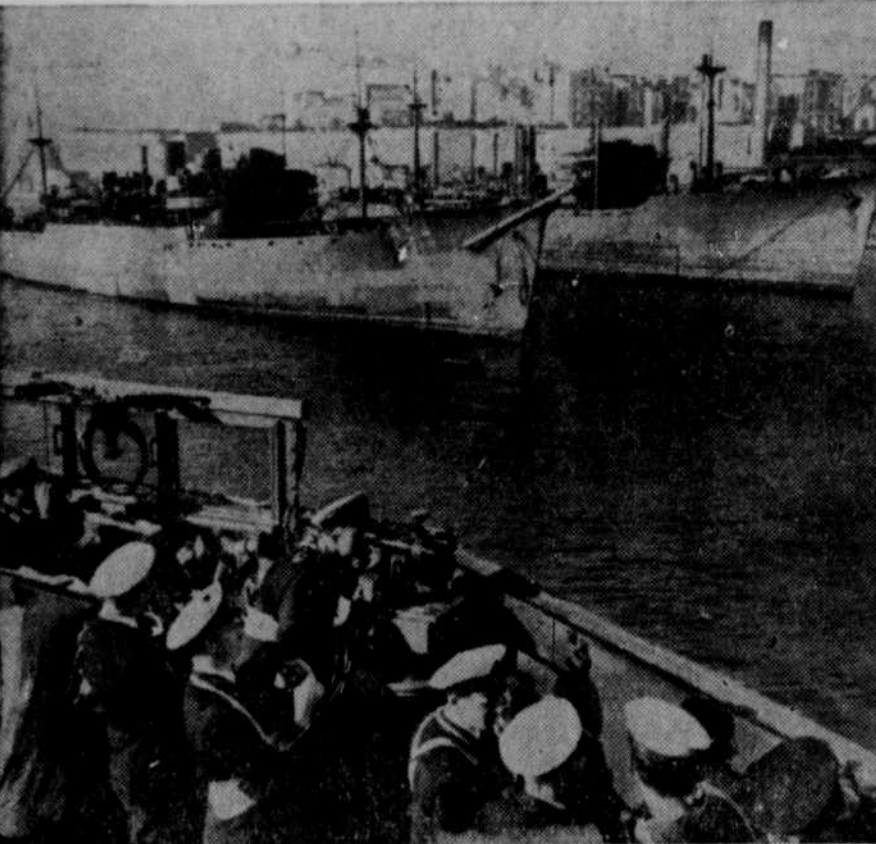


WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

**Victorious Russian Drive Sweeps On As German Army Faces New Threats; Political Situation in North Africa Inflamed by Peyrouton Appointment**

(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.



MALTA.—After beating off Axis attacks, a convoy laden with the necessary sinews of war drops anchor in harbor at Malta. The Axis does everything possible to halt the stream of supplies pouring into this vitally important British island base, but the convoys are getting through. This photograph was made from on board an accompanying British six-inch gun cruiser which helped escort the ships through the Mediterranean.

INSPIRATION:

**For the Russians**

There were reports of later Russian successes following the breaking of the siege of Leningrad but that story carried more drama for the Russian people themselves than the reports of all the rest. For Leningrad is Russia's second city and it had been almost a year and a half since there had been any land communication between it and the rest of the country.

As the Red army battled to widen the five-mile corridor through which the siege was first broken there were dispatches from all along the 1,200-mile front reporting new losses for the Nazis. At all points the German lines were sagging before the newly found power of the Russians. Inspired by the news from Leningrad, named for their revolutionary leader and considered the home of the revolution itself, Red soldiers received a real boost in morale which aided in maintaining a high degree of momentum in their offensives.

Immediate objectives that loomed closer now were the Latvian border, southwest of Velikie Luki, Rostov on the lower Don, complete annihilation of the armies before Stalingrad and added progress in the direction of Kharkov, the Pittsburgh of the Ukraine.

NORTH AFRICA:

**DeGaullists Object**

New flames were ignited under the bubbling cauldron of political dissatisfaction in North Africa when Marcel Peyrouton, veteran French politician and former Vichy minister of the interior, was named governor general of Algeria.

The appointment rekindled the popular alarm which was felt when Darlan first took office. The Fighting French at once jumped on the appointment, terming Peyrouton a former Fascist sympathizer. Headquarters of the DeGaulle forces recalled that in April, 1941, Peyrouton said that "only madmen believe in a British victory." The London Daily Herald called it a "political blunder of the first water. Peyrouton is mistrusted by Frenchmen of all parties."

