

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Dewey Pledges Strong Postwar Market for American Producers; Batter Nazi Defenses in France

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.)



Saipan—U. S. marines pay last respects to fallen buddies on Saipan in Marianas islands.

EUROPE: Big Battle

In a great drive to encircle the Nazi defense pivot of Caen on the eastern end of the 125-mile Allied front in Normandy, British Gen. Bernard L. Montgomery compelled German Field Marshal Von Rundstedt to commit large forces to the raging tank battles on three sides of the town.

As Montgomery forced Von Rundstedt's hand on the east flank, U. S. troops resumed the attack above the vital communications hub of St. Lo to the west, and U. S. engineers undertook to clear up the wreckage in the port of Cherbourg to permit its early use for funneling in supplies.

With Montgomery reportedly using 100,000 men in the Caen drive and pushing the offensive under a curtain of heavy artillery, tank and aerial fire, the Nazis were compelled to call in reserves to stem the British thrust, which threatened to remove the pivot on which the enemy had resisted Allied advances.

Russia

Within 250 miles of flaming front in north Russia, German troops slowly fell back before the powerful surge of Red forces chewing into the big bulge overhanging the southern end of the battle-line, and Hitler's last springboard to Moscow.

The Germans were compelled to retire from prepared strongholds when large Russian forces broke through their lines on all sides, threatening to encircle them from the rear.

In Finland, the Reds continued their offensive in the face of stiffening resistance both on the Karelian Isthmus near the capital of Helsinki, and in the lake country farther to the east.

Italy

With the Germans moving in reinforcements and increasing their artillery and anti-tank gunfire, the Allied advance up the Italian peninsula was slowed by hard fighting.

Still operating in the mountainous terrain which lays before their last major defense line guarding the rich Po industrial and agricultural region to the north, the Nazis were taking every advantage of the rugged country to impede the Allies.

As U. S., British and French forces fought steadily ahead, the Nazis were converting little villages into small fortresses.

MEAT: Beef Scarcer

Because of a 12 per cent decrease in supply of rationed beef as a result of larger allocations to the army, navy and lend-lease, point values on steaks and roasts for the month of July were raised to their highest levels.

Nearly all cuts of lamb were returned to rationing, with only breast, flank, neck, shank and lamb patties point free. Despite shortages of better grades of pork loins, all pork will continue unrationed.

Point-free for over a week, all so-called soft cheeses, including most varieties except cheddar, were put back on the rationed list at four points per pound. Canned milk was raised to two-third point per can from one-half.

DIPLOMACY: Troubled Relations

Finland's refusal to lend its ear to U. S. approaches that it negotiate a peace with Russia, and the tiny Baltic state's determination to remain in the war beside Germany following promises of military aid, led to an open rupture of relations with this country.

At the same time, U. S. Ambassador Norman Armour was recalled from Argentina for consultation with state department officials, following reported increasing Axis sentiment in that South American country, particularly since the invasion.

Meanwhile, Gen. Charles de Gaulle was scheduled to confer with President Roosevelt over alterations in the U. S. attitude toward the French National Committee for Liberation as the provisional government of re-occupied territory.

CASUALTIES: Total 250,000

As a result of losses of 24,162 men during the first two weeks of the invasion, total U. S. casualties up to June 22 approximated 250,000 killed, missing and wounded.

Total Allied losses in France were 40,549 for the two week period, with the U. S. dead averaging 12.7 per cent of American casualties; the British 13.5 per cent and the Canadian 12.9 per cent.

A large percentage of U. S. losses in the invasion came in the first two days, when elements of two divisions ran into a German division practicing maneuvers on the beaches. Enemy casualties were estimated at 70,000.

For the first four years of the war, Prime Minister Churchill placed British losses at over 667,000 men.

CHINA: Japs Gain

Pressing their drive in southern China, the Japs threatened to seize the country's entire eastern seacoast and secure an unbroken rail route of over 1,000 miles.

The Japs pushed their offensive as U. S., British and Chinese efforts to open up a back-door into southeastern China from India slowed in the mountainous Burmese jungle country.

U. S. warplanes joined in the valiant China defense against the Japs, who continued their favorite tactic of driving forward on either side of by-passed strongholds. Allied thrusts to open a back-door to China continued even as the Chinese asked for greater assistance to resist the enemy.

GOP: Shape Fight

Under the leadership of Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York as its candidate for President and Gov. John W. Bricker of Ohio as vice president, the Republican party will make the 1944 campaign on a platform designed to assure a strong American market for U. S. producers.

