

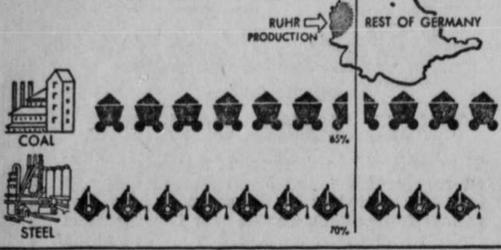
WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

**Heavy Fighting Follows Sicily Landings As Allied Forces Strike for Key Points; Navy Scores Again in Pacific Battle; Cut Dairy Product Supply for Civilians**

(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.)  
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TELEFACT

WHY WE BOMB THE RUHR VALLEY



SICILY:

Allies Advance

As a great bridge of 3,000 ships poured troops onto conquered beachheads of Sicily, American forces drove 20 miles inland to join up with the British at Ragusa, an important communication junction dominating high ground in the area.

Along the eastern coast of the island, the British captured the naval base of Augusta and then made landings to the south of the great port of Catania. The movements placed Gen. Bernard Montgomery's forces within 55 miles of Messina, terminal of the ferry route from the toe of the Italian boot.

Only around the American beachhead of Gela did heavy early fighting develop. Here, the celebrated Goring division teamed with an Italian force to counter-attack, and though the enemy drove through to the sandy shore, Gen. George Patton's troops sealed the breach.

Against the 144,000 Axis troops defending Sicily, the Allies were reputed to have put up at least 10 divisions of 150,000 men in the early stages of the campaign. With air-dromes established in the island's picturesque olive groves of the southeast, Allied armies assaulted enemy landing fields, shot up motorized convoys and roads, and bombed shipping to the north.

PACIFIC:

Win Another Round

Hovering in the approaches of the Kula gulf, American naval units took another broadside at Japanese warships seeking to supply enemy troops penned at the Munda airfield on New Georgia island. In the exchange of salvos, four and probably six Jap cruisers and destroyers were sunk. No American losses were announced.

Near Munda, American troops, picking their way through the thick jungle, encountered stiffening resistance from the entrapped enemy. Earlier, U. S. forces had wiped out a Japanese stronghold on an inlet to the northeast of the island.

Collaborating with the sea and ground forces, American airmen continued hammering at Japanese installations throughout the 700-mile arc of offensive. The enemy air base at Vila above New Georgia island and another in the Shortland islands to the northwest were raided.

In New Guinea, the Allies were making use of the supply route from the beach where General MacArthur had established a base early in the offensive, to Mubo, about 15 miles inland and just below the Japanese stronghold of Salamaua.

WAR BUREAUS:

Get \$2,911,697,224

After parring the OPA's request for funds by 22 million dollars and the Office of War Information's by 16 million dollars, congress appropriated \$2,911,697,224 for the government's war agencies in bills approved by President Roosevelt.

A total of 848 million dollars was appropriated for the department of agriculture. The department of the interior received 105 million dollars, including 22 million dollars for the irrigation of food producing lands. Other bills provide for 100 million dollars for new war housing and 15 million dollars for flood relief.

Also signed by the President was legislation for authorizing the use of government held silver for industrial purposes; for establishing a pharmacy corps in the army; for providing for emergency flood control work, and for settling boundary lines between Iowa and Nebraska.

U. S. WARPLANES: Criticize Production

Pulling no punches, the Truman defense investigating committee delved into America's record aircraft production and came up with strong criticism of certain phases of the industry.

The committee attacked the Curtiss-Wright aeronautical company for improper inspection of engines; expressed disappointment with Ford's slowness in coming into bomber production; declared certain makes of fighters and bombers had proven unsatisfactory in action, and, in turn, praised the development of new models, like the Grumman Hellcat and Mustang 51.

Summed up, the committee's report reflected the growing pains experienced by the American aircraft industry in its gigantic expansion in the last few years. Whereas one plant was assailed for sacrificing quality for production, several others were criticized for their slowness in putting out superior models.

MARTINIQUE: Helps Allies

The aircraft carrier Bearn, the light cruisers Emile Bertin and Barfleu, a half dozen tankers and several merchant ships were put into the service of the Allied cause with the French National committee's assumption of authority over the Caribbean island of Martinique, previously in the Vichy camp.

With Martinique also went control of a cache of 300 million dollars in gold, taken there upon the fall of France.

In its adherence to Vichy, Martinique had been considered a danger spot to U. S. defenses in the Caribbean, on the outskirts of the Atlantic ocean and midway between North and South America.

High Commissioner Georges Robert's political position had resulted in a falling out with Washington, and all U. S. food shipments to the island were shut off. With hunger rampant, Robert threw in the sponge.

