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WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Stabilization Policy Designed To Spur Production; Argentine Military Junta Under U. S. Fire

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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.)

WAGE-PRICES:
Go Sign

Formulation of the administration's new stabilization policy setting a pattern for wage increases of from 15 to 17 per cent and permitting price boosts wherever necessary to assure prewar profit margins, represented a victory for the conservative advisers of President Truman.

Spearheaded by John Snyder, St. Louis banker and director of war mobilization and reconversion, the conservatives held that price as well as wage readjustment was necessary to spur postwar production. With goods flowing to market in volume, they held, prices would automatically find their right level in a competitive economy.

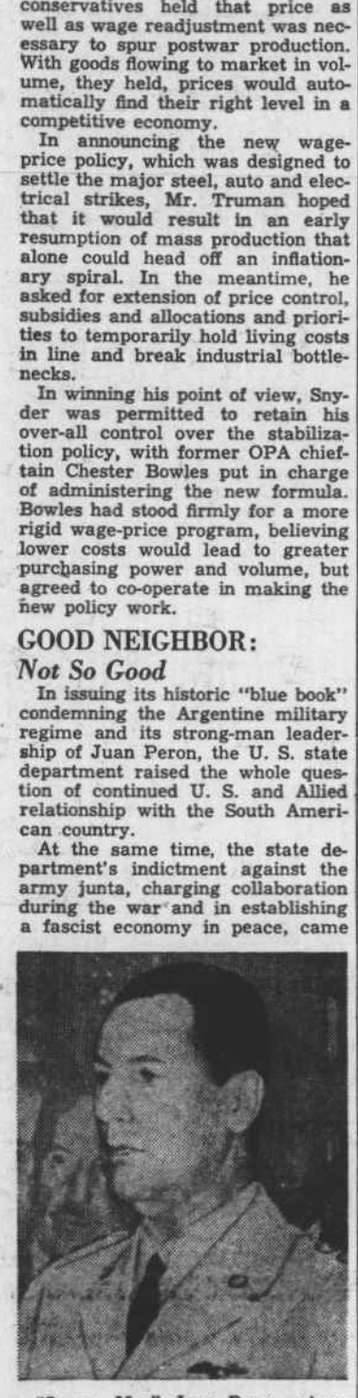
In announcing the new wage-price policy, which was designed to settle the major steel, auto and electrical strikes, Mr. Truman hoped that it would result in an early resumption of mass production that alone could head off an inflationary spiral. In the meantime, he asked for extension of price control, subsidies and allocations and priorities to temporarily hold living costs in line and break industrial bottlenecks.

In winning his point of view, Snyder was permitted to retain his over-all control over the stabilization policy, with former OPA chieftain Chester Bowles put in charge of administering the new formula. Bowles had stood firmly for a more rigid wage-price program, believing lower costs would lead to greater purchasing power and volume, but agreed to co-operate in making the new policy work.

GOOD NEIGHBOR:
Not So Good

In issuing its historic "blue book" condemning the Argentine military regime and its strong-man leadership of Juan Peron, the U. S. state department raised the whole question of continued U. S. and Allied relationship with the South American country.

At the same time, the state department's indictment against the army junta, charging collaboration during the war and in establishing a fascist economy in peace, came



"Strong Man" Juan Peron, whose military junta was under state department fire.

on the eve of the Argentine presidential election, lending possibilities to a nation-wide swing against Peron's candidacy. Taking cognizance of the U. S. action, Peron laid blame for the strained relations between the two countries on Assistant Secretary of State Spruille Braden, whom he accused of undermining previous accords.

In charging Argentina with collaboration with the axis in war, the state department's "blue book" declared that the military regime engaged in espionage against the allies, sought to undermine governments in neighboring countries friendly to the united nations, and protected German economic interests.

Asserting that the military junta had permitted the establishment of a fascist economy in Argentina to serve as a base for reviving Germany's imperial ambitions, the "blue book" stated that Germans now controlled such key industries as chemicals and pharmaceuticals, construction, electrical equipment, metallurgy and agriculture.

FOOD SUPPLIES:
World Outlook

While per capita food consumption in the U. S. in 1946 is expected to reach a new peak, a survey of 65 foreign countries conducted by the department of agriculture showed that the average person will have about 12 per cent less to eat than in prewar years.

In reporting its findings, however, the department pointed out that striking of an "average" balance did not truly reflect conditions abroad, what with near starvation levels persisting in Italy, Germany, French North Africa, France, Spain, India and China.