Added to this confusion was the fact that the Allies soon must decide on a supreme commander for the showdown with the Axis in North Africa. The decision probably will be hastened by the rapid telescoping of the Tunisian and Libyan fronts.

NEW LEADER:

**For Democrats**

While congress was huddling over Edward J. Flynn's qualifications to represent the United States and President Roosevelt in the South Pacific diplomatic front, Democratic party chieftains assembled in Chicago to select Postmaster General Frank C. Walker to be his successor as chairman of the Democratic national committee. In his acceptance speech Walker expressed a "distaste for oratory as a substitute for action" and further avowed that he was a "firm advocate of the two-party system."

HIGHLIGHTS . . . in the week's news

**ELIGIBLE:** Washington officials revealed that boys who have reached the age of 17 are eligible to enlist in the army enlisted reserve corps and air corps enlisted reserve—providing they have the consent of their parents. Not until they are 18, however, will the 17-year-old enlistees be called to active duty. Until this new ruling boys were not accepted in the army until they were 18.

**PROBE:** Among other subjects being reviewed by the new congress is the matter of war contracts and the house rules committee has decided to call before it high army and navy officials to explain why some such contracts were authorized. Those in question are contracts, which, it is charged by the house naval and military affairs committee, permitted huge fees and profits.

FARM LABOR:

**And the Draft**

In an effort designed to keep more workers on the nation's farms the War Manpower commission has put into effect a broad liberalization of agricultural deferment requirements. Draft boards are now to be guided by a "new criteria" including liberalized application of the war unit production standard and the addition to the list of essential crops for which workers may be deferred.

Heretofore farmers have usually been required to be responsible for 16 "farm units." Now as few as eight "units" could result in holding off induction. (A unit, for example, is one dairy cow, or 20 acres of wheat, or 20 feed lot cattle, among other items deemed essential in the war food program.)

BIRTH-TO-GRAVE:

**Social Security**

President Roosevelt is scheduled to receive from the department of labor a greatly broadened—birth-to-grave—social security plan. This was revealed by Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins at a New York Town Hall meeting. She said adoption of such a plan would provide larger benefits including greater old age pensions, payments for all employment interruptions and maternity and funeral benefits.

Premiums would increase progressively to an amount equal to 10 per cent of the worker's paycheck. During the first stages of the plan's operation these premiums would be paid jointly by the employer and employee, much like the present social security program. Then as the number of old age benefit recipients increased beyond the amount collected the government would step in to pay a share of the benefits.

POINT RATIONING:

**System Explained**

When Office of Price Administration officials began explaining the system of point rationing it became immediately evident that points will vie in importance with dollars and cents in the minds of the nation's housewives.

Here is how the system will work: The sale of processed foods in cans and bottles will be stopped in retail stores a week before the rationing begins—some time in February. This will allow grocers to fill their shelves. On registration day, housewives will take the family's No. 1 war ration books to their local boards and apply for book No. 2.

The consumer will have to declare the actual number of cans, bottles and jars of eight ounces or more of

RATION DATES

Feb. 7—Period 4 fuel-oil coupons, good to March 26, become valid.

Feb. 8—Final date on which No. 28 coffee coupon is valid.

Feb. 20—Expiration date for Period 3 fuel-oil coupons which became valid Dec. 23.

Feb. 28—Final date for first inspection of tires for "B" or "C" passenger car card holders and for commercial vehicles.

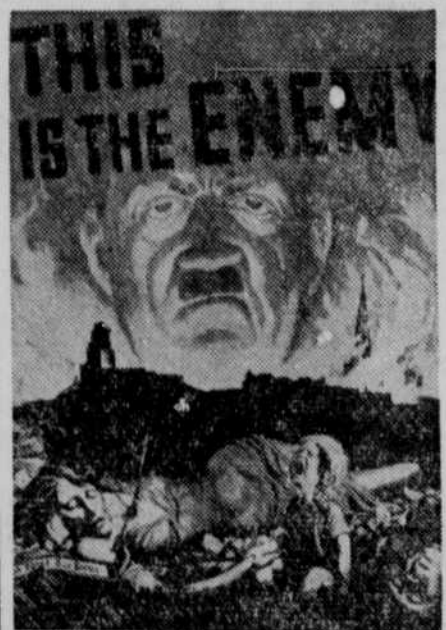
March 13—Period 5 fuel-oil coupons, good to Sept. 30, become valid.

