

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Point Rationing Scheduled for March 1; Solomons Fit Into Jap 'Empire Plan' But U. S. Armed Forces Will Not Agree; Treasury Favors Pay-as-You-Go Tax

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.

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RATIONING: New Date Set

Office of Price Administration officials have established March 1 (or a few days later) as the beginning of nationwide rationing of canned and frozen foods on a point basis. As announced several weeks ago these goods include canned, bottled, and frozen fruits and vegetables, soups, juices, chili sauce, catsup and dried fruits.

Retail sales of these items will be stopped on February 21 and during the eight days following that date a country-wide schoolhouse registration will be conducted for the distribution of ration book No. 2. Blue stamps in this book will be used for the canned goods rationing and the red stamps for meat rationing. (Meat rationing is at present scheduled to begin about April 1, although this may be changed.) Further details of the registration for book two and its use are to be announced by local OPA offices.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Watch the columns of this, your hometown paper, for complete details. These will be published as soon as they are released.)

One member of each family may register for the entire household for ration book two. Book No. 1 must

OTHER RATION DATES

- 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 15—Last valid date for No. 11 sugar coupons, good for three pounds.
- March 31—Final date for first inspection of passenger car tires for "A" card holders and motorcycles.
- April 12—Expiration date for Period 4 fuel-oil coupons.

be presented at the time of registration and "excess" canned goods on hand as of February 21 must be declared. OPA has previously ruled that each member of the household may have five cans of eight ounces or larger on hand at the time of registration and still escape having coupons removed from the new book.

STRANGE QUESTION: From the Nazis

"Where is the place you surrender?"

This was a strange question indeed for the once-proud Nazi soldiers before Stalingrad to be asking the Russians, but it was what the Reds reported their enemies were asking as they continued to flock in—victims of the relentless Soviet drive to free the once-besieged Volga city.

Dispatches described the condition of the Nazis as "cold, unshaven, and distraught." But the citizens of Stalingrad wasted little time on their captives. Too well they remembered the long days and nights that the Nazis pounded and ruined their city with bombs and shells.

In a single day 16 generals and a field marshal (Frederich Paulus, chief Nazi army official in the area) were surrendered along with hundreds of other smaller fry. Even the German radio admitted that these losses at Stalingrad were among the most serious of the entire war.

Elsewhere the Russians continued to gain ground or at least hold their recent gains. In the Leningrad sector the "escape corridor" before the city was widened and in the Caucasus the drive for Rostov strengthened as new thrusts on the middle sector headed fresh for Kursk and Kharkov.

WAR NEAR CLIMAX: Says Finn President

In a statement slanted for the United Nations, President Risto Rytö told his Finnish parliament that "the war is approaching a culmination point," and expressed hope that "the Allies will understand Finland's position," dispatches from Helsinki reported. The dispatches said that Rytö did not mention Germany, Finland's ally in the war against Russia.

PACIFIC TOUR: And Jap Bombs

Returning from a 20,000-mile trip to the Pacific front, during which time he was twice under Japanese air attack, Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox told United States newsmen that "I think there are dark good prospects of an air attack on Tokyo." Knox was accompanied by Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, commander in chief of the Pacific fleet, and Adm. William F. Halsey Jr., commander in the South Pacific.

WAR JOB OR DRAFT: Fathers Told

Get a war job or be drafted! With that notice the selective service bureau lifted the ban on drafting fathers by abolishing deferments on April 1 "regardless of dependents" for men in a selected list of occupations and trades.

The order, announced by War Manpower Commission Chairman Paul V. McNutt, was the first move to draft married men with children into the armed services.

In Washington, McNutt told the house military affairs committee that "by the end of this year 10 out of every 14 of the able-bodied men between 18 and 38 will be in the armed services."

Only the physically handicapped and those over 37 years of age in the jobs listed in the order to local draft boards will be deferrable after April 1. The jobs listed were for men engaged in 29 occupations or employed in 19 industries, eight wholesale and retail trades and nine service activities.

Thousands of men affected will be given until May 1 to shift to an occupation essential to the war effort—occupations previously listed by the WMC. The edict amounts to a "work-in-the-right-industry-or-fight" order, although McNutt declined to call it that. The 30-day period of grace (between April 1 and May 1) given to those seeking transfers will apply only to those who have registered with the U. S. Employment Service for war jobs.

TURKEY:

Renewed Pact

The British-Turkish military alliance of 1939 once again became a document of major importance as England's Winston Churchill and President Ismet Inonu of Turkey met near Adana to agree on "positive implementation" of the pact.

The alliance called for active military co-operation if the war moved to the eastern end of the Mediterranean. Close observers, using more ordinary language, indicated that the success of the parley means Turkey's entrance into the war on the side of the United Nations. The fact that Turkey made public the details of the two-day meeting added significance to the occasion. As a neutral she could have insisted upon secrecy.