Sicily Rugged Island

Sticking out like a great, big rock at the toe of the Italian boot, Sicily is an island about the size of Maryland, with a normal population of 4 million. Flanking the straits that separate it from North Africa, it has been a frequent battleground throughout world history, for whoever holds it threatens the western passage of the Mediterranean.

Sicily is peculiar in topography. From its sandy, coastal plains, the land gradually rises to a plateau of 1,600 feet. Then from the midst of this plateau springs a mountain chain, which effectively divides the southern half of the island from the north.

Chief peak of this mountainous backbone is Mt. Etna, 10,739 feet. Because of its ruggedness, Sicily has never been rich. Fruits, olives, figs and wheat are the principal food products. Sulphur and asphalt deposits have been well developed.

GUNDAR HAGG: Good-Will Envoy

Seemingly, athletes are the best of the European ambassadors. Paavo Nurmi, the famous Finnish long-distance runner, set the fashion years ago, and now the latest of the good-will ambassadors is the equally celebrated Swedish track marvel, Gundar Hagg.

Chief virtue of these athletes is their outstanding ability and success in living up to their headlines. Hagg is a brilliant example. In one of his early performances here, Gundar broke the American record for two miles in 8:53.9.

Like most Europeans, Hagg has come to the American cinder path determined to win not for the sake of winning, but to uphold Swedish prestige. He goes about his training as naturally as you'd take a walk. When he works out in his native Sweden, he does so by romping over the picturesque countryside like any boy on a lark. No fancy or artificial hi-jinks for him.

DADS:

Draft Delay Sought

In an effort to forestall the induction of fathers, the War Manpower commission was reported to be studying plans for reducing list of essential occupations for childless married men. At the present time, there are 35 such occupations, with thousands of specific jobs in those activities.

According to the same reports, the WMC was urging the army to reduce its demands to the minimum. Recently, the agency said the services were planning the call of 2 million men within the next year, exclusive of replacements. Insistence on drafting men for replacements, the WMC said, would result in the induction of fathers.

FARM MACHINERY: Increase Output

By increasing allocations of carbon steel to the farm machine industry, production of sorely needed agricultural implements should attain a volume 80 per cent of the 1941 output.

According to advices, most of the production will be centered in the smaller shops. Normally an 85 million dollar business annually, half of farm machinery output is concentrated in Illinois.

Washington Digest

FDR Must Take Helm Again To Achieve National Unity

Administration, Congress Must Get Tough In Throttling Various Pressure Groups Seeking Advantages for Few.



By BAUKHAGE  
News Analyst and Commentator.

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In the next few weeks decisions will be reached which will affect the length of the war and they will not be made on the military fronts. They will be made in small town offices, leaning across fences, down at the post office or the court house, on front stoops, at the Elks club, in the lodge rooms and after meetings of one kind or another in every middle-class, village and farm in the country.

They will result from conversations between the congressmen, home to mend their 1944 fences, and their constituents. The nation faces a crisis on the home front. Unless it is solved in the common sense American way, it is going to prolong the war months, and perhaps longer. Its presence has already delayed the capitulation of Italy, according to some of the more pessimistic pessimists around Washington.

As success on the battlefield grows, the efforts of those trying to support a total war are being defeated on the home front.

Two Events

Two events mark the low in unified effort for victory. One was when a reporter, with no evil inuendo in his mind as far as I know (and I know the man), asked the President if he would make any comment for background on the statement that although things were going well on the battlefield, they were not going so well on the administration front (meaning home front). The President replied with a castigation of the press and radio. Some of their representatives, he said, were encouraging governmental friction. He could have given a blasting, rip-roaring answer which would have encouraged the country. As it was, he made some of the men whose job it is to interpret the news to the country, too mad to be objective.

The second event which marked the nadir in shoulder-to-shoulder effort on the home front was when congress came within an eyelash of killing the use of any and all subsidies which would have broken a wide hole in the anti-inflation dam. Let me state immediately that I do not believe that subsidies are the panacea for our inflation ills, but to have wiped them out completely at that time would have meant jerking the one, wobbling support we did have right out from under the price-control structure.

Since then the President has perked up and taken a positive stand and congress on second thought modified its berserk mood and evolved a compromise.

Now it is up to the people. If the congressmen are convinced that they can afford to go national and not be defeated a year from November; if they are convinced that the people will support their votes if they vote for what they think the country needs and not to suit the pressure groups that sit on their desks all day the crisis will pass.

Crack-Down Necessary

The objectives are pretty clear. In the first place, the President has got to take the helm again. He has got to crack down. He has got to see that dimensions do not break out. He has got to see to it that the secretary of the treasury comes out with a clear-cut tax and savings program which will absorb the inflation dollars. Congress will have to support that program.