March 31—Final date for first inspection of passenger car tires for "A" card holders and motorcycles.

The rationed foods on hand. Home canned foods are exempt. Each person will be allowed to have a certain number—probably between 8 and 12—on hand without penalty. For more than that, stamps will be removed.

Each consumer will be allowed 48 points during each rationing period, which will probably be one month.

New War Poster



This dramatic poster depicting the enemy's ruthless intention, was entered in the national war poster competition conducted by the New Museum of Modern Art and was chosen as the best. Duane Breyers, artist, who drew the winning entry is currently awaiting induction into the army.

MORE ACTION:

Striking at Japanese shipping in the Pacific and Far East, U. S. submarines have sunk 112 enemy ships since Pearl Harbor. The latest communiqué issued on this subject by the navy department showed the sinking of one destroyer, one large cargo ship, one medium sized transport, one medium sized cargo ship and one small patrol vessel sunk to reach this 112 total. Twenty-two other ships are listed as probably sunk and 29 others are reported as "damaged."

Washington Digest

Opinions Vary on Success Of Mexican Labor Plans



West, Southwest Farmers Reported Objecting to Minimum Wage Clause; Many Prefer Familiar 'Padrone' System.

By BAUKHAGE  
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What has happened to the scheme for bringing Mexican labor into the United States to help fill the gap left by the drain which industry and the draft have made on the farm?

In trying to get an answer to that question I turned up some rather interesting data which I wish to submit as an answer to that slur on our fair city that you hear frequently these days: "Washington is a mad house." It may at least explain what makes the wild cat wild.

I first went to an official in one of the war agencies with my query about Mexican labor. He is a very energetic, sincere worker, an anti-New Dealer, who is here trying to do his share to win the war. I am not permitted to use his name. He said:

"Somebody in our government with a lot of high ideals went to the Mexican government and made an agreement to send Mexican laborers to the United States. They arranged to have a contract which would deal with each laborer as a free agent and put in all sorts of conditions which the farmer who had to hire him had to agree to, including housing, transportation, and a minimum per diem rate.

"But instead of sending over experienced farm laborers the Mexican government gathered together a lot of ne'er-do-wells and hoboes. It didn't work. In fact, the farmers got less help than usual. The trouble was that before the social-conscious officials took a hand the American farmers had been making contracts with padrones (bosses) who got the money and the workers, established the working conditions and paid the workers as they saw fit. They brought in trained workers and they made them work. But the starry-eyed members of the Mexican and American governments wouldn't hear of making use of the padrone system."

That sounded very bad to me, so I called up the offices of Senator Downey of California and Senator McFarland of Arizona, who are members of a special committee holding hearings in California and New Mexico on this question of imported farm labor.

Success Reported

Senator Downey was still in California but his office was enthusiastic. I was told about how successful the use of this imported Mexican labor had been under the government's plan, in the beet industry, how it worked in the great guayule rubber fields of which 500,000 acres have been planted as part of our home-grown rubber program. How the senator was arranging with the state department for the admission of more foreign labor.

Then I talked with Senator McFarland. He said he would go along with Senator Downey in some of the things but not all. He said the farmers' complaint in Arizona was that they got neither the quantity nor the quality of workers they wanted. Cotton and dairy workers are their chief needs. He said that some of the farmers wouldn't sign a contract which the American government required. All protested against it. The objection was to the clause which established a minimum daily wage. The farmers said that the worker came out to the field in the morning, picked until he wanted to quit and then weighed in. But in order to be sure he had worked his minimum hours it was necessary to have a timekeeper and a book-keeper to check on his time and the whole process was too expensive.

Long-Staple Cotton

He said, on the whole, that the Arizona farmer didn't get as many workers as needed and didn't get as good ones as he had expected. On the department of agriculture's program for the next year there is a quota of 160,000 acres of long-staple cotton. One hundred thousand acres are allotted to Arizona. Normally, we import most of our long-staple cotton from abroad.

Senator McFarland said that unless some solution of the farm labor problem was reached, unless the present contract was modified and the Arizona farmers were assured more and better hands at a lower cost, they wouldn't be able to invest

their money in planting the long-staple cotton the government wants.

