

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

U. S. Forces Clean Up Hollandia Area; WFA Announces Dairy Subsidy Rates; Heavy Hog Shipments Glut Markets; Aerial Attacks Weaken Nazi Defenses

(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.) Released by Western Newspaper Union.



Italy—Italian farmers are shown clearing vineyards of small volcanic stone fragments spewn by belching Mount Vesuvius.

EUROPE:

Invasion Awaited

With huge concentrations of shipping reportedly massed in British ports and the Allied aerial attacks continuing in unprecedented force, Nazi Europe nervously awaited the historic and heralded invasion.

While the U. S. and British prepared for hostilities in the west, the Russians were reportedly organizing strength for a new drive into eastern Poland, presumably to synchronize with the invasion. As the Russians gathered their new forces, the Axis armies in southeastern Rumania stiffened resistance and parried Red thrusts along the Dniester river front.

Western Europe found no rest by day or night as British and American heavy, medium and light bombers smashed at the Germans' vaunted concrete and steel Atlantic wall, French and Belgian rail lines over which the enemy could be expected to shuttle troops to meet invasion forces, and German industries supplying the wehrmacht.

AGRICULTURE:

Hog Glut

In the wake of the government's move to buy all corn in 125 midwestern counties for sorely pressed processing industries, heavy hog shipments clogged slaughtering centers, resulting in embargoes in some centers, notably St. Louis, Mo., and Peoria, Ill.

The large shipments were believed also influenced by short feed supplies after two years of extensive use of grain for fattening record numbers of stock, and the government's plan for a minimum price of \$12.50 per hundredweight for this fall.

Taking note of the dwindling feed stocks, OPA announced that effective May 15, the ceiling price on hogs over 240 pounds would be cut to \$14 per hundredweight, to discourage heavy finishing off.

Dairy Subsidy

To encourage conservation of grains during the pasture season to provide for heavier feed during the fall and winter months, the War Food administration announced subsidy payment rates for dairy production for the next 11 months.

Although rates during the next four months will range from 35 to 65 cents a hundred pounds for whole milk and 6 cents a pound for butterfat, beginning September 1 and ending next March 31, rates will range between 60 to 90 cents for whole milk and 10 cents for butterfat.

Estimated to cost between \$300,000,000 and \$400,000,000 annually, the whole program is dependent upon congressional appropriations for administrative expenses, WFA said.

RATIONING:

More Butter

Because of record stocks in warehouses and freezers, 35,000,000 pounds of country butter will be available for civilian use in May at 8 red points per pound, along with 112,000,000 pounds of creamery butter at 12 points.

At the same time, OPA announced that more and better ice cream will be produced in May and June, following permission to manufacturers to increase output to 75 per cent of 1941 figures, and to use a mix 1 to 3 per cent richer in butterfat content.

In addition, reductions in point values are scheduled for flank beefsteak, lamb and mutton, variety cuts of pork and veal, dried beef, potted and dried meats, and sausages.

DUCKS:

Population Up

With mallards most numerous, the duck population now approximates 125,000,000, according to figures of Frederick C. Lincoln, chief of migratory birds investigation of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife service.

Mallards now make up 35,000,000 to 40,000,000 of the duck population, Lincoln said, with pintails second with 20,000,000, and bluebills third with 15,000,000. Marked increases also were noted for red-headed ducks and coots and mudhens.

Because of the continuing decrease of woodcocks, however, it has been indicated that the season may be closed on them next fall, along with the Jacksnipes.

BUSINESS:

Oil Supply

Because a tremendous area of prospective oil territory remains to be tested and petroleum could be produced from enormous reserves of coal and shale, the U. S. need have no undue concern over future oil supplies, Edward G. Seubert, president of Standard Oil company of Indiana, told stockholders in the course of a report on the firm's business in 1943, showing profit of \$50,591,371.

At the same time, President Ralph W. Gallagher of Standard Oil company of New Jersey, in announcing profits of \$121,327,773 for 1943, told shareholders that although the U. S. was assured of sufficient oil in the future, two principal problems existed, namely, discovery of more oil, and institution of sound, world-wide conservation policies to prevent wastage in production.

MAIL ORDER:

Legal Battle

Ground was laid for one of the U. S.'s most historic legal battles when the government forcibly took over Montgomery Ward and company's big, Chicago plant following its refusal to accept a presidential order to obey a War Labor board's directive to extend a contract with the CIO's Sewell Avery Mail Order, Warehouse and Retail employees Local 20 until the union's bargaining rights could be determined.