The pressure groups whose purpose it is to get their members more money for products or wages, will have to be throttled. This means that the administration has to be tough. Congress will have to have courage. The people will have to support their elected representatives.

The vast majority of Americans are perfectly willing to carry their share of the load. They are not willing to make sacrifices if they believe someone else is getting the benefit and shirking their share. The farmer will work the skin off his hands and take a meager reward if it's for the good of the country and the boy he spared to join the army. But not if somebody tells

him the workman is making all the money at an easy job.

The workman will face higher living costs—and he certainly has to, without a wage raise, until somebody comes along and tells him the farmer is getting rich and that is why his food costs go up. And so on.

The reason why I believe this is because I receive letters like the following:

"My husband is 67 years old—working and making \$38.00 a week when tax is taken out. We are buying two war bonds each month—but we have a son in the navy—and one designing aviation tools in a plant in Atlanta. Perhaps he, too, will soon be in the service, though married he has no children—yet.

"We are like many—trying to carry our end of the war effort—but we have many friends and relatives who though making hundreds a month don't buy a bond. These same people went through the depression—with jobs—while we took it the hard way. Our two boys suffered from malnutrition during those years.

"Don't you think this makes a difference in point of view? You see we suffered—making us think. My boys bought war bonds right from the start. Their dad and I feel the need of a decent world to live in, too, for we had to live in a deprived world for several years. It gave us a different slant on life. We want a decent world for our children and grandchildren—and other people's children.

"Selfishness and greed will have to go—if we are to have that decent world."

Diary of a Broadcaster

The Washington atmosphere affects strangers who tarry long within the shadow of the Washington monument or the Capitol dome. It affects not only the so-called higher species but the citizens of cat-and-dogdom as well. Today, I came down town at an odd hour—an interesting hour. I was a little later than usual. The war workers and the boarding-house cats and the alley pups, which wait until the workers are out of the way, had vanished on their various duties; only an indolent and disreputable Tom still paused to massage its hips against a garbage can, and a yellowish parrot fox terrier, certainly part, and from his brush, certainly more fox than terrier, lay in the exact center of the alley where anything that ran down the middle gutter would eventually reach him.

These creatures sniff at protocol and treat it as they do anything else they sniff at. But that hour is also the hour of the pet parade, for the handsome creatures that strain at leashes. The most unhappy person I met at this bewitching hour is a thin little relic of a butler, who is literally torn between losing his dignity and his grip on one of the embassy great dunes.

No men like to walk dogs. All dogs like to walk men. But one gentleman dog nurse dared me to stare him down. He was being led by a stiff-legged aristocrat, a young wired-haired fox, as white and starched as if his proud mamma prepared him for a birthday party. Then there was the sad-eyed cocker, who dropped its eyes, sadder still when it realized I had noted that its mistress was wearing a far too informal house dress for polite street wear.

And then, there was the little one-by-five, it undulated along with a rather forced smile. It was a dachshund and probably anti-Nazi. It was hustling along like a caterpillar in high gear, trotting with its hind legs, and hopping with its little turtle-paws in front.

I even met a feline on a leash, a great big tortoiseshell Thomas—it looked as if it was safer that way for the rest of us—all I could think of was "tiger, tiger, burning bright in the jungle of the night."

BRIEFS... by Baukhage

The American soldier's average coffee ration is 40 cups of coffee a month.

The Army Service Forces is the largest employer of women in the United States today, with a total of 379,300, or approximately 38 per cent of the more than 1,000,000 civilian workers employed in ordnance plants, depots, etc.

The German occupation forces have "ceased quarrying" for large stone blocks in the southern province of Vestfold, the Stockholm newspaper Aftonbladet said in an article reported to the OWI. The Germans had intended using the stone for victory monuments, the article said. Waste labor obviously will not be countenanced.



FIRST-AID to the AILING HOUSE

By ROGER B. WHITMAN

Roger B. Whitman—WNU Features.

You may not be able to replace worn or broken household equipment. This is war. Government priorities come first. So take care of what you have... as well as you possibly can. This column by the homeowner's friend tells you how.

CLOGGED CESSPOOL

Question: Is there any chemical that can be used in a cesspool that is clogged and overflowing?

Answer: Nothing that is really practical. Trouble starts with the soaking of grease into the masonry walls, which prevents the liquids from seeping out to the ground. The surest remedy for that condition is to dig a new but smaller cesspool alongside, to be filled by overflow from the first one. Properly built, this should last for many years. In building any cesspool, a grease-trap should be set into drain-pipe leading from the kitchen sink, which will separate the grease and avoid trouble. Of course, the grease should be removed from the grease-trap every three or four months.

Moisture in Basement

Question: I have a room in the basement that once was used as a coal shed, and the odor of moisture still persists. Will you tell me how to remove the odor, as well as the moisture?