Itemizing individual supplies, the department said that the world supply of bread will remain tight, with reduced rations in some countries. Demand for wheat will exceed supplies by 200 million bushels and stocks of other grains will be limited. From 15 to 20 per cent less rice will be available than in prewar years.

A shortage of meat will persist in Europe and Russia, the department said, with increased production retarded by use of feed grains for human consumption. While 1946 supplies of fish will be higher than last year, cheese and egg stocks will not meet demands.

The total of fats and oils will approximate only two-thirds of import needs while sugar consumption will fall to the lowest level in a decade. Only half as much butter will be available for world trade as in prewar years.

In contrast to the tight world food situation, the American larder will stay well stocked, barring poor crops. Only butter and sugar supplies are expected to show no appreciable improvement, and while fewer eggs are predicted, availability of more meat should cut demand for the product.

Butcher Old Dobbin

From the steadily declining horse population of the U. S., 77,887 equines went to the slaughter houses in 1945 to provide meat for American tables. Lowest on record, the number of horses in this country stands at less than half that of a quarter century ago.

Reflecting the steady increase in horse slaughter during the war, when overall meat supplies failed to meet popular demand, the butchering of equines in 1945 showed a 49 per cent rise over the 1944 figure of 52,063.

Along with the horse, the old goat has been sent to the stockyards with increasing frequency, the slaughter of 13,150 by federally inspected packers in 1945 representing a 98 per cent boost over the figure for the previous year.

TIRES:
Good Prospects

With the manpower situation improving with the return of many veterans and new facilities scheduled to get into production soon, the tire outlook for 1946 has grown increasingly promising, though stocks adequate to meet record demand will not be forthcoming before late in the year.

With 24 million cars in operation, with many running on tires five or more years old, the government set a goal of 66 million passenger cords for 1946. Under present favorable conditions, manufacturers hope to even exceed the mark. Because of the continued scarcity of natural rubber, substantial proportions of both tires and tubes will be made of synthetics.

Since 90 per cent of all tires produced go to the market and only 10 per cent are retained for new automobiles, not many more additional cords have been made available during the closedown of auto plants by the General Motors strike, trade circles pointed out.

NATIONAL GUARD:
Postwar Increase

In accordance with plans to keep America strong in the postwar world, the national guard will be increased to 622,500 officers and men, more than double the total of 300,034 in the prewar period.

Of the 622,500 men and officers, 571,000 will be included in the ground forces, 47,600 in the air wings and 4,000 in miscellaneous services. This compares with the prewar establishment of 295,000 on the ground and 5,000 in the air.

Twenty-two infantry divisions will constitute the bulk of the ground forces, with two armored divisions and 18 regimental combat teams making up the remainder. The 12 air wings will be composed of 27 groups, 84 squadrons and 12 control and warning units.

With 47,777 men and officers, New York's national guard will be the largest in the country, followed by Pennsylvania with 39,580; California, 39,568, and Illinois, 32,908.

CAPITOL HILL:
Dems Row

With Harold L. Ickes having quit the department of the interior after President Truman had questioned the accuracy of his testimony before a senatorial committee probing Edwin W. Pauley's nomination as undersecretary of navy, political sages pondered what effect the self-styled "Old Curmudgeon's" action would have on Democratic chances in the 1946 congressional and 1948 presidential elections.

Harold Ickes

In resigning from the cabinet after 13 years of service as one of the liberal New Deal stalwarts, "Honest Harold," as Ickes is sometimes known, warned Mr. Truman that political pressure for retention of state control over underwater oil reserves could result in a scandal similar to Teapot Dome. He also said that pressure to assess administrative personnel for campaign purposes might create a major scandal.

Although it was long rumored that Ickes might leave the President's cabinet, his dramatic departure grew out of his charges that Pauley had suggested to him that $300,000 could be raised for the 1944 presidential race if the government dropped a suit the interior secretary instituted to place underwater oil reserves under federal rather than state control. When Pauley denied the allegation and Mr. Truman declared that Ickes' testimony might be inaccurate, the "Old Curmudgeon" stated that the President's lack of confidence in him left him no alternative but to submit his resignation.

Ill feelings between Ickes and Mr. Truman were further pointed up by the President's order making the resignation immediately effective rather than on March 31 as the interior secretary had requested so that he might push through the Anglo-American oil treaty "which (he) had nurtured and raised by bottle from the beginning."