In the field of foreign relations, the party's 1,057 sweltering delegates to the Chicago convention approved a platform based upon U. S. cooperation with other nations to preserve world peace without impairment of sovereignty or self-rule and with the consent of the senate in accordance with constitutional provisions.

In addition to guaranteeing the producer a protective tariff to exclude cheap foreign competition, the party agreed to the principle of establishing an "American market price" for agriculture, and approved crop adjustment during periods of abnormal surpluses.

Quick restoration of private business in the postwar world was promised through speedy settlement of cancelled war contracts and orderly disposal of surplus goods. The party also pledged lower individual and corporate taxation consistent with government expenditures when conditions permit.

Knows Answers

Surrounded by a battery of newspaper men in the grand ballroom of the Stevens hotel, "Tom" Dewey gave his first press interview as the GOP's presidential candidate, showing a tactical skill in answering the barrage of questions.

In reply to queries, Dewey said future developments might make compulsory military training necessary; that congressional power to declare war to resist aggression would not hamper operation of a world cooperative program to preserve future peace, and U. S. acquisition of Pacific bases would be left to future events.

Declaring that the party's program did not refer to "high" but rather to "adequate" tariffs, Dewey said the heart of the foreign trade plank was centered in the sentence calling for U. S. cooperation in promotion of world commerce. At first, federal help may be required to assist in providing full employment, Dewey said.

"Are you satisfied with gas rationing?" someone asked.

"Do you know anybody who is?" Dewey retorted.

JEEPS

The famed army jeep is not so well suited for a general utility farm vehicle as is popularly supposed, according to the U. S. department of commerce. It was found that the jeep is less powerful than a small tractor, has small carrying capacity when used as a truck, and is uncomfortable and ugly looking.

"On the farm," concludes the article, "the role of the jeep seems to be that of a handy, amusing, plucky, but expensive to operate jack of all trades."

Washington Digest

Small Business to Feel Benefit of Reconversion

WPB Release of Aluminum for Civilian Purposes Turns Tide in Favor of Little Plants.

By BAUKHAGE
 News Analyst and Commentator.

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

The press gave notice a few weeks ago of the installation of a swarm of bees in the office of a government agency. It was in the Smaller War Plants corporation, and it was placed there by that ball-of-fire, up-and-doer, wounded and decorated in the last war, defeated for reelection to congress, and ex-mayor of San Antonio, Texas, Maury Maverick. He said he got the bees to provide a living example of how to keep busy.

I thought the gesture amusing, typical of the dramatically inclined Maury. So I went down to look the scene over, noted certain subsequent events and I decided that the gesture, although amusing enough, was by no means an empty one. For within one week, something happened, the significance of which has been all too little appreciated. Reconversion began and the long stagnant tide turned in favor of little business.

It is only a trickle so far, but the flow has started, which, it is hoped, will eventually get the wheels of small business, which had been slowed down past the danger point, moving again in the manufacture of civilian goods.

Less than a month before, Maury Maverick, armed with a series of charts, had appeared before a congressional committee and said:

"Concentration of production in the hands of big business has grown by leaps and bounds since 1939." Using the metal trades as an example, he said:

"Since the war started, the proportionate share of little business in metal products industries has roughly been cut in half."

Still later, just before the bees (or whatever it was) stung the government to action, Mr. Maverick became more pessimistic. He told congress:

"The mobilization of small business has reached the critical stage . . . the civilian economy is short of civilian goods and getting shorter . . . dangerous inflationary pressures . . . cutbacks in war contracts . . . are causing unemployment."

It was a gloomy picture Mr. Maverick painted. His office had worked hard, the congressional committees on small business had worked hard, but the War Production board turned a deaf ear to all demands on the basis that any resumption of civilian production might interfere with the war effort.

Maverick's Work Rewarded
 Then at last the heaven began to work—the whole argument of the defenders of little business, based on the assertion that certain industries could be resumed without interfering with the war effort, touched the iron heart of Donald Nelson, head of the WPB (of which Maury is a vice chairman). Nelson arose and announced "the first of a series of moves" and suddenly the whole tide turned and an entirely different attitude was evident on the part of the other members of the War Production board.

This "first of a series of moves" takes away some of the restrictions on the use of aluminum and magnesium.

But do not visualize a fountain of pots and pans, skillet and coffee pots springing into being overnight. Something is cooking but it is on a slow fire.

More important is the not-yet-proclaimed raising of restrictions which have been keeping "idle and excess inventories of surpluses of steel" lying dormant, impotent and useless, while small plants have the yearning facilities and willing manpower equally idle and capable of converting these "surpluses" into thousands of gadgets the consumer badly needs. Perhaps by the time this appears in print, the WPB will have issued an order raising some of the restrictions on this vital product. But all this takes time. Meetings have been taking place for the past weeks and the WPB is gradually coming around to the Smaller War Plants corporation's views and the insistent hammer on their doors by conscientious congressmen.

