WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS.

U.S. Moves to Take Over Japan; See Early End to Rationing As Reconversion Pace Quickens

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(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,)

Work Out Occupation

Its huge guns belching smoke and fire and bombarding the Nipponese coastline just a few weeks ago, the huge 45,000 ton U. S. battleship Missouri was to become the peace ship of World War II, with the Japanese formally signing surrender papers aboard the vessel in Tokyo bay.

Taking place several days after U. S. airborne troops were to descend on the Atsugi airdrome southwest of Tokyo to spearhead the Japanese occupation along with ma-rines landing simultaneously at the Yokasuka naval base 20 miles below the Nipponese capital, the for-mal surrender ceremony was to see General MacArthur signing for the Allies as a whole, with Ad-miral Nimitz countersigning for the U. S. and Admiral Fraser for the

In working out the initial occupation plans, General MacArthur and his staff left no stone unturned to assure the safe conduct of the U. S. forces. At the same time, the new Nipponese government headed Prince Higashi - Kuni strove to prepare the population to accept the American landings peaceably and refrain from riotous outbreaks, imperiling the whole surrender.

Under General MacArthur's plans, the Japanese were ordered to ground all planes and disarm all ships at sea several days before the first U. S. landings. Then, while sprawling Allied fleets moved in close to Nipponese shores, the Japanese were to immobilize all vessels in Tokyo bay and strip coastal guns and anti-aircraft batteries.

As a final precaution, the Japamese were ordered to evacuate all armed forces out of the immediate landing area, to forestall possible at-tack by fanatical troops. Guides and interpreters were to be furnished to incilitate General MacArthur's contral of the occupation territory.

Jap Casualties

In the first full admission of the tensity of Allied air attacks, the news agency Domei resorted that 44 of the nation's 200 or cities were almost completely wiped out by bombings, with a toll of 260,000 killed, 412,000 wounded and 9,200,000 left homeless.

Of the total, the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki accounted for 90,000 killed and 180,-300 wounded, Domei said. Declaring the toll may be even greater, the Japs revealed that many of the burned are not expected to survive because of the nature of the wounds, while persons only slightly touched

Reporting that 2,210,000 homes were completely demolished or burnt down, and 90,000 partly damsaid that in addition to the 44 cities almost completely wiped out, 37 others, including Tokyo, suffered loss of over 30 per sent of their built-up area. Of 47 provinces, only 9 escaped with relatively minor damage, Domei re-

CHINA:

Key Position

Relieved from Japanese encroachment, and pivotal point of the

unportance in the star east, with Chiang Kai - shek and his Premier T. V. Soong playing V. Soong playing their cards well in complicated game of internation-

al politics.
Backed by the U. S., Chiang's govupper hand in the wast, sprawling nation with its 400,600 000 people, with its position greatly strengthened in dealings with the Chinese commu-

sists, Russia and Britain.

Chiang and Though the Reds T. V. Soong have openly defied Chiang, U. S. financial and material support of his regime, plus efforts Ambassador Hurley to bring the

Reds have obtained a 50 per cent interest in vital railways in the latter province, secured Port Arthur as a naval base and been allowed

use of the ice-free port of Dairen.

By marching his armies into the crown colony of Hong Kong, which the British wish to retrieve, Chiang even struck up a bargaining position

RECONVERSION:

Pace Quickens

Breathless trying to keep up with relaxation of unending wartime controls, the nation contemplated early removal of meat, tire and shoe rationing, even as the government rerestrictions on industry to permit full-steam ahead on recon-

Following a previous announce-ment that the government had abolished packer set-asides on beef, veal and ham supplies for the army and other federal agencies, an early end of rationing was expected with OPA's revelation that it would reduce meat point values in view of military cutbacks in orders and a

prospective heavy fall run of cattle. With the announcement that tire production would be doubled to 4,-000,000 monthly during October,



With industry given the go-ahead signal for civilian production, man-ufacturers strove for speedy output for the pent-up postwar market. Here, body is being slung on chassis of one of the first cars to roll off of postwar production line.

November and December, unofficial predictions that rationing of cords would be terminated within 90 days were strengthened.