The Turkish communique referred to the fact that Churchill came to Turkey from his meeting with Mr. Roosevelt at Casablanca and "could speak freely" on the President's views.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Churchill said:

"It is clear that the ancient friendship between Great Britain and Turkey . . . has been revived."

MISCELLANY:

MILKING: As part of the program to supply American farms with badly needed labor to assure record food production, federal authorities and the University of Wisconsin are co-operating in training young men of 16 and 17 years of age for work on dairy farms. The youths are recruited from low producing farms by the federal employment service and the Farm Security Administration and given a five-week education in modern dairy methods.

COMPOSER: America took claim to a great artist recently when Sergei Rachmaninoff, famous musical composer and pianist, and his wife, Natalie, were naturalized citizens. The Rachmaninoffs have made their home in the United States since 1918, after departing from their native Russia.

MINERS: Backed by 450,000 members, John L. Lewis will seek "substantial" pay raises for the United Mine Workers in the bituminous fields when negotiations get under way with operators in March. Although the government's policy in these matters has been established by the War Labor Board's formula for increasing wages at a rate equal to the rise in cost of living since 1941, it is reported Lewis and the miners will seek a "22 a day boost."

This amount is in excess of the 15 per cent the board figures represents the per cent of increase in cost of living since 1941.

SACRIFICE: Speaking before a throng of aircraft workers in California, Eddie Rickenbacker declared that no effort being made at home could begin to compare with the heroic sacrifices of American troops throughout the world. Rickenbacker has also stated that the American soldier returning from the front lines will be the most rugged of individuals and will not tolerate regimentation.

STOPPAGES: Work stoppages increased by 301 in England last year to a total of 1,281, the labor ministry reported.

LAST HOUR: "Victory will go to the side able to hold a quarter hour longer than the enemy," Premier Mussolini declared in an address to Italian militia.

QUALIFY: In selecting officials for French North Africa, High Commissioner Henri Honoré Giraud will be guided by their administrative ability as well as their political past. Many competent men served in Vichy, Giraud said, without representing its ideas in the generally accepted sense.

Washington Digest

Nazi Submarine Menace Is Allies' Chief Problem

Pre-Fabricated U-Boats Said to Boost German Output; 'Vanishing Luftwaffe' Puzzles United Nations' Military Observers.

By BAUKHAGE

News Analyst and Commentator.

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"It will be a long and bitter war." That was the remark of the Australian minister of defense in a recent interview. Two days later, I heard a general, who had visited many fronts, make a similar statement. You have heard the same prediction made from dozens of officials. And the strange thing is, it is usually preceded with an account of Allied successes. Nothing but a "but" stands between the enumeration of victories achieved and the prediction of the long, hard road ahead.

Since this perplexed me, I tried to get a concrete answer from various persons as to just what lies on the long, hard road. Out of the answers, two obstacles stand out, the submarine and the story of the "vanishing Luftwaffe." Only recently has it been definitely revealed that the enemy's greatest and most effective weapon is the submarine. For a long time, the British permitted only the most general statements regarding the sinking of Allied or even neutral ships by U-boats. Lately, because it was realized that the people were in ignorance of the extent of this menace, more detailed statements have been made, although still no figures are given out.

We know that America is building ships faster than American ships are being sunk. We know that the margin between launchings and sinkings is very narrow. And we know that launchings alone do not really balance sinkings hull for hull because the enemy sinks loaded ships—valuable cargoes are destroyed—trained men not easily or immediately replaceable are killed or at least taken out of action for long periods—gaps are left in the war effort with each lost cargo.

When I was in Berlin covering the outbreak of the European war in 1939, I heard a great deal of talk about Germany's counter-blockade, how the Nazis could fill seas with their U-boats. There was much talk of the great numbers which could be produced by the American method of the assembly line. I had no idea how much truth there was in those statements. Then in the months that followed, not much was said about the U-boats. For a period when they were operating on our coasts, America was conscious of their presence but when they were driven out of sight of our shores, they were driven out of mind as well.

Nazi Boasts Largely Confirmed

Now we learn how great their depredations are on the shipping lanes where they converge in the eastern Atlantic, confirming to some degree the German boasts which are sounding again. It is stated by British naval observers that the Germans are pre-fabricating the subs, making the parts in factories scattered all over the Reich and assembling them in great underground caverns hewn out of the rock or covered with concrete on the shores of the Bay of Biscay in France.

Therein lies a clear and simple explanation of the Allies' greatest problem, the chief obstacle on the "long, hard road."

The second obstacle may be a fancied one but it is real in the minds of many. The unknown is usually more terrible than the known and perhaps this one is at least partly a myth but no hard-headed realist can afford to underestimate the enemy's potentialities.