As to the aluminum situation, as this is written, the present order is yet to be clarified. Steps

are being taken to provide field engineers with information necessary for plants which have never worked with aluminum to learn how. Not many plants are familiar with this work and that is why we can't expect many pots and pans right away. And, of course, any and every plant which does start civilian production of any kind must first run a "gauntlet" as the saying goes at headquarters. The "gauntlet" is a series of tests to establish unequivocally that such a use of a plant's facilities and manpower will in no way interfere with the war production.

Let us look at the question of these "idle and excess inventories" of steel surpluses and see what the argument for their availability for civilian manufacture is. I am told that there are some 2 1/2 million tons of such inventories. That means that there is that much iron and steel being held over and above the possessors' needs for 60 days ahead.

The holders, generally speaking, are the large manufacturers.

Willing to Release Surpluses
 And they are willing to let the surpluses go. First, because they know they can get all the prime steel they need from the mills. Second, because most of these inventories are made up of odd lots. Big industries use large lots. They cannot very well start an operation on one small lot and then when it runs out adjust their machinery to another lot of different specifications. The smaller plants are perfectly adapted to do just this. They normally buy in small lots. They are more elastic.

The difficulty in utilizing this material is not only in the acquisition of the steel but in the restrictions against making what you want out of it. This requires a relaxation of rules, too, for the manufacture of many articles is still forbidden, and that is another thing that the Smaller Plants corporation is working on.

Process Will Take Time
 It is not a short and easy process but the big thing is that it has started, for small business has reached the stage where its very existence as an institution is threatened.

This is due, first, to a nationwide tendency on the part of the big plants to cancel their subcontracts which covered most of the work of the smaller plants. This was done for two natural reasons and one unnatural and evil one. The first two were: because of termination of some of their own contracts by the government and because of greatly increased efficiency which made it possible to take care of additional work without having to submit it to smaller concerns.

But the third and evil practice which had grown up was the use of government-paid-for facilities to duplicate work of a type which in peacetime only small plants do. With these new facilities and without the small plant's know-how, the larger factories wasted precious labor and took the little man's bread out of his mouth.

Another reason why the small business man's position has been growing critical is the delay in collecting pay at the termination of the contract. He was left without income and without the funds to carry on. And restrictions made it impossible to earn money, meanwhile, by making civilian goods.

Reasons for Reconversion
 On the other hand, as Mr. Maverick's associates and the senators and congressmen who have worked so hard (and, until now, with comparatively little success) point out, there is a whole list of reasons for reconversion to begin here (in the little plant) and now.

They list them in various orders but this seems to be as good as any:

(1) To preserve small business as an institution; (2) To form a pattern by trial and error for reconversion on a grand scale; (3) To prevent inflation; (4) To provide replacement of vital war-worn products; (5) To prevent unemployment which is springing up in many localities.



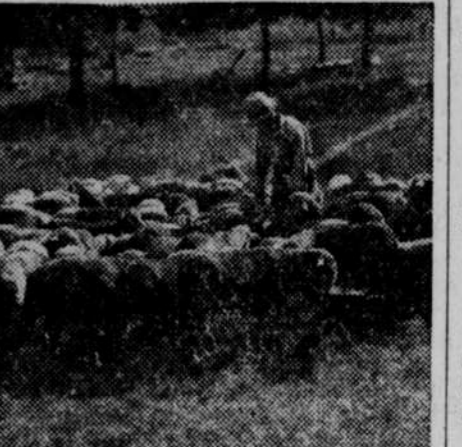
Pasture and Forage Important This Year

Lime, Fertilizer Boost Crop, Improve Quality

The supply of feed grains relative to livestock and poultry numbers promises to be less favorable in 1944 than it has been for several years. As a result, farmers should plan to take every possible advantage of pasture and forage crops in order to produce the volume of dairy and poultry products needed this year, according to the War Food administration.

One of the best ways to increase production of pasture and forage, and at the same time to improve the quality, the WFA says, is to apply more lime and superphosphate on pasture and hay land. The 1944 conservation program of the Agricultural Adjustment agency is designed to stimulate increased use of both these materials.

In most of the United States east of the Great Plains, and in some of the higher mountain areas and the areas of heavy rainfall in the Pacific Northwest, the WFA says, it is necessary to add lime to the soil in order to grow such legume crops as alfalfa, red clover, and sweet clover. The legumes are considered desirable for two reasons. They produce heavier crops of more nutritious hay than most of the non-



100 very high grade Jersey heifers delivered and tested to go anywhere. STEPHEN A. CARR, COLLINS, IOWA.