Forecasts that shoe rationing also may be ended shortly were sup-ported by an announcement of the Tanners Council of America that production of civilian footwear may exceed 30,000,000 pair a month for the rest of the year, the highest level ever reached by the industry.

By lopping off most controls and only retaining authority to assure military and other emergency production, and break bottlenecks in scarce materials for civilian output, the government gave manufacturers the go-ahead signal on such a wide variety of items as refrigerators, radios, distilled spirits, trucks, oil furnaces, construction machinery, metal furniture, motorcycles, photographic films, storage batteries, waxed paper, sanitary napkins, ma-chine tools, shipping containers, pulpwood and commercial chemi-

Removal of all lumber controls except those necessary to fill priority orders assured a speedy resumption of both industrial and home building construction.

U. S. CREDIT: Supplants Lend-Lease

Following termination of the 41billion-dollar lend-lease program, Foreign Economic Administrator Leo Crowley revealed that the U.S. was prepared to advance six billion dollars in credits to other nations for procurement of material in this country to bolster sagging postwar

At the same time, Crowley said that negotiations might begin within the next year for settlement of lend-lease accounts, which find U. S. contributions of 41 billions offset by only 51/2 billions in mutual as-

Under plans outlined by the FEA chieftain, the U.S. would furnish 3½ billion dollars in long-term credit to nations wishing to purchase goods already contracted for to fill cantwo dissident factions together, have enhanced his standing. In his dealings with Russia, U. S. and British pressure has resulted in recognition of China's sovereignty over Inner Mongolia and Manchuria, though the

Chieftains Meet



Here to discuss increased financial assistance for rehabilitating France, internationalization of the Rhineland and re-establishment of his country as a world power, Gen. Charles de Gaulle (left) arrived in Washing-Gaulle (left) arrived in Washing-ton, D. C., to be greeted by Presi-

OUISLING: On Spot

Fighting back savagely, big, bulky Vidkun Quisling was hard pressed in defense of his collaboration with the Germans in Norway as state presented an avalanche of evidence purporting to show that he had co-operated closely with the their heavy-handed occupation of the country.

Quisling was first taken back by state presentation of reportedly captured German documents stating that the Nazis had used information supplied by him in their invasion of The collaborationist also was shaken by charges that he had turned over to the Germans a communist leader blocking his political program and also denied a reprieve to an official sentenced to death for refusal to force Norwegian girls to work for the Nazis.

Throughout the trial, Quisling defiantly asserted that he had played with Naziism in an effort to prevent British establishment of bases in Norway in 1940 and possible invasion of the Scandinavian peninsula by Russia from the north and Ger-many from the south to thwart the move. He also claimed to have worked fervently from 1918 for the creation of a German, British and Scandinavian bloc to arrest the development of Communism in Eu-

PACIFIC: Ask Bases

direction.

Taking a realistic view of the Pa-cific situation, in which the U. S. looms as the greatest power, the house naval affairs committee demanded that this country be given control over both Allied and former Japanese bases for the construction of a powerful defensive system capable of resisting attack from any

Issued by Chairman Vinson (Dem., Ga.) the congressional proposal urged U.S. domination of the whole Pacific area stretching from the Hawaiians westward to the Philippines and Ryukus, and in-cluding the Marshall, Caroline and Marianas islands. In addition, the house committee said, the U. S. should take over American developed bases in the Manus islands in the Australian Admiralties; Guadalcanal in the British Solomons; Espiritu Santo in the British-French New Hebrides and Noumea in French New Caledonia.

Justifying American control over Pacific bases, the house committee cited "the loss of American lives in taking these bases. The expendi-ture of vast sums of American money in establishing and equipping these bases. The great dependence of the world upon the United States for maintaining peace in the Pacific and world. . . .

SALARIES: Bar Lifted

With President Harry S. Truman having set the pattern for removal of controls over wages and salaries under jurisdiction of the War Labor board, the treasury announced re-laxation of restrictions on salaries of administrative, executive and professional personnel under its

wartime supervision. In both cases, employers will be able to grant raises to workers pro-vided they do not use the increase as a basis for requesting higher ceil-

While Walter Winchell is away, this month, his column will be con-

(As Told to Ben Epstein, Sports Writer.)

I'm for the Kids!

The government, national and municipal, is throwing the kids of America a curve!

