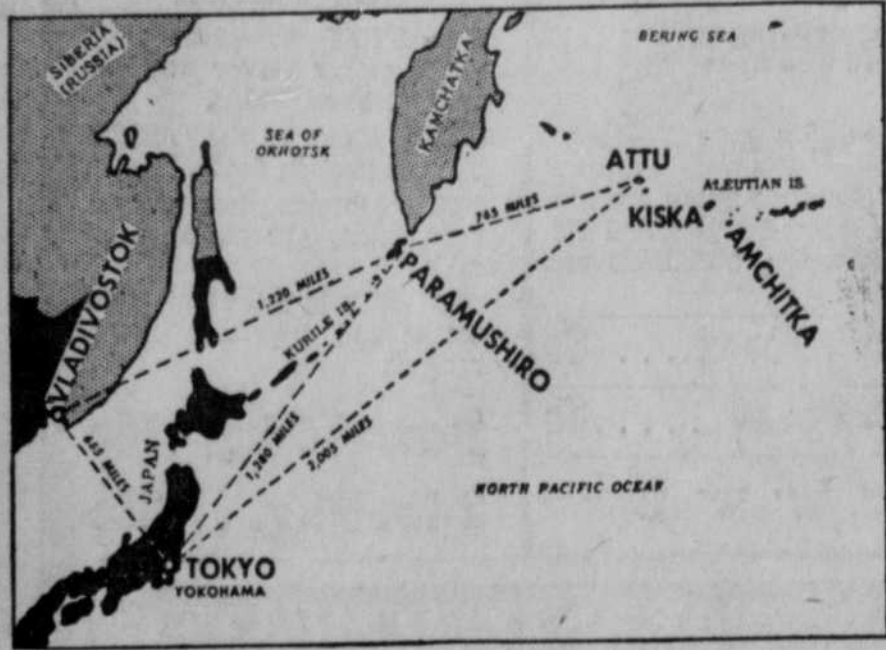


WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

U. S. Capture of Palermo Pockets Axis Army in Sicily's Northeastern Corner; Allied Activity in Pacific Is Intensified; Nation's Employment Tops 38 Million

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.



American fliers moved closer to the Japanese mainland when they bombed Paramushiro, which lies below the Kamchatka peninsula of Siberia, 1,200 miles from Tokyo.

SICILY: Pocket Axis

The second stage of fighting in Sicily found the Axis forces retreating from the western reaches of the island as the Seventh American Army of Gen. George S. Patton moved into rapid occupation of the territory.

The Yanks' seizure of Palermo sealed off the Axis troops in the northeastern corner of Sicily. As Patton's army hemmed the remaining Axis forces of approximately 100,000 men in from the west, Gen. Bernard Montgomery's British Eighth Army pointed at the enemy's line on the southern extremity of the trap, at Catania.

Units of the celebrated Herman Goering division put up a stiff fight on the outskirts of Catania. In this section, the broad Catania plain is criss-crossed by several rivers, making tank and motorized operations difficult; and many shallow creek beds and thick grain fields gave German machine-gunners good cover for defensive fire.

While the fight raged in Sicily, British naval and air units bombarded the sole of the Italian boot at Crotone.

CIVILIAN GOODS: Increase Possible

The government's effort to get a more effective production for the war might result in a reduction of certain programs and free materials for civilian goods, War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes said.

Byrnes' statement came on the heels of a revelation that the munitions program was being cut down in some lines because our growing air power was amply protecting Allied industries abroad from destruction from bombing.

EMPLOYMENT: 38 Million at Work

As the labor department announced that over 38 million people were currently employed in non-agricultural establishments, the war department revealed that it had authorized the release of 4,500 men from the army for work in copper, zinc and molybdenum mines.

According to the labor department, current employment was 1,663,000 over that for the same period a year ago. Despite the fact that the manufacturing and public utilities and transportation industries put on 162,000 workers recently, total employment was only 66,000 more than in May of this year.

The war department said failure of the metal mines to secure the necessary amount of workers left only the army as a reservoir of men with the requisite skills for the pits.

HIGHLIGHTS . . . in the week's news

NEWSPRINT: The price of newsprint paper on which newspapers are printed, will be raised \$4 a ton, on September 1 by order of the Office of Price Administration.

"INVASION" MONEY: Government printing presses are turning out specially designed paper money for use of American servicemen in countries they occupy.

SOUTH PACIFIC: Range to Dutch Indies

Ranging 1,200 miles to the west, American heavy bomber formations struck at the Japanese naval base of Surabaya in the Dutch East Indies.

Tumbling down on an oil refinery, docks, warehouses and railway installations, 500 pound bombs caused heavy damage, Gen. Douglas MacArthur's communique said.