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Marked

Hillbilly (returning to his theater seat after intermission)—Did I step on your toes as we went out?
 Seated Man (grimly)—You did, sir.
 Hillbilly—Here we are, Ma. This is our place.

Eight-Year-Old Boy Is Tractor Driver

A 13-year-old boy was seen operating a tractor on his father's farm in Greene county. It was his fifth season as a tractor operator, which means he began at the tender age of eight, according to T. L. Davis, University of Illinois.

The farm consists of about 160 acres. The boy's father has been a tenant on it for many years. Father and son comprise the manpower. Mother and two sisters do their part. The boy takes great pride in his work, and when school is in session he even gets in a few licks mornings and evenings. The summer vacation gives him a great opportunity for his favorite occupation.

It is not unusual to see women doing farm work in this county, the farm wives doing a turn. A recent survey showed about 75 of them in the fields. Fifty boys and girls were also doing field work, many of the boys being less than 12 years old.

Killing Poison Ivy

If the poison ivy plants are sprayed with a solution of sodium chlorate in the proportion of one quart of crystals to three gallons of water, the plant will usually die after the first application. If life is still evident, however, a second application may be given in a few weeks.

Food in Brick Form

What is said to be the largest rotary press in the world was installed at the Boughboy Mills at New Richmond, Wis., for forming bricks of dehydrated food for the civilians freed from Nazi subjugation.

The bricks are actually one-half the bulk of dehydrated food, measuring 6 by 3 by 2 inches. Four cargo planes, loaded with 5,000 pounds each of these bricks could feed a million for one day. The mill is making 250,000 daily.

ASK ME ANOTHER?

A General Quiz

The Questions

1. Approximately how much of the total land acreage of the United States is covered with forests?
2. What is a peccadillo?
3. When was FDR first inaugurated?
4. With what group of men is the name Ethan Allen associated?
5. What physical force throws people off revolving turntables at amusement parks?
6. What state, North or South Dakota, was admitted to the Union first?
7. What bird is mentioned most frequently in the Bible?
8. What country is largest in area, Belgium, Denmark or the Netherlands?

The Answers

1. One-third.
2. A petty fault.
3. March 4, 1933.
4. The Green Mountain boys.
5. Centrifugal force.
6. Both were admitted to the Union on the same day, November 2, 1889.
7. The dove is the most frequently mentioned bird in the Bible.
8. Denmark, area, 16,575 square miles; Belgium, 11,775 square miles; the Netherlands, 12,704 square miles.

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 Light Truck
 Passenger Car
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Millions Find Simple Fresh Fruit Drink Gives Them All the Laxative Aid They Need

Don't form the habit of depending on harsh, gripping laxatives until you've tried this easy, healthful way millions now use to keep regular.

It's fresh lemon juice and water taken first thing in the morning—just as soon as you get up. The juice of one Sunkist Lemon in a glass of water. Taken thus, on an empty stomach, it stimulates normal bowel action, day after day, for most people.

And lemons are actively good for you. They're among the richest sources of Vitamin C, which combats fatigue, helps resist colds and infections. They supply vitamins B and P, aid digestion and help alkalize the system.

Try this grand wake-up drink 10 mornings. See if it doesn't help you! Use California Sunkist Lemons.

WNU-U 28-44

WOMEN IN YOUR 40's
 Do You Hate HOT FLASHES?
 If you suffer from hot flashes, feel weak, nervous, a bit blue at times—all due to the functional "middle-age" period peculiar to women—try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to relieve such symptoms. Taken regularly—Pinkham's Compound helps build up resistance against such annoying symptoms. Pinkham's Compound is made especially for women—it helps nature and that's the kind of medicine to buy! Follow label directions. LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S COMPOUND

HIGHLIGHTS . . . in the week's news

NAVAL HOSPITALS: Beds in the U. S. naval hospitals are 85 per cent filled. Vice Admiral Ross T. McIntire, naval surgeon general, stated. Hospitals are capable of caring for 70,000 men, he said. On the West coast, where Pacific area casualties are taken, the hospitals are 95 per cent filled. Some men are being moved to convalescent hospitals near their homes.

HAVEN FOR JEWS: Great Britain has agreed to set up a refuge for Jewish refugees from Nazi-controlled Europe, Undersecretary of State Stettinius revealed. This is the former Italian colonial possession in North Africa. Stettinius continued that large numbers of refugees are arriving in southern Italy daily from Yugoslavia and other Balkan areas.