Don't get me wrong. The old Babe hasn't fallen for one of those phony isms. I like my United States the way they started it. The guys who wrote the Constitution were no bushtime out and this country has been in first place ever since. That's class, no morning glory record. The kind that knocked off the Nazis with their hidden ball tricks and likewise sky-hiked the Japs to their an-

Arthur hitting in the clean-up spots, the World Series is a cinch. That's why you and I are proud of our 48 States setup. Three hundred plus hitters from top to bottom supported by a double play combo, sound catching and fast outfield that knows how to handle sneak attacks. I'm no military expert but in war, as in baseball, you must be strong down

the middle.

What has all this got to do with the Government taking a potshot, perhaps innocently, at the kids? Simply this: It has completely for-

gotten them.
Yep, I know the diamonds are still there and nobody is bothering the kids. That's the trouble. No one is bothered over the fact that they are playing with broom sticks and balls made out of a synthetic something. This is the situation in New York and, no doubt, the same in other cities. It's both depressing and alarming. Not only to the future of baseball and other sports, but more important the moral and physical welfare of our future citizens.

SAWDUST FILLED BASEBALLS I know materials that ordinarily go

into the making of sports athletic equipment were necessary for guns, ships, planes, etc. I say they could be made without let up and take heat off the kids. It's up to the law makers. How? Simply by freezing the many so-called "essentials." It seems to me that some of the manufacturers continue to make useless gadgets for the grown-ups who
"understand." Personally, I would
sacrifice my shoes if I thought it
meant the elimination of sawdist now stuffing what is now called a baseball.

If it's one thing I know, it's the make-up of the average kid. I've buddied with thousands of 'em from coast to coast, but let's keep home runs out of the column. Their languages in placing more than the state of the column. guage is playing games with equipment made out of durable stuff. With such baseballs, gloves and bladders unavailable, he gradually drifts to the corners where he figures it's more interesting. Have you noticed the rise in juvenile delinguency lately?

Right now, the only playable base-balls, good for an inning or more, are being manufactured for the professionals. I suppose that Organized Baseball is doing the best it can. All balls fouled into the stands are donated to members of the armed forces. I endorse that idea. Certainly the soldiers and sailors need recreation. But that brings me right back to where I started: What about

What about the kids and future of baseball? The kids, mind you, are the life blood of the game. And if the game doesn't come to the aid of kids, baseball will strangle itself with its own hands. Today, major league competition is a Class D standard. The majority of players who return from the service

signment. The gap is big. Hank Greenberg is gamely trying to beat the rap and you can see from his batting average the going is tough almost too tough. But gritty service guys like Hank should make it.

Night play, which I tagged as an out-and-out mockery of baseball in this same space last year, just about rubs out the kid for keeps. Sensible parents will put him to bed where he belongs but won't improve his baseing prices. In instances where price changes are involved, government agencies will retain authority over proposed raises.

At the same time, the WLB is empowered to grant wage increases where substandard rates are in effect to bring them more evenly in line with living costs.

ers are favoring fatter schedules under the arcs, which also makes CENTS. Occasional games under the lights, say, between 7 and 14 per season, is okay for the sake of novelty. If the owners play every night except Sunday — how are they going to replenish when the present crop of Class Ds run out? ball education. Meanwhile the own-

Optimism Shown Over Bumper Crop Conditions As Government Makes Final Survey for 1945

Wheat Leads Off With Largest Harvest Ever Grown in the Country

America's 1945 farm outlook gives promise of a total production higher than for any year on record except the bumper seasons of 1942 and 1944.

Some 350,000,000 acres are due to be harvested, with record or near-record productions indicated for a number of crops. Many above average acre yields are anticipated, with a record yield of 147.7 bushels per acre expected for potatoes, a nearrecord for rice and an exceptionally high yield for oats, over 7 bushels above the 10-year average and close to the 1942 record. Above average yields are expected for barley, rye, wheat, corn, sugar beets, sugar cane, dry peas, tobacco, sweet pota-toes, and a number of the vegetable crops. Milk production may total as much as two to two and a half billion pounds more than in 1944 for new record.

