

### American Trade Depends on Its Merchant Fleet

#### Can't Expect Aid of Rivals, Lasker Says; United States as Creditor Nation.

By A. B. LASKER.

Modern civilization is an economic one. The basis of all economic civilization is transportation. Coal and oil may be only momentary basic fuels; it is possible some other fuel may be discovered. Fuel in one form or another will always be basic to transportation and transportation in one form or another is basic to exchange of goods.

In my second article I undertook to demonstrate how, up to the time of the civil war, America had developed a strong merchant marine, and to sketch the conditions surrounding our practical disappearance from the sea between the time of the civil war and the world war.

#### Railroads Brought Wealth.

During this latter period we were developing a great wealth west of the Alleghenies. One of the chief contributions to that development was the upbuilding of our vast railroad system, largely subsidized through grants of land, federal, state and local. We were in that period a self-sufficient and self-contained nation, having need of world trade only in small measure for the disposition of our surpluses and to pay with them the moneys borrowed for our development. Our creditors were largely the leading maritime nations of the world and they sent their ships to receive the goods in payment of what we owed them.

#### How a Nation Changed.

And so, in the cycle of events, our very self-sufficiency from within gave rise to luxuries which finally became necessities, until we perforce changed from a nation almost entirely an exporter of raw material to one, in very great measure, an importer of raw material.

#### We Must Obtain Manganese for Our Steel Mills from Russia and South America; our automobile tire industry must obtain crude rubber from Brazil and Africa; our tinplate manufacturers must import their tin from the Malay straits and Bolivia; our silk factories must get their raw product from China and Japan; our manufacturers of twines, canvases, linens and laces must get their flax in Russia and Belgium.

#### We must also import large quantities of coconut oil and other vegetable oils from the Dutch East Indies from Pacific isles; coffee from Java, tea from China, India, Japan; sugar from Venezuela; sugar from Cuba; rice from the far east; spices from the East Indies; platinum from Colombia; vanadium from Peru, and asphalt from Venezuela.

#### Must Be Sure.

If we are to keep our industries going, we must make sure of a steady flow of these materials which we need and must insure prompt and continuous delivery of manufactured wares and raw materials which we wish to give in exchange for that which we buy. If we have to rely on the ships of other nations who are our competitors for the trade of the newer countries, it is as if a department store relied on one of its competitors for its deliveries.

The conference in Washington, which came to such happy, fruitful results in connection with the far east, should ultimately lay the ground for trade expansion and improved trade relations in the far east. In South America, in the far east, in the newer countries of Europe and Russia, lies the trade that must be developed to keep the manufacturing countries of the world going. Foremost among these manufacturing countries is America, and in the struggle for the trade of those countries we will now come in competition with the old established maritime nations of the world.

#### U. S. as Creditor Nation.

Today, as a result of the world war, no longer a debtor nation but a creditor nation, through expanded plant capacity and now to use the vast gold reserve we have accumulated, we have entered into competition and will more sharply compete in the future for the markets of the world with the nations which have long established merchant marines—those being the trading and manufacturing nations of the world.

It is not to be supposed that in this competition we will find at all times the prompt and ready response in the matter of marine carriage that is the very life of foreign commerce. If we are to rely on our competitors for it.

#### Before the war we had no such need of selling surpluses, for we had neither plant capacity as we have now, nor did we have capital to engage as now. America's position has changed since the world war, and with it has come the crying need for the establishment of a merchant marine that will insure the free development of markets for the surpluses of our farm, mine and factory.

#### Debt of Europe.

Europe, which was our creditor before the war, owes us today over \$16,000,000,000. She must pay in raw materials, or in manufactured goods, or partly manufactured products. We must make sure, on the one hand, if possible that we accept no commodities from her to the point of severe injury to our own industries; and, on the other hand, we do take from her such quantities as result in a surplus, that we position ourselves to dispose of such surplus in the newer markets to be created throughout the world.

#### These newer markets will come through the development of South America, the far east, Russia, and the Balkans of the customers we would create, we can have no assurance of a steady disposition of our surpluses abroad.

#### Can't Depend on Competitors.

For, if we rely on our competitors for our carriage, they will very properly see that on occasion those things happen which will put us out of markets they too are endeavoring to capture. It is the disposition of surpluses abroad that controls price and prosperity at home.