The raid on Surabaya was part of intensive Allied activity in the South Pacific area. As American troops worked closer through heavy jungle to the Japanese air base of Munda on New Georgia islands in the Solomons, medium and dive bombers and fighter planes kept up a rain of explosives on the embattled enemy troops guarding that stronghold.

ROME: 'Priceless Treasures'

Declaring "... Despite the precautions that may be taken it is almost impossible to avoid, on this sacred soil of Rome, the destruction of venerated edifices," Pope Pius XII decried it "... our duty once more to raise our voice in defense of the priceless treasures that constitute the ornament of Christian and human endeavor."

In citing the historical, cultural and religious importance of Rome, the pope said "... All that we put before competent authorities on several occasions in clear terms, recommending to them in the name of human dignity and of Christian civilization the inviolability of Rome."

RUSSIA: Reds Whittle Bulge

Throwing the full weight of their might into the drive, the Russians bore down on Orel from three sides, while embattled German troops fought desperately to prevent being cut from the rear.

While the battle of Orel raged, the "Anti-Nazi German National Committee" in Moscow appealed to the German high command to overthrow Hitler and negotiate a peace with the Russian government.

At Orel, the Nazis were holding a big bulge eastward, from which they could strike out against the rear of the Reds' northern or southern armies. Russian troops made notable progress cutting across much of the bulge in the north, but the Germans were offering stiff resistance on the southern fringe.

For their part, the Germans made no effort to minimize the power of the Russian drive. They contended their strategy called for a continuation of the struggle so as to wear down the Reds' strength.

BABY CARRIAGES: Baby carriages ("prams") are scarce in England. Women are advised to use them only for stiring the baby.

FIGHTING FRENCH: Allied victory will bring about dissolution of the "Fighting French," Gen. Charles de Gaulle stated recently. A liberated France will mean the end of the mission of his organization.

FARMS: 1.3 Per Cent Idle

A total of 76,704 farms with an acreage of 6,484,292 lay idle in the United States when the decennial census was taken in 1940.

New England and the Middle Atlantic states showed the greatest percentage of abandonments, with one out of every 20 farms idle. This compared with Iowa's report of one out of every 2,000.

Abandoned farms averaged 85 acres against the 174 acres for operating tracts. Depleted soil and crop failures accounted for one-third of the vacancies, and there were many departures for employment in industry.

Almost 57 million acres of land lay idle on producing farms, census figures also showed.

CASUALTIES: Light, So Far

War and navy department casualty lists issued for the first year and half of the war totaled 16,556 men killed in action or from wounds, and 31,343 missing.

Casualties were almost equally divided between the services. Of the known dead, 8,412 are navy, marine and coastguardsmen, while 8,144 are army men.

As the services' casualties were announced, word was received of the death of Maj. Gen. William P. Upshur of the marines and Capt. Charles Paddock in the crash of a naval plane near Sitka, Alaska.

POULTRY: Army Takes Over

Under the second war powers act, the Office of Price Administration ordered the detention of poultry trucks on eastern highways and the requisitioning of their stock for the army.

OPA took the action, it said, after black market operations had interfered with the army's purchase of poultry in the Delaware, Maryland and Virginia area.

Dealers from whom the poultry was requisitioned, were paid the prevailing ceiling price.

MINERS: Seek Contract Approval

With the War Labor board rested the task of determining the fate of the new wage contract entered into between Illinois' United Mine Workers and bituminous coal operators.

In addition to providing portal-to-portal pay, the new two-year contract outlays strikes and lengthens the 35-hour week to 48 hours.

Besides WLB approval, the agreement is dependent upon the Office of Price Administration's authorization of an increase in coal prices to offset the wage settlements.

LABOR: Demands Roll-Back

Meeting in the White House, organized labor served notice on President Roosevelt that it would not continue support of his anti-inflation program unless prices were rolled back to the September 15, 1942, level.

Charging Price Administrator Prentiss Brown with having failed to execute the government's roll-back program, labor representatives declared they would open a pressure campaign for his removal from office unless plans were set in motion to push current prices back.

The labor leaders said further dalliance on roll-backs would lead them to repudiate the wage stabilization program, in which wage increases have been limited to 15 per cent over the January, 1941, levels.

WAR BONDS: With 23 billion dollars already raised from non-banking investors since last December, the government announced plans for a new 15 billion dollar war bond drive to start in September.