N. E. Dodd, chief of the Agricultural adjustment agency which has the job of helping U. S. farmers work out acreage goals, reports that 1945 goals appear to have been met or exceeded for wheat, oats, rice, dry peas, tobacco and peanuts and that both flaxseed and sugar beets, while not reaching hoped-for goals, are well above the 1944 acreages.

Preserving the Land.

Despite the hard use to which the land has had to be subjected during the war years, it is still going strong, Dodd said, one of the main reasons being the influence of in-creased use of soil building and soil and water conserving practices. A considerable part of this year's expected harvest, he emphasized, can be traced directly to improved methods of handling soil.

Last year set new records, for example, for acreage under contour cultivation and that planted to green manure and cover crops. Acreage of small grains and other drilled crops grown on the contour more than doubled over 1943, and still further increases are seen for 1945. Lime and superphosphate being used to establish soil improving crops are showing rapid increases and would be far greater, according to Dodd, if larger quantities of these vital materials were available. As it is, 87 per cent more superphosphate was used on legumes and grasses in 1944 under the AAA program than the average for 1939-43, and nine times as much as in 1936.

Terracing, strip-cropping, irriga-tion, weed control and many other improved farming practices are also doing their part in holding the fer-tile top soil on fields and in conserv-

Crop Prospects Reported.

Naturally, farm production cannot be calculated as accurately as in-dustrial production. Even if factors such as labor, machinery, storage and marketing, repair parts, fertilizer, and soil conditions are favor-able, the farmer cannot be sure that the weather won't upset his wellplans. The present harvest is late in some sections due to un-seasonable spring weather that interfered with planting schedules and in some cases necessitated last minute crop shifts. Drouth, floods and inroads by insects and pests of various kinds can still throw the farmer's entire production schedule out of line. But here's what this year's outlook on individual crops

Wheat — Largest crop of record, and the third U. S. billion-bushel crop. Estimated at 1,146,000,000 bushels, this year's indicated wheat harvest is 67,000,000 bushels above



sin farm. This year's hay crop premises to be the second larges on record.



Hay and corn have been strip-cropped on this North Carolina farm protect the soil from erosion and to help increase erop yield.

wheat production is up 14 per cent over last year. Estimated acreage of all wheat for harvest is 64,961,000 acres, 9.5 per cent above 1944, with winter wheat acreage substantially above last year in nearly all impor-

tant producing states. Oats-Oats production is expected to be the largest since 1920, a total of 1,546,032,000 bushels. This is 33 per cent above the 1944 crop and 45 per cent above the 19-year average. Indicated yield per acre is 36.9 bushels. The estimated planting of 45,911,000 acres in 1945 is the largest of record. This is the sixth consecutive year in which the oats acreage shows an increase for the country as a whole.

Corn - Marked improvement in prospects during July has resulted in an August 1 estimate of about 2,844,000,000 bushels of corn in 1945. The current estimate, while below three successive 3,000,000,000-bushel crops in 1942, 1943 and 1944, exceeds production in any year except 1923 and 1932 of the two preceding dec-ades. The average yield of 30.8 bush-els compares with 29.1 bushels esti-mated a month ago, 33.2 bushels last year and the average of 26.8 bushels year and the average of 20.8 busness per acre. Most important corn grow-ing states had "corn weather" dur-ing the latter part of July, favoring better than average progress— called "remarkable" in some sec-tions—to bring an increase of 159,-000,000 bushels in prospect since July 1 July 1.

Rye-Indicated production of 27, 883,000 bushels is up slightly more than 2,500,000 bushels over last year, the result of a higher per acre yield since the acreage for harvest is 7 per cent smaller. This is still only two-thirds of the 1934-43 average pro-

Rice-If the indicated harvest of 76,000,000 bushels is realized, it will be the largest rice crop on record, year's record level. A prospective yield of nearly 50 bushels an acre plus a near-record seeding of 1,511,-000 acres, is credited with the new high. Acreage increases are re-ported in each of the rice producing states — California, Louisiana, Texas and Arkansas — with farmers in the first two named exceeding reported March intentions.