Neither Senator Downey's office nor Senator McFarland's had any comments on the padrone system.

Then I talked with a department of agriculture official. He was of the opinion that the contracts had worked out fairly well, and he pointed out that there was an "ideological" as well as a practical objection on the part of the farmers to the contract—the objection to establishing a minimum wage for farm labor.

Here are three quite different viewpoints. They represent a tiny fraction of the tangle which Washington has to untangle, has to reconcile.

If Washington is a madhouse, who made it mad?

MacArthur Lauded For Leadership

When the chapter of war history dealing with the Battle of New Guinea is written, it will be one of the most important in the whole book. That is what military men here tell me.

They began telling me that bit by bit just before the second front in Africa opened. Then the African story wiped everything else off the first pages. Recently they have been talking about New Guinea again. They keep saying to me a little reproachfully, "The American people don't realize what MacArthur has achieved down in that jungle country."

These aren't the "MacArthur men"—there are such in the army, a little group of hero worshippers who perhaps worship a bit more fervently than logically. But the men who have watched the New Guinea campaign from Moresby straight up over the Owen Stanley range and down the other side and up to the eastern coast of the island tell me that MacArthur and the leaders he has about him have done a great and a significant job.

It is great because he has accomplished what it was freely predicted the Japs could not do (and didn't). It is significant because it has proved that Australians and Americans, given the training, can beat the Jap at his own game. They can (and have) beaten him with less training, without the fatalistic quality of the Jap, whose religion is to die rather than surrender even when dying isn't a military necessity.

There are two reasons, which military men put forward why the battle of New Guinea has not been painted in its true colors—represented in its true importance. One is the fact that MacArthur leans backward in his communiques. Another is a peculiar copy-desk prejudice of American newspapers, which causes them to play down reports from the distance and play up the reports from the war department in Washington.

There are two reasons why MacArthur's reports are given out from his headquarters in Australia instead of by the war department in Washington. One is that the Australians (and perhaps MacArthur) want it that way, and another is because American newspapers, who pay a lot of money to keep correspondents in that area, don't like to have their men scooped by Washington.

Why He Is Winning

MacArthur may have another reason for not ballyhooing his achievements. He was beaten in Bataan. He may feel that until he has a complete victory to his credit, he doesn't want to sing too loudly.

But MacArthur has won so far in New Guinea because the men under his command were able to do what they never had a chance to do on Bataan because of lack of numbers, supplies and food. On New Guinea they were able to do better than the Japs could do best. And they did it in the kind of jungle country in which that "best" was even better. They were able to adapt themselves to the environment which required a kind of fighting and a kind of endurance for which the Japanese had spent years in preparing. The kind of fighting that resulted in the fall of Singapore and the kind which the conventional British soldiers—even the Far Eastern experts—said was impossible.

BRIEFS . . . by Baukhage

"An Idle Ship Is a Crime Against the Public Interests."—so reads a sign over the door of John H. Lofland, Co-ordinator of Ship Repair and Conversion.

Officers of ships sailing the inland waters of the United States are licensed to sail their ships on a river where no ships sail—the Red River of the North.

The ships being built in American shipyards today have more speed, greater fuel economy than the ships built in the First World War. The speed increase means that three of these will "outrun" four old ones.

The Red Cross has designated the week of January 18-24 as the Second Red Cross Benefit week of the Bowler's Victory Legion.



Production Now Is Farmers' Weapon

Survey Shows Good Crop Lands Limited

Generals know that this war can't be won just by relying on luck. Victory will be achieved by careful strategy and relentless action.

Neither can farmers win their share of the war on a gamble.

Production is their weapon. Production must be planned for victory. Farm strategy is based on balancing output so as to turn out the right things at the right time through efficient use of American farm resources.

Many believe America has plenty of good farm land. But surveys show that good crop lands are sharply limited. Of the present area of 530 million acres available for crops, only 340 million acres can be classed as really good land. The rest is too steep, too rough, too shallow or too infertile for profitable cultivation.

Labor, machinery and materials are short now, too. These conditions make it imperative for wartime agriculture to adjust itself to producing needed crops with maximum efficiency.

U. S. farmers can't afford to grow large quantities of crops not vitally needed. With present acreage and the large carry-over in storage, there is an abundance of wheat, for instance. Boosting the wheat output now would not be a contribution to the nation's war effort. Consequently production goals for wheat called for a 12 per cent decrease in acreage. Land thus released from wheat



Dairy products, especially milk being hydrated for shipment all over the world, is figuratively "pouring" from millions of U. S. farms.

can be used for food and fiber more urgently needed.