#### For those peace time needs we require practically the same type of balanced merchant marine as for war purposes. We require the fast passenger ship which transports the negotiators of trade, and the mails which keep the trade going; we require refrigerator ships and ships built for special trades. Thus the manufacturer can see, in the changing conditions America finds itself, that in the ultimate his very life may be dependent on the existence of an American merchant marine. No less interest has the farmer.

#### In the next article I intend to discuss his relations to this question.

A seventh article will be published tomorrow.

### RADIO

#### Details in Radio Set-Ups Important

#### Novice Should Heed Instructions Religiously on Installing Receiving Outfits.

By JOHN E. KENNEBECK.

(This is the fourth installment of The Bee's series of radio articles.)

To listen in on radio concerts, news and market reports that are broadcast from transmitting stations, several things of importance must be considered.

First, there is the aerial. A single strand of No. 14 copper wire is recommended. It should run about 100 feet in length at a height of 30 or 40 feet for best results, and should not be stretched in parallel to other wires. Insulators must be inserted at both ends of the aerial with a lead-in fastened either in the center or at one end of the aerial.

#### A lightning arrester is connected between the aerial and the ground.

The ground connection can be made with the same wire that is used for the aerial. It should be connected to water or steam pipes.

#### Crystal Sets.

A crystal receiving set is the most simple and inexpensive that can be purchased or made at home. The most sensitive device on this set is the crystal itself, on which rests a small wire called a catwhisker. The surface of the crystal is searched with this wire until the most sensitive spot is found to detect the voice from the ether. The crystal should be washed occasionally.

If anything better than a crystal set is desired, the enthusiast will have to invest in a vacuum tube outfit. They may cost from \$35 to \$500. A storage battery is needed with such an outfit.

#### Amplifiers.

When the battery is connected to

the vacuum tube receiver, the filament rheostat can be adjusted to the filament in the tube is a dull red. The outfit is then tuned until the maximum response is heard in the telephone receivers. The filament should not be burned at a point of unnecessary brightness. Besides the storage battery, a "B" battery is needed also for the vacuum tube outfit. The positive pole of the "B" battery is connected to the plate of the vacuum tube. All these connections are marked on the receiving sets.

With a vacuum tube outfit, the novice should listen in from long distances—up to several hundred miles under favorable conditions.

If something more elaborate and complete is wanted, the enthusiast might purchase an outfit with one or two-stage amplification, which costs complete from \$75 to \$500. Three vacuum tubes are used in a two-stage step—one as a detector, the other as amplifiers.

#### "Radio as Recreation" will be discussed in tomorrow's installment in The Bee.

#### Sparks

Following are special terms used in radio:

A.C.—Alternating current.

Ampere—The practical unit of electric current; such a current as would be given with an electromotive force of one volt through a wire having a resistance of one ohm.

Antenna—This term means the whole aerial and ground system.

The bureau of standards is issuing a warning to radio operators, both receivers and senders, to keep their antennas away from tin roofs and to keep their wires at least 30 feet off the ground. Radio waves have an affinity for tin roofs.

Both these cause trouble to the amateur.

### Another Treat to Be Given Radio Fans This Evening

#### Quartet and Student Band of Nebraska University Will Provide Melody for Bee Program.

The Bee announces another radio concert treat for tonight, through arrangement with the Omaha Grain Exchange broadcasting station, WAAY. The time will be from 8:15 to 9 p. m.

The following program will be given by a group of Omaha's instrumental and vocal talent for the entertainment of The Bee's many radio friends in the middle west:

The Hoffmann quartet, through courtesy of Leo A. Hoffmann, will sing, "On the Sea," by Dudley Buck; popular airs, selected, and "Land of Mine." These singers are: Emmett Moore, first tenor; M. J. Flanagan, second tenor; Phil Helgren, baritone; Gus P. Swanson, director and bass.

Miss Gertrude Thiem will play two violin numbers and the Jaz-Classique dance band will offer a group of six selections arranged for this occasion. This organization is composed of students of the University of Nebraska, playing at Carter Lake club during their summer vacation. J. L. Barritt, manager, states he has a treat in store for radio fans. He announces the following numbers:

"Let's Go, Fellows," original composition, by the band.

