. Our commitments on these great issues must be part of a general scheme, whether they be on a world basis or regional in nature."

"We look forward, therefore, to close collaboration in the interests of peace not only inside the British commonwealth, but also with all friendly nations, small as well as great."

The Canadian press of all parties, I am told by Canadian officials here, showed a unanimity in supporting the prime minister seldom witnessed in Canada.

This means that since Canadian interests lie in this hemisphere to a great extent, where hemispheric solidarity is essential to the welfare of all of the nations concerned, it is sheer folly to keep a perfectly good piece of furniture in the basement of the Pan-American Union that belongs at its natural place at the table. "Won't you sit down, Mr. McCarthy?"

Basis for Industrial Cooperation

Quite aside from any diplomatic considerations, plain business men and others interested in hemispheric solidarity are considering a basis for Canadian-American industrial cooperation.

The Institute of Pacific Relations says that Alaska, the Yukon, Mackenzie Valley, northern British Columbia and Alberta constitute a vast area of potential economic development:

"Air routes to Alaska and the nearest sources of supply for military supplies, such as oil, lie through or in the Canadian Northwest. As an air route, the future of the Northwest is assured. Over it lie the great circle or near great circle routes, and the economic routes between the densely populated regions of Asia and North America."

"There are mutual strategic and economic benefits in Canadian-American partnership for postwar development of the Pacific Northwest."

Exploitation of the natural resources in this zone can be developed and is urged through a close working partnership by the United States and Canada. This would require the pooling of information, technical facilities and the investment of private capital (not public funds). This is the type of industrial cooperation that has characterized the economic history of the two countries in the past. The comment continues:

"Already two great nations in joint defense



New Fungicide Is Successful in Tests

Organic Compound Also Used to Immunize Seed

Plant fungi may soon be controlled effectively by an organic fungicide, and the billion dollar annual loss to agriculture appreciably reduced, says the American Chemical society. Two research chemists, W. P. Ter Horst and E. L. Felix, have applied a long known compound to a new use, and they report marked success in their experiments.

The chemical, now called only by its scientific name, 2,3-dichloro-1, 4-naphthoquinone, may be employed either to treat seeds or to spray foliage. Studies made during the last five years show the compound is capable of controlling 22 important and widely divergent fungi. It is hoped that the new fungicide will supplement or replace compounds of sulphur, copper and mercury whose present scarcity and known limitations render them ineffectual in battling fungus enemies.

Immunizes Peas, Beans.

The fungus-killing power of the chemical was determined first on a test fungus on peas in a greenhouse. Maximum control of the fungus under the most favorable conditions for disease development was obtained at a dosage of 0.56 to 1.12 ounces per bushel of seed. Practical control was obtained at 0.28 ounce per bushel, equal to one thirty-second per cent by seed weight.

"The material has given good results also on lima beans at 0.20 ounce per bushel and on corn at 0.25 ounce per bushel," the report continues. "It has given fair control of the fungi causing cotton damping-off."

"The fungus causing anthracnose of the cotton plant attacks and weakens the fibers in the boll in the field. These fibers are lost largely at ginning. The new fungicide appreciably reduced this infection at a dosage of 0.5 ounce of active material per bushel of cottonseed applied just before planting. Anthracnose control with the chemical is most striking in the percentage of healthy plants obtained."

Harmless to Foliage.

"The material appears to be non-injurious to foliage and offers considerable promise as a plant spray against leaf diseases. It is not compatible with nitrogen-fixing bacteria."

The chemical is not a new material, the report explains. Its preparation was recorded in 1867 and described the following year.

"In agriculture, sulphur, copper, and organic mercury compounds are extensively used to control pathogenic fungi. While effective in many instances, they have disadvantages. Sulphur, for example, is ineffective in the control of a number of diseases, and during hot weather may burn the foliage. Repeated use increases soil acidity and in the greenhouse may render soil worthless. Elemental sulphur is of restricted value as a seed protector.

"Copper compounds do not control all diseases and may cause foliage or fruit injury, particularly during a cold spell. They may increase aphid population. As seed protectors, copper compounds are of limited usefulness. Organic mercury compounds, while often highly effective, are toxic to man and animals."

Farmers Richer Now

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