Those who believe this "obstacle" exists, say it is hidden behind the mystery of "the vanishing Luftwaffe."

According to military men, there are at present very few German planes on the Russian front. I heard a recent estimate of one-seventh as many as a year ago.

There are not many German planes over Africa—the Allies have at least achieved parity in air power. Where is the German Luftwaffe? Its presence darkened the skies of Europe once—has it really vanished? Been used up? Worn out? The factories which turn out replacements all destroyed by Allied bombers? Is its necessary fuel and lubrication exhausted? Some people

think that this, at least to a large degree, is true. But that explanation does not seem reasonable.

German Advances In Synthetic Gas

We know that Germany has made remarkable advances in the manufacture of synthetic gasoline and oils. We know that some oil has been retrieved from the Malkop oil fields in Russia, new ones developed in Austria.

If Germany is not yet starved of gasoline and lubricants, if the Luftwaffe has not really disappeared from the earth, its absence from the air may have another meaning. We know that in spite of the heavy German losses in men and material in Russia, Germany still has a large and powerful army. Possibly over 300 fully equipped divisions—trained men.

It is estimated that aside from soldiers engaged in Russia and North Africa, the garrisons in the occupied countries, there must be a striking mobile army of a million men and more. Of course, these are estimates but they are not over-estimates. And besides this army there is the "vanishing Luftwaffe."

The assumption is that this great army like the airforce is resting, conserving and building up its strength for one of two things: either a long, last stand defense of the borders of the Reich or one more powerful offensive.

Meanwhile, we know that every day that Japan is allowed to occupy the rich possessions of her stolen empire, she is nearer to the exploitation of their resources, the development of which will make her stronger. And every day she is left undisturbed by a major attack, she is able to increase her fortifications, wear down the Chinese and spread her "silver bullets" among the less loyal war-lord followers on the fringe of Chiang Kai-shek's central army.

There are two factors which make the road ahead a hard one—the present successful operation and the rapid replacement of the German submarine flotilla and the probability that Germany is holding back a powerful army and air force either for another telling blow or to defend its strongly fortified terrain.

Ideologies—Put Them on Ice?

As I go wandering round the town taking a look in every quarter—with apologies to Wan-Eyed Reilly—I have acquired data in the last few days that have convinced me that we will have to expunge the word ideology from the bright lexicon of war, if we are going to win.

I have observed three places where the ideologies have gotten in and done more damage than a buffalo moth in an overstuffed sofa.

Of course in North Africa—it may be the climate or the rainy season—ideologies have done some of their most devastating work. I have conversed with an army officer, an official, who knows that terrain and also what it produces, a newspaper philosopher and a radical—all of them look at the situation on the shores of the Mediterranean a little differently. The official explains that the politics are very important—the radical, happy over the success against all Fascists, but infuriated over using them even to help defeat themselves, shouts—"We should have shot Darlan the day after he served his purpose." "Well," remarks the official, "somebody did, didn't they?" The army officer calls the whole controversy a backyard row that will be forgotten as ground dries up and the Allies get a few victories.

But the correspondent philosopher paused to analyze.

He said: "You have heard that one thing that greatly improved the morale in the Russian army was making the officers supreme and removing the authority of the commissars which were originally placed at their elbows. You know the Russian officers could make no move without the okay of the commissar and yet the officer was responsible if anything went wrong. Now, the officer has the final word—many of the former commissars who had military training have become officers."

BRIEFS . . . by Baukhage

The Swedish Labor federation reports that the number of strikes, and workers involved, during 1942, was the lowest ever recorded. Only 34 strikes, with some 1,922 workers involved, were reported. The number of lost working days totaled 94,000. Only three times before in the history of Sweden's labor, have there been a less number of working days lost through strikes.

Feed grain supplies are 12 per cent larger, hay supplies are 9 per cent larger, and supplies of grain and hay per animal on farms are somewhat larger than they were this time last year.

This year, civilians will probably eat more peanut butter than ever before, because peanut butter is high in both protein and fat.



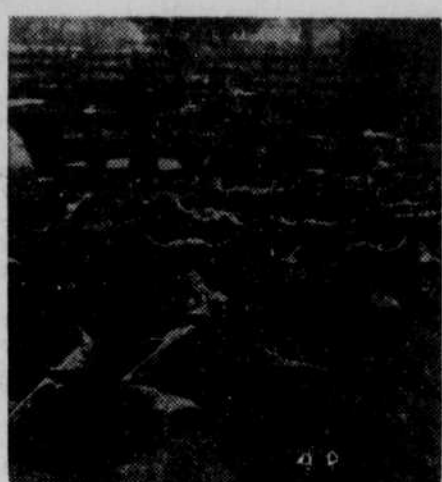
Soybeans Deplete Land's Nitrogen

Fertilizing, Rotation Counteracts Losses

How to fertilize soybeans is a question that faces hundreds of thousands of farmers since the war's demands have so greatly increased the production of this crop.