More milk products, eggs, and meats are vitally necessary for war needs now. The goal for milk is an 8 per cent increase.

Reports from farmers indicate they will probably meet the production goals based on anticipated needs of the United States and the United Nations. Some plantings may fall below goal levels, as in the case of peanuts and flaxseed for oils. But this is partially offset by soybean plantings in excess of goals.

This adjustment to wartime needs is being accomplished through acreage allotments, marketing quotas, farm program payments, commodity loans, and farm price supports provided by the department of agriculture.

After the war, the farm program machinery must be geared to the post-war problems of agriculture to protect farmers from the gigantic surpluses, depressed prices, and wholesale bankruptcies which followed the First World War.

Through adjustment, farmers will marshal their forces for abundance in peace as they are doing now for victory.

Treatment for Grubs

Cattle infested with grubs (sometimes called "warbles" or "wolves") should be treated in the following way: Mix a powder containing one part of 5 per cent rotenone content derris or cube powder and two parts of wettable sulphur. The powder should be applied to the back of the infested animal with a shaker and rubbed in lightly with the hand. Other methods of control are a derris or cube wash, or the use of a power sprayer in distributing a rotenone-sulphur mixture over the backs of the animals.

Keep Brood Sows Gaining

Brood sows should be kept gaining at the rate of about one pound per day up to farrowing time. Difficulty in farrowing, pig eating, and poor milk flow are often traceable to inadequate rations. A good ration includes a pound of oats per sow daily, a small amount of protein supplement such as tankage or soybean meal, free access to legume hay and enough corn to put on the desired gain.

Gems of Thought

THAT spot of ground pleases me in which small possession makes me happy, and where slight resources are abundant.—Martial.

If you can be well without health you may be happy without virtue.

He that climbs the tall tree has won right to the fruit; He that leaps the wide gulf should prevail in his suit.—SCOTT.

The symbols of the invisible are the loveliest of what is visible.—Byron.

His own estimate must be measure enough, his own praise reward enough for him.—Emerson.

Bird Playground

A unique habit among birds is the building of a bower or playground by the bowerbird of Australia, says Collier's. Unique also is the habit of decorating it with stolen articles, all of a certain color.

One such bower, evidently constructed by a bird that liked blue, contained, among many other blue articles, a blue hair ribbon, a blue railroad ticket, a string of blue glass beads and 178 blue bags, belonging to a near-by laundry.

NERVOUS? No Pep or Vitality? INDIGESTION? Feel All In? Rundown?

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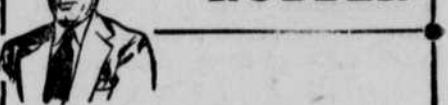


When the soldier talks about "the skipper" he means his captain, the head of his company. And that's just what the title "captain" means. It comes from the Latin word "caput" meaning "head." Another leader high in Army men's favor since '18 is Camel Cigarettes. (Based on actual sales records from Post Exchanges and Sales Commissaries.) It's the gift they prefer from the home folks. If you have a relative or friend in the service, send him a carton of Camels. Your dealer is featuring Camel cartons to send to service men.—Adv.

Use at first sign of a COLD 666 TABLETS, SALVE, NOSE DROPS, COUGH DROPS. Try "Rub-My-Tiss"—a Wonderful Liniment

Miss Liberty's Book The book held by Miss Liberty in her statue in New York harbor represents the law. On it black letters is the date, July 4, 1776, as meaning "liberty based on law."

SNAPPY FACTS ABOUT RUBBER



The first known rubber hose was manufactured in England in 1827.

Collapsible rubber boots equipped with paddles, bullet-hole plugs, sea-anchor, water, etc., are being produced for fighting U. S. airmen. Inflated in 10 seconds, this boat forms part of the pilot's seat and stays with him when he hits the water.

An Omaha, Neb., tire salesman headed into court before rationing for parking his car near a hydrant first talked himself out of the \$2 fine, then sold two new tires to the judge, two to the cop who arrested him and two to the court attendant.

Production of War tires is definitely tied to the production of reclaimed rubber. It is estimated that the country has retaining capacity to process 360,000 tons of reclaimed a year.

Rubber authorities estimate that 900 million tires have been scrapped since World War I.