"Just a Little Love Song," with obbligato, by band.  
Bassoon solo, selected, by Mr. Baughan.  
"Jaz-Classique Serenade," piano sketches, by Bob Lee, composer, and saxophone obbligato by Mr. McBride.  
"Perfect Day," cornet solo, by Mr. Baughan, with piano accompaniment by Mr. Lee.  
Saxophone solo, Mr. McBride with orchestral accompaniment.

#### Race Horse Man Wounded With Knife, Jockey Jailed

Albert Alexander, race horse owner from Dow City, Ia., was found with a knife wound in the left chest, and Walter Lilly, free lance jockey from Louisville, Ky., with a black eye, in the road near Fifty-sixth and Center streets, early Wednesday evening.

#### Two Hit by Automobile.

Mrs. Pauline Fink and Opal Cook, 12, 1310 South Twenty-eighth street, were struck by an automobile driven by B. A. Barick, Schuyler, Neb., at Sixteenth and Farquhar streets, at 4:30 Wednesday afternoon. Mrs. Fink suffered abrasions of the left knee and the Cook girl abrasions of both knees. No one was arrested.

### University Dean Named in Divorce

#### Amanda H. Heppner Charged With "Poisoning the Mind" of Her Brother.

Lincoln, June 8.—(Special)—Amanda H. Heppner, dean of women at the State university, is accused of "poisoning the mind" of her brother, Edmund H. Heppner, against his invalid wife, according to allegations in a petition for divorce filed in district court by Mrs. Marie Heppner.

#### Files for Legislature

Lincoln, June 8.—(Special)—J. H. Allen of Lincoln has filed for the democratic nomination for the state legislature from the 34th district. Read the Bee Want Ads next.

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### Nowhere

By RUBY M. AYRES. (Continued from Yesterday.)

#### WHO WHO'S IN THE STORY.

Violet English, a pretty but poorly educated English girl, in London street in the rain when her shabby little hat is blown off and quickly replaced upon by a well-dressed and mottled young man. The latter picks up the hat and says, "I'll give you a new one if you'll let me take care of you."

She stopped crying. He eyed her half fearfully from beneath his long lashes. Once he looked round the room as if seeking some one, or something, familiar to him.

She gave him some warm milk and some bread and butter, then carried him over to the fire and began to unfasten his worn clothes.

Such odd little garments they were, made from pieces of material that once must have been a woman's frock; badly, but neatly made, and fastened with old buttons—sometimes with safety pins.

Then she wrapped him in a long nightdress of her own and laid him back in the bed.

He kept quite still. He offered no resistance, but his piteous eyes followed her every movement as she cleaned the away the meal and mended the fire—now and again a sort of sighing sob shook his little body.

The girl knelt down beside him—she drew him into her arms.

"Oh, darling," she said tremulously. "Oh, my dear little man—"

She kissed his face, his hair, his dimpled neck, his small cold hands, she held him in her arms, crooning over him.

Presently he fell asleep—the heavy lashed eyes closed, his breath came with slow regularity.

The girl laid him back and covered him over warmly, then she crossed softly to the fire and began folding the tiny garments she had drawn from the baby limbs.

As she held the ugly frock something in its skirts rustled beneath her touch. She looked down wonderingly—there was a paper sewn securely to the lining.

Her hands trembled as she cut the stitches. She took the paper to the center of the room and held it beneath the lamplight.

There was written on it, written in faded ink, as if it had been completed months ago. She bent closer and read the words:

"I am the wife of Ronald Hastings—he deserted me. This is our child. If I should die, some one please be good to him."

That was all, there was no signature, no address.

The girl stared down at the paper incredulously. She read the sad little message through again. Some one tapped smartly on the door. A girl entered without waiting for a reply.

She was very tall, and showily dressed—rouge and powder were fully applied to her dark face. She swung a fashionable bag from a tightly-gloved hand.

"Hullo," she began in rather a high-pitched voice. "I heard you come in—what is it?"

"Rubbish! I hate kids. Besides, you can't keep him—you can't keep yourself."

"I can work—I will work—I'll do anything to keep him."

"Old Higgs will raise the rent."

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