Barley — The expected harvest of 270,000,000 bushels will be 5 per cent below the 1944 production and 1 per cent less than the 10-year aver age. Sharp declines are indicated in agl of the major barley producing states, except California. The entire acreage seeded, an estimated 11,922,-000 acres, is about 17 per cent less than 1944 and 19 per cent below av-

Dry Beans-The smallest production since 1936 is anticipated for 1945, the indicated total of 14,714,-000 bags of 100 pounds each (uncleaned) being more than one-fourth less than the record-breaking crop harvested in 1943. Bean plantings in Michigan and New York total 711,000 acres, the smallest since 1939 and less than were planted in Michigan alone in 1941, Farmers appear to be reducing their plantings to about the level of the years before the present war.

Lima bean production is expected to be a little larger than last year, California's 178,000 acres marking an increase of 8,000 acres over 1944.

Dry Peas — Although considerably less than last year's big crop, the 1945 production will probably be about double the prewar average for a total of some 5,509,000 100-pound bags (uncleaned). Acreage this year, also double the prewar average, is concentrated mainly in the

the previous record crop of 1944. It | Pacific Northwest. About 514,000 is 43 per cent greater than the 10- acres are expected to be harvested, year average for 1934-43. Winter | with yield indicated at 1,074 pounds acres are expected to be harvested, with yield indicated at 1,074 pounds per acre, below 1944 and 10-year

average. Sovbeans - A total of 13,283,000 acres grown alone for all purposes appears to be about 46 per cent larger than the 10-year average. Eighty-three per cent is in the north central states. Indications are that about 10,392,000 acres will be harvested for beans, only 3 per cent less than the 1943 record. It is still too early for conclusive production forecasts. But August 1 conditions point to a crop of 188,284,000 bush-

Potatoes — A crop of record pro-portions is indicated for 1945—some 420,206,000 bushels. Only in 1943 and 1928 has the production of potatoes exceeded the crop now in prospect.
Acre yield may set a new record,
if expectations of 147.7 bushels per
acre for the United States are realized. The previous high for yield was 139.6 bushels in 1943. Total indicated acreage for harvest is 2,845, 600, slightly below last year and about 190,200 acres less than the 1934-43 average.

Sweet Potatoes - Fewer sweet potatoes are in view, about 11 per cent less than the 1944 cr p. Acreage is down but yield per acre of 94.3 bushels is expected to be the highest since 1929. Total production in prospect is 67,133,000 bushels.

Sugar Beets — Expansion of plant-ings to 780,000 acres, almost 23 per cent over 1944, carries an esti-mated production of 9,332,000 tons at mated production of 9,332,000 tons at the indicated national average of i3.1 tons of beets per acre. Al-though the acreage is 12 per cent less than the 1934-43 average, a higher than average yield per acre is expected to put total pro-duction at only 7 per cent below the 10-year average. Sugar recovery of about 1,300,000 tons is predicted.

Sugar cane - Acreage for sugar and seed is up about 2 per cent over 1944 for a total of 302,700 acres, 5 per cent more than the 1934-43 average. Louisiana, which normally accounts for about 90 per cent of the national acreage, increased I per cent over last year and Florida 13 per cent. Production of sugar cane for sugar and seed is indicated at 6,976,000 tons, about 12 per cent above the 1944 total tonnage.

Fruit — Although the apple crop appears to be headed for a record low production, the 1945 peach crop is setting a record high with an estimated 82,650,000 bushels, 6 per cent greater than the peak harvest of 1931. A good pear crop is also in prospect, some 33,162,000 bushels. The three Pacific Coast states, where about three-fourths of the nation's about three-fourths of the nation's pears are usually grown, expect a record combined production of 26,-031,000 bushels — 11 per cent more than last year and 30 per cent above average. The cherry crop is down considerably from last year's level, and the apricot pick is estimated at only about 210,500 tons compared with last year's record crop of 324,000 tons. A prupe crop of some 152,-000 tons. A prune crop of some 600 tons (fresh basis) is indic from Washington, Idaho and Oregon. Grape production appears to be a little above last year with an indicated pick of 2,801,900 tons, of which some 2,598,000 tons will come from California. California.

California.

Hay — Second largest hay cropever produced in the U. S. is expected this year — a total production of all tame and wild hay varieties of about 104,000,000 tons. Only 1942 has seen more hay cut on American farms. A probable 12,000,000 tons carried over from crope of previous years added to the 1245 production would provide a supply of 116,000,000 tons.