Washington Digest

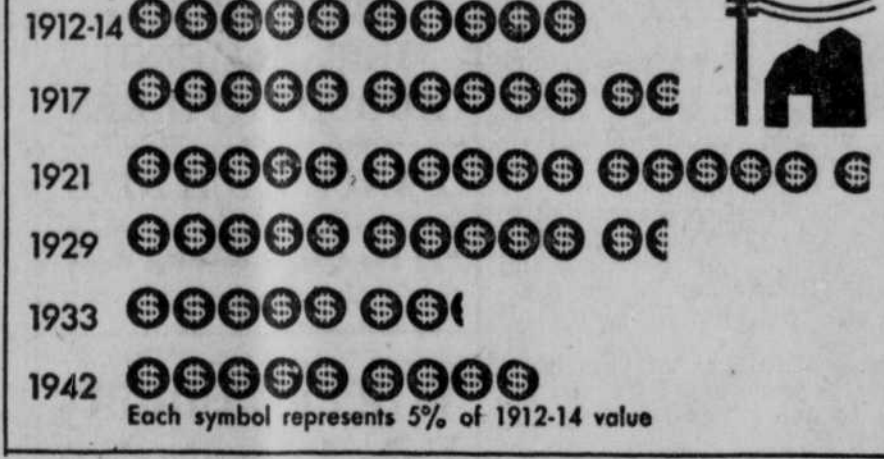
Fear of Farm Land Boom Adds to Inflation Worry

Official Figures Show Agricultural Unit Values Have Increased 20 to 24 Per Cent in Year.

By BAUKHAGE, News Analyst and Commentator.

TELEFACT

WAR RAISES VALUE OF FARM REAL ESTATE



WNU Service, Union Trust Building Washington, D. C. For many months now, government offices and conference rooms, no matter how they might echo with glowing reports from the home or the battle front, have never been quite free from a ghost.

The Office of War Information has just issued a warning that this specter may appear in his most frightful form if we are not careful.

Up 20 Per Cent As of March 1 of this year, increases in farm land values over those of the previous year were 20 to 24 per cent.

In September, 1941, I wrote in these columns: "Money to burn! And the burning question is how to stop the conflagration before it starts."

There is nothing to stop the farmer from speculating in land if he wants to, buying on a margin the way the gamblers used to do on the stock exchange.

"Psychology for The Fighting Man" I have just been reading a little booklet called "Psychology for the Fighting Man."

Psychology and combat Seeing in the dark Color and camouflage Food and sex as military problems Differences among races and peoples and many others.

A complete file of the London Times for the period of the great blitz of 1940 was received by Warner Bros. for source material for the Ida Lupino-Paul Henreid picture, "In Our Time."

ODDS AND ENDS—Good standing in a Barry Wood fan club requires the regular purchase of war bonds and stamps.

Under wartime operation, railroad freight cars must travel about 16 per cent farther on the average haul.

BRIEFS . . . by Baukhage

The Japanese Domei agency disclosed that Emperor Hirohito had sent a message of "congratulations" to Marshal Henri Philippe Petain, Vichy chief of state.

Almost 1 1/4 billion rounds of small arms ammunition is being turned out each month. That is seven times as much as the 1918 peak.

Star Dust

STAGE-SCREEN-RADIO By VIRGINIA VALE Released by Western Newspaper Union.

THE first picture which Katharine Hepburn will make for M-G-M under her new long-term contract will be "Without Love," in which she starred on Broadway last season.

Until about two months ago Dick Haymes was just a chap who sang with a band—Harry James', Benny Goodman's and Tommy Dorsey's, in that order.



DICK HAYMES

night club engagement, cut two tremendously successful records, was given stellar billing in the air's "Here's to Romance."

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" still heads the list of what New Yorkers are talking about—with the war excepted, of course.

The 350 soldier actors of "This Is the Army" were forbidden by the war department to talk to actresses on the Warner lot while making the picture.

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MISCELLANEOUS

I Make a Liquid Powder for the face that you can't see but it makes you as white as a lily and your skin as soft as a baby's.

RAZOR BLADES

KENT BLADES

Groundhog in Hibernation

During hibernation the groundhog's body temperature falls to about 37 degrees, or just above freezing, and its heart beats slow down to less than ten beats a minute.

Kidneys Must Work Well

For You To Feel Well 24 hours every day, 7 days every week, never stopping, the kidneys filter waste matter from the blood.

Doans Pills At all drug stores.

Things You Can Make



TRANSPLANT a bit of the forest to your garden—wood cut-outs of this trio do the trick.

The price of the pattern is 15 cents. Due to an unusually large demand and current war conditions, slightly more time is required in filling orders for a few of the most popular pattern numbers.

Order form for patterns with fields for name and address.

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AGENTS Men and Women: We want a representative in your community immediately.

FARMS FOR SALE 15 years to pay—low interest—low principal payments—just like paying rent.

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KENT BLADES Single or Double Edge The Outstanding Blade Value

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