Claiming that the WLB had no supervision over Ward's because it cannot be classed as a war plant, Ward's 69-year-old President Sewell Avery stuck to his guns to the last, finally being carried from the plant by U. S. troops when refusing to recognize the government's occupancy.

As both sides squared for a court battle, Undersecretary of Commerce Wayne Chaffee Taylor took over operation of the plant, lacking cooperation from some Ward officials standing loyally beside Avery.

CIVILIAN GOODS:

Increase Opposed

While congressional leaders pressed for an increase in output of civilian goods in view of a surplus of certain materials and cancellation of some war contracts, government officials cautioned against any considerable boost in production over present levels.

War Production Czar Donald Nelson said military output must be increased in the immediate future and maintained at high peaks until actual needs for operations in western Europe are established.

Undersecretary of War Robert Patterson opposed any notable switch to civilian production on the grounds that it would create unfounded optimism and lead to a rush from war plants to obtain jobs in consumer goods industries.

QUEBEC:

Overseas Service

Paced by Nationalist Member Rene Chalout who declared that any fighting forces should be furnished by the U. S., Britain, China and Russia because only they stand to gain anything from the war, the Quebec provincial legislature cast a 55 to 4 vote expressing disapproval of any move to send Canadian conscripts overseas.

Said Chalout: "Conscription for military service in Canada was instituted because there was supposed to be danger of invasion. If federal authorities were sincere at the time, they should abolish it now since there is no more danger of an invasion of Canada."

The legislature acted after the Canadian national defense minister declared draftees could be used overseas if appropriate measures were taken by the government.

'IRON RATIONS'

American and British troops in India will eat a new and perhaps tastier meal when in tight spots. These emergency meals, packed in large cans, are informally known as "iron" rations.

The condensed food is packed in a can sufficient for eight men for one day, and consists of corned mutton, "vitanized" crackers, tea, jam, chocolate, chewing gum, salt, sugar, grapefruit juice (for Americans) and lemonade powder (for British troops). Cigarettes are included.

Washington Digest

Swine Industry Develops Feed Conservation Plan

C. D. Carpenter Helps Hog Growers Solve Problems; Program Tailored by Cooperative Business Men of Agriculture.



By BAUKHAGE
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When I learned that a former feed man had been the moving spirit in drawing up the present swine program which you'll be hearing about shortly, I recalled an adage I once heard in London:

"The profit in the mustard business is in the mustard you leave on your plate."

That was the statement once made by a famous British mustard manufacturer. In other words, the consumer's waste is the producer's gain.

The proposition seems logical enough and nobody could blame the mustard-maker for hoping that you and I would be as profligate with our condiment as possible. On that basis, I was recently surprised to learn that the government had called in a man in the feed business and paid him a dollar a year to help solve the feed problem. I wondered if it wasn't just possible that maybe the consumer was going to suffer.

I had a talk with some members of the department of agriculture after I learned that this gentleman had done so much for the poultry raisers that they picked him to help on the swine program which is as closely connected with the feed problem as the fly is with the fly-paper.

"Why should you pick a man whose interest it is to have the farmer consume as much feed as possible, when there isn't enough feed to go around now?" I asked.

"This whole program," the government official told me, "is worked out by the swine industry itself; the men who produce the hogs, the men who process them, help feed them, distribute them. That's the point. The government merely cooperates. You had better talk to Mr. Carpenter."

Dollar a Year

Clifford D. Carpenter carries the title of "special assistant to the chief of the feed and livestock branch of the food production administration of the War Food administration." For that long title, he gets the short fee of a dollar a year. He has no desire to remain a public servant. He wants to get back to his business. But he is enthusiastic over the present swine program which he and his colleagues of the industry have worked out, a part of which is the conservation, not the waste, of feed.

I asked why, when his business was to sell the farmer as much feed as he could?

"Because," he said, "the success of the feed business lies in having efficient customers, not careless wasters. One of the ways we helped to increase the poultry output was to teach the farmer to stop waste. For instance, you have no idea how much was saved by having the farmer put a rim on the edge of his feed troughs so the chicks would not spill almost as much as they ate, and what saved even more than that was something much simpler—we got the farmer to fill the feed receptacles three-fourths full instead of brimming."