When soybeans are grown for hay or grain, they are definitely a soil-depleting crop, according to R. E. Yoder, chief agronomist, Ohio Agricultural Experiment station.

Results of tests covering 22 years at the Ohio Agricultural Experiment



Hereford cattle in a Midland, Texas, corral waiting for shipment to eastern packing houses.

station revealed that a 25-bushel-per-acre soybean crop removed 25 pounds of phosphorus and 30 pounds of potash per acre from the soil.

In other words, soybean grain removed 1½ times as much phosphorus and twice as much potash as did corn grain from the soil.

In spite of the fact that the soybean is a legume, it breaks down soil organic matter and depletes the land's nitrogen supply even in generously fertilized rotations at rates almost identical with those caused by clean-cultivated row crops.

Obviously the nitrogen fixed by the plant is transformed into protein in the beans removed from the soil. Soybeans leave behind in the soil only half as much root residue as corn grown on the same land. The haulm is likewise high in a carbon residue similar to that of any other straw.

Farmers should offset the degrading effects of the bean's on the soil's fertility by means of soil building practices.

Soybeans should be fertilized. Experiments thus far have failed to



That's chicken from U. S. farms, 7,000 pounds of it for one meal, these seamen of the galley crew are preparing.

show that soybeans respond to direct fertilization.

The first step in fertilizing soybeans is to be sure the land is generously supplied with active calcium and lime. Next increase the rate of fertilizer application to wheat, corn and other crops grown in rotation. Soybeans should be confined to the most fertile fields on the farm, so that production goals may be attained on the smallest possible acreage of land. They should be planted on the most level fields to minimize erosion and wherever possible on the contour.

In fitting soybeans into a rotation system, it is always best to substitute this crop for one of the other row crops or small grains. Soybeans should never be substituted for soil-building sod crops.

Up in Smoke

Burning of pastures and meadows costs farmers millions of dollars each year in soil losses and decreased yields of grasses. Experiments in Kansas show that the yield of blue-stem grasses was cut 48 to 88 per cent depending on the time of burning. Fall burning was most injurious. Oklahoma tests show that where wooded pasture was burned the runoff was 28 times as great and soil loss 12 times as great as for areas not burned.

JUST AS YOU ARE

Duplicates Teacher—Why, Mary, that's a queer pair of stockings you have on, one green and one brown. Mary—Yes, and I have got another pair just like those at home.

That's Adam Freddie (who had finished his apple)—Let's play "Adam and Eve." Millie—How do we do that? Freddie—You tempt me to eat your apple and I give in.

Then again a pessimist is just someone who has to work alongside an optimist.

First Come—"Here, waiter, give me my hat." "Yes, sir. What sort was it, sir?"

"A brand-new one." "Sorry, sir, all the new hats have been gone more than half an hour."

Classified "I have a pain in my abdomen," the recruit told the army doctor. "Young man," said the doc, "officers have abdomens, sergeants have stomachs. You have a belly-ache."

PENETRO

Many users say "first use is a revelation." Has a base of old fashioned mutton suet, Grandma's favorite. Generous 25¢ double supply 35¢. Demand stainless Penetro.

Noble Actions Good actions ennoble us, and we are the sons of our own deeds.—Cervantes.

YOU WOMEN WHO SUFFER FROM HOT FLASHES

If you suffer from hot flashes, dizziness, distress of "irregularities," are weak, nervous, irritable, blue at times—due to the functional "middle-age" period in a woman's life—try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound—the best-known medicine you can buy today that's made especially for women. Pinkham's Compound has helped thousands upon thousands of women to relieve such annoying symptoms. Follow label directions. Pinkham's Compound is worth trying!

Humanity First Above all nations is humanity.—Plato.

SNAPPY FACTS ABOUT RUBBER

Reclaimed rubber is the product resulting from the processing of scrap rubber. It is prepared from used rubber articles that are cleaned, purified and made plastic for re-use in rubber manufacturing.

Crude rubber in 1899 was selling at \$2,200 a ton. At the 1925 high was selling at \$2,755.20 per long ton.

Engineers have designed the tires for one of the army's leaps to resemble the camel's tread, nature's provision for support on shifting sand.

A commercial use of tires reported that an Ameripol synthetic rubber tire used on a light truck returned over 35,300 miles before it was re-capped. This tire, with 51 others, was placed in test service early in 1941.

A 35,000-ton battleship required 165,000 pounds of rubber.

Forney Shaw

In war or peace

B.F. Goodrich

FIRST IN RUBBER

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