Answer: Scrub the walls and floors with a solution of washing soda, about a cupful to each gallon of hot water. Rinse with clear water and, when the surfaces are dry, sprinkle a generous amount of chloride of lime around the edges of the floor. This chemical is an excellent deodorant. If dampness, but not water, comes through the concrete, apply a coat of damp-proof cement paint—the kind that comes in powder form and is mixed with water.



Ripping a board with a rip-saw—that is, cutting it with the grain—is no trick for this woman who has learned how at home repairs class. When she has completed the course, she will be able to do most any wood working job about the house.

Closing Cracks

Question: Is there any material that could be applied to storm sash to prevent cold air from seeping through the cracks between the sash and window frames? Would Scotch tape applied around each window last throughout the winter?

Answer: If the sashes do not snugly fill the open spaces with a paper pulp. To make this, tear a newspaper into shreds and boil in water for an hour or longer. Squeeze out the moisture and force the pulp into the cracks while still moist; it will harden on drying. When dry, the filler can be given a coat of shellac to make it thoroughly waterproof.

Rough Plaster

Question: My living-room walls are rough plaster, painted. How can I make them smooth for papering?

Answer: Rub down the high points of the plaster with sandpaper wrapped around a block of wood. The remaining low places can be filled with a thick mixture of powdered whiting and glue size, put on with a trowel. The walls should be sized before papering.

Picket Fence

Question: In putting in a four-foot high picket fence, to what depth should the cedar supporting posts be placed?

Answer: To be safe, set them four feet in the ground. Although cedar is resistant to rotting, it will be an advantage to paint the underground portions of the posts with creosote or tar.

Preserving Birch Logs

Question: I have secured some birch logs from the country which I should like to use as a decoration in my fireplace. Is there something in which I could dip them to preserve them and keep out the ants?

Answer: If you suspect that the logs contain insects, sponge them with kerosene. You can preserve them by coating them with spar varnish. Get a clear variety so that the wood will not be darkened too much.

ASK ME ANOTHER?

A General Quiz

The Questions

1. What is the agony column in an English newspaper?
2. What American statesman was the grandson of a king?
3. What is the score of a forfeited baseball game?
4. Spain is nearest in size to which of our states?
5. Why is there no company "J" in the United States army?
6. Harsh or discordant sound is called what?
7. Who was the husband of Peacahontas?
8. How many states were named for Presidents?

The Answers

1. The personal advertisements.
2. Charles Bonaparte.
3. The score is 9 to 0.
4. California (Spain, 196,000 square miles; California, 158,000).
5. Because the similarity between the letter "I" and "J" cause confusion, so the latter was dropped.
6. Cacophony.
7. John Rolfe.
8. Only one—Washington.



A DAB A DAY KEEPS P.O. AWAY

New cream positively stops underarm Perspiration Odor

1. Not stiff, not messy—Yodora spreads just like vanishing cream! Dab it on—odor gone!
2. Actually soothing—Yodora can be used right after shaving.
3. Won't rot delicate fabrics.
4. Keeps soft! Yodora does not dry in jar. No waste; goes far.

Yet hot climate tests—made by nurses—prove this daintier deodorant keeps underarms immaculately sweet—under the most severe conditions. Try Yodora! In tubes or jars—10¢, 30¢, 60¢. McCleson & Robbins, Inc., Bridgeport, Connecticut.

YODORA DEODORANT CREAM

What's in a Name? The name Adolph comes from an old Gothic name which means "Father Wolf."

Black Leaf 40 KILLS LICE

JUST A DASH IN FEATHERS... OR SPREAD ON ROOSTS

SNAPPY FACTS ABOUT RUBBER

At a Navy yard, 3000 workers travel daily 60 to 85 miles round trip by automobile—a good reason why war workers must have tires.

The users now restricted because of the rubber shortage will have de luxe road traveling conditions open to them in post-war days if State and Federal highway plans materialize. Already twelve States have approved building express highways of tomorrow when peace comes. Seven others are considering such plans.

A truck tire that is overloaded 50 per cent will only deliver 44.5 per cent of its mileage expectancy.



HIGHLIGHTS... in the week's news

**ACTRESS:** Cecilia Loftus, the famous English and American actress of a generation ago, was found dead in her New York hotel room. She was 67 years old.

**POPULATION:** The population of the United States is now 135,900,000, as of March 1, according to an estimate by a national advertising agency.

**STEEL:** Steel mills of the nation are now operating at about 97 per cent of capacity, compared with 98.4 per cent this time last year.

**STOCKS:** Average prices on the New York exchange have climbed to the highest point in three years, reflecting the successful invasion of Sicily, and continued high production.