ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS THAT AFFECT THE DINNER PAIL

Happenings That Affect The Dinner Pail, Dividend Checks and Tax Bills of Every Individual. National and International Problems Inseparable from Local Welfare.

IT IS OBVIOUS that the purpose of British strategy now is to eliminate Italy as a major belligerent in the war. That thought unquestionably underlay the recent British naval invasion of the Adriatic Sea—a body of water, which, on the basis of fighting ships and manpower, Italy should be able to control with ease. England is rapidly liquidating Italian influence in Africa.

There seems to be little doubt that Mussolini is on the down grade and that the magnificent Fascist empire he envisioned has small chance of being realized. Il Duce has but two alternatives, both of them unpleasant from his point of view—he must either surrender to England, or ask that Hitler save him. The first alternative is extremely unlikely—Germany could not permit it without risking a tmendous loss of prestige. The second alternative means German domination of Italy. The Italian people, going by the judgment of the best observers, will not like that, but there will be little they can do about it. Unconfirmed reports say that Gespato agents are already in Rome, and it is known that the German air force in convoying troops to Albania. It looks as if from now on Mussolini will be only Hitler's stooge.

If England does succeed in eliminantig or greatly reducing Italian military and naval power, it will be a major victory. At the same time, it will bring it increased danger of German attempt at invading England. The British blockade is extremely effective, and the part of Europe the Fuhrer controls is running short of essential supplies. So, when Churchill said the other day in Commons that he expected an all-out German attack within two months, he was not talking through his hat. It is the logical move for the German air force has substan- Hiler to make. And the fact that tially reduced the intensity of its raids over Britain also leads to the belife that Germany is preparing for a decisive blow against England.

England is superby prepared to resist invasion, even though she is as yet inadequately prepared to carry the war to German on e Continent. Expet opinion general y holds that Hitler's great opportunity was directly after the evacuation of Dunkirk—that England could not have successfully resisted a determined invasion then. At the present time, they think, Britain has all she needs to keep an aggressor from her shores.

BUNNIES IDEAL BOTTLE BABIES

Chicago, Ill., Spl CFI Photo to this paper by Mueller.—These little bundles of white fur were orphaned when their mother was killed by a police dog, but they are thriving as bottle babies and will grow up to take part in the International Sportsmen's Show to be held here from February 22 to March 2.

Narrow Tobacco Plant Bed Is Recommended

Four good reasons for consructing a narrow tobacco plant bed are listed in pre-season recommendations to tobacco growers by Dr. Luther Shaw, plant pathologist of N. C. State College. He also suggests the importance of the proper location for the plant bed.

"If the tobacco bed is built narrow," Dr. Shaw said, "more pants are produced per square yard; the danger of trampling on plants while meeding or pulling is avoided; the plants can be watered more easily and uniform ly; and fourth, and most important, narrow beds can be equipped and treated for blue mold with satisfactory results than wide ones."

"The benzol or paradichlorobenzene fumigation methods are the best for controlling blue mold," Dr. Shaw declared. "Copper oxide spray is also satisfactory when applied in advance of the first appearance of the disease on the farm. The spray acts best as a preventative, while the fumi gants will kill the mold after it has infected the plat bed."

The State College specialist also suggests that the plant bed be located convenient to a source of water, and preferably near the house, because constant attention is required during the development of the young plants. "It is also desireble" he says "to locate the beds so that they will be protected as much as possible from strong winds."

DOUBLED

L. G. Sheets of Chestnut Hill township in Ashe County says he has grazed twice as many cows on a pasture to which he applied superhosphate this spring as he did last year.

BANG'S

A plan for the official recognition of vaccination of calves as an aid in cooperative Bang's disease has been presented by the Federal Bureau of Animal Industry.

DOWN

A corn crop of lower quality than last year's unusually good harvest in indicated by inspections of early receipts at representative rn Belt markets, says the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

For each pound of fuel used in freight service, the railroads in 1940 hauled nine tons of freight and equipment one mile, the highest average on record.

Household Hint

If you like bacon dry and crumbly, try this method of cooking it. Lay strips in a cold frying pan. Heat slowly and pour off the fat as soon as it collects. Turn frequently with a fork. The bacon is done when it has a dull appearance and is dry.