He went on at some length on this subject, especially emphasizing that the interests of the consumer and the producer are the same in the end and each profits by the other's efficiency—that, he pointed out, is the benefit derived from business in government, one of the good results which many persons feel will come by having businessmen in the many government agencies.

Profitable Patriotism

The whole swine program has been tailored by the "businessmen" of the swine industry and that includes the farmer who raises the hogs, for he is a businessman, too—has to be if he succeeds.

Last month, in Chicago, a group of these men got together, representatives of hog farmers, the breeders, the veterinarians, the packers, the feed men, the equipment manufacturers—everybody interested in the whole cycle from the shoat's first squeal to the dining table.

"It's patriotic to make your herd profitable" was the slogan this group worked out which was a sentence with a two-way kick—you can turn it around and it is just as

true—"it's profitable to make a patriotic herd."

These experts decided that there was plenty of feed obtainable in America to meet the war goals, provided that certain conditions are carried out. They agreed on four principles, all of which lead to making efficient producers which they all decided is both patriotic and profitable. These principles are:

Specific Measures

- (1) better breeding to improve the size and quality of litters
 - (2) conservation of available feed stock
 - (3) reduction of loss through disease and parasites
 - (4) improved management for greater efficiency and production.
- More specifically, the five things necessary to produce the feed which is necessary to reach the animal food stuff goals are these:
- (1) to feed no more than 14 pounds of feedstuff for one animal unit
 - (2) to achieve the maximum use of pasture and grazing land
 - (3) to sell the animal for meat, before it becomes an inefficient converter of feed into food
 - (4) to stop the loss caused by rats or spoilage or wastage in other ways
 - (5) to bring about a higher standard in health in animals.

True Cooperation

Those who are directly concerned in the production of swine are about to have the information that this meeting developed placed before them emphatically in the farm trade papers, over the radio, in lectures, from the county agents, and through their own organizations, so I won't go into it in detail. But the point that many will not realize is that here has been a real achievement brought about by the cooperation of industry and government.

These hardheaded businessmen have produced a program which their action committee is going to do its best to put into effect through the various means of publicity and education which I mentioned. It was unanimously agreed that the producers should plan to finish hogs at 200 to 240 pounds in order to make more efficient use of the feed and for the production of more meat and less lard per unit of feed. They also emphasize the need of taking full advantage of clean pastures and they point out that the saving of from 5 per cent to 10 per cent of the grain, and from 30 per cent to 40 per cent of the protein supplements can thus be made for growing and fattening hogs. There are recommendations for the control of diseases, parasites and various other detailed instructions that are going to be available in attractive printed form and distributed to the hog producers in all parts of the country.

"And isn't Uncle Sam who is 'telling 'em.'"

They are telling each other for each other's benefit.

Manpower Needs

While everybody is talking about demobilization, it seems strange that mobilization in many fields is still far from being complete. There are crying needs for man and woman power in two phases of the war effort causing serious trouble.

The National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, which is the federal government's experimental and scientific research organization, needs 1,500 men. Without this complement, the NACA director of personnel says "the development and production of new and improved aircraft is being hampered."

The need is localized—in laboratories at Langley Field, Va., Moffett Field, Calif., and Cleveland, Ohio. Engineers, physicists, chemists, machinists, toolmakers, sheet metal workers, instrument makers, engine mechanics, electricians, pattern makers and other skilled tradesmen are needed.

At the same time, the National Women's Advisory committee of the War Manpower commission reports that the women's corps of the various armed services are falling far short of their enlistment quotas and many thousands of women also are needed in areas of labor shortage. The committee is urging women's organizations throughout the country to undertake the recruitment job as a major war effort.

BRIEFS . . . by Baukhage

When RCAF searching aircraft locate stranded airmen but cannot get to them, a trained pigeon is dropped in a metal waterproof container hitched to a small parachute. The stranded men then send the paratrooper bird back with a message of their needs and condition, according to the Canadian information bulletin. Weekly Editor Looks at Ottawa.

The U. S. army will need 75,000 to 100,000 men monthly to maintain its peak strength of 7,700,000 persons, according to the war department. The navy will need 400,000 additional personnel by September 1 to get the navy, marine corps and coast guard up to peak strength of 3,500,000.

—Buy War Bonds—



Hybrid Corn Yields 95 Bushels to Acre

By Planting Thicker, 104 Bushels Resulted

Hybrid corn's ability to produce more bushels per acre than open-pollinated varieties was compared to the "superiority of a well-bred dairy cow over a scrub animal" by Prof. D. F. Beard, extension agronomist of the agricultural extension service of Ohio State university.

"In hybrid corn, we have a better bred strain of plants capable of converting raw materials such as nitrogen, phosphorus, potash, water, carbon dioxide and other elements into corn at more efficient rates than the old scrub open-pollinated varieties. On the same land and with the same 'feed' provided, good hybrids will yield 10 to 12 bushels more corn per acre than open-pollinated varieties. Moreover, the hybrid plants are sturdier and show less tendency to lodge."

In the case of both hybrid corn and pedigreed dairy stock, the matter of ample feed and a well-balanced ration are essential if maximum production is to be achieved. With hybrid corn, this means providing the soil with sufficient plant foods in the proper balance, via the fertilizer bag.

Four Plants Per Hill

Professor Beard emphasized that in addition to the use of more fertilizer, farmers could profitably adopt the practice of planting hybrid corn thicker to obtain greater yields.

"At the Ohio agricultural experiment station," he said, "good corn hybrids yielded 95 bushels to the acre as a two-year average, and open-pollinated corn 80 bushels, when both were thinned to three plants per hill. With four plants per hill, however, the hybrids yielded 104.3 bushels per acre and the open-pollinated varieties 84.1."

The difference in favor of hybrids increased from 15 bushels to 20.2 bushels per acre for the extra plant per hill. This principle was borne out last summer, in a southern Ohio location, with later maturing hybrids, where stands of three plants per hill produced average yields of 92.8 bushels per acre and stands averaging 3 1/2 plants per hill gave yields of 101.9 bushels per acre.

"Unless heavier fertilization and thicker planting go along with good corn hybrids, users of hybrid seed fail to cash in on all the advantages of hybrids."



"You know, pop, we ought to do some repair work on this barn."

Hens With Paralysis Should Be Culled Out

When culling hens, look them in the eye, says Dr. W. C. Thompson of Rutgers university.

One of the telltale signs of fowl paralysis—it has several forms—is a gray eye with an irregular pupil. That is, the iris, the colored part of a normal eye, is gray, and the pupil is irregular in outline when a bird is diseased, instead of being evenly oval or well rounded. In addition, the eye may be "fishy" or bulging.

Any bird with this eye condition should be removed from the flock. Lame birds that show no foot injuries to account for the lameness should be removed too as suspected carriers of fowl paralysis. The diseased birds may lay for a while, but eventually they lose weight and go out of production. If left in the flock, they endanger the other birds.

The majority of fowl paralysis cases occur in birds from 4 to 12 months old, the poultry specialist says, although older birds frequently contract the disease. Since the disease affects many birds just as they begin to lay and repay the expense of their raising, fowl paralysis is costly to the poultrymen.

Hatching Eggs Should Be Carefully Selected

Best results in hatching are obtained from eggs that run about 24 ounces per dozen. Eggs should be well formed of good shell texture, and of the color which is proper for the breed you are growing. Eggs which are small, round, short or thin-shelled should not be saved for hatching. During the cold weather they should be carefully stored to prevent chilling and other dangers which may make them infertile.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS

The clothesline can be cleaned by wrapping it around the washboard and scrubbing it with a brush and soapsuds.

To avoid needle marks when shortening a raincoat, use adhesive tape as a hem binder instead of sewing. To lengthen it later, just remove the adhesive tape.

Dip your measuring cup or spoon in scalding hot water just before measuring molasses. You'll find the molasses will run out easily.

A piece of velvet or corduroy placed in the heel of your shoe will make your stockings wear longer.

If you get tired running up and down stairs, think of the poor stair carpet having the whole family running up and down over it. Buy stair carpet a foot or so longer than necessary, so it can be shifted when it begins to show signs of wear.

WOOL

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HIGHLIGHTS . . . in the week's news

KNOX DIES: Secretary of Navy since 1940 during which time the fleet became the greatest in the world with a strength of over 4,000 ships and 25,000 planes, Frank Knox succumbed to a heart attack in Washington, D. C., at 70. Knox served with the 153rd artillery during last war. Noted as a newspaper publisher, Knox was the Republican vice presidential candidate in 1936.

BASEBALL VETERAN: Tony Mullane, oldest major league baseball star, died in Chicago at 83. He first played with the St. Louis Browns and later went to the Cincinnati Reds as their star pitcher. He ended his career in 1897 with the St. Paul club. Another claim to fame was that he was said to be the only pitcher who could throw with either hand.