While the liberal Ickes, long a prominent figure in reform politics, said he would not oppose the President's re-election in 1948, he qualified his statement by pointing out that he had cast his ballot as a delegate to the 1944 convention for Henry A. Wallace for vice president.

GRAIN MOVEMENTS:
Co-Op Proposals

Holding an emergency meeting in Chicago, Ill., the National Federation of Grain Co-operatives urged President Truman to speed up movement of box cars and clarify the price and tax situation to spur lagging shipment of grain to market.

Representing member groups, which handle approximately 400 million bushels of grain annually, the federation said that the acute shortage of box cars has been further aggravated by delays in movement. Runs that normally required four or five days from the northwest to Minneapolis-St. Paul, now take 30 days or more, officials said.

As long as uncertainty exists over extension of federal price controls, the federation declared, farmers will keep substantial quantities of grain off the market in the hope of higher returns. Further, farmers may be adverse to selling both their carryover and the ripened 1946 crop in the same year unless tax laws are revised or loans of actual grain to the government are arranged and operators are permitted to elect the time for collection.

AIR PACT:
U. S., Britain Agree

Resolving differences over the question of regulating international air travel, the U. S. and Britain reached agreement after month-long discussions in Hamilton, Bermuda, on a postwar pattern inclining toward the American concept of freest possible flight.

At the same time, the U. S. agreed to open American military bases on leased British islands in the Atlantic to commercial planes. Obtained by the U. S. for 99 years in the famous over-age destroyer deal of 1940, the islands stretch from Newfoundland to British Guiana in the Caribbean.

Under the U. S.-British pact, planes will be permitted to pick up passengers in either country; equitable rates will be determined; routes will be marked out for travel by American and British craft over the two countries; consultations will be held for resolving civil air problems; the provisional international aviation organization will be asked to settle disputes upon which the U. S. and Britain cannot reach agreement, and no limitation will be placed upon the number of flights air lines may make.

Man About Town:

Champion Joe Louis in the RKO gateway quietly downing a huge beaker of milk. . . . Lt. Col. Greg Boyington says he is called "Gramps" or "Skipper" by those who know him, not "Pappy." . . . The muchly decorated war hero at Reuben's being told by his mother to "eat all his vegetables." . . . Reaction of Cliff Mack to the paintings of W. Churchill: "Well, at least they're better than Hitler's."

Von Ribbentrop has requested a Jewish lawyer (instead of an alienist). . . . If you see a man's discharge button with a ball-and-chain dangling from it—he was a prisoner of war. . . . Pat, the popular newsboy at Miami Beach, got off his best quip the day Churchill arrived there. "Hide yer money!" he extra'd. "The British are coming!" . . . Ho, hum. Everybody on strike except the tax collectors!

Faces About Midtown: Charles Coburn, plus his monocle, strolling along Vth Avenue—and teen-agers gleefully exclaiming: "Oooh, looka! There's Jean Arthur's father!" . . . Joe Cotten, the star, gabbing in the Stork with Kenneth Friede—the producer who once paid him $40 per week in a play. Joseph today gets $100,000 per film. . . . Victor Moore of "Nellie Bly" and his bride. Don't feel sorry for Victor because of the show's sour notices. He's down to his last million. . . . Book-writer J. Gunther and the chomming Marina Svetlova, the premiere dansoose at the Met. . . . Cesar Romero, who used to hoof for coffee-and-cake coin, spinning Renee DeMarco in a waltz at the Cotillion Room. . . . Helmut Dantine, the star, thrilled over becoming an American. . . . Ex-Mayor LaGuardia, who had it changed to the Avenue of the Americas, yelling at a friend: "You must come up to see my new offices on SIXTH Avenue!"

Sounds in the Night: At the Carnival: "Judging by the notices on 'Nellie Bly' the critics didn't do right by Nell." . . . At the Versailles: "That much-married playboy oughta change his name to Girlville!" . . . At the Boulevard: "Oh, Heel be around!" . . . At the Enduro: "She's playing second fizzle." . . . Lou Holtz (at the Miami Beach-comber): "I had a very smooth trip down. Only two wrecks!" . . . Leon Henderson, former OPA administrator (to a much criticized gov't exec): "It took me 2½ years to be called the No. One So-and-So. It took you only 2½ weeks!" . . . In the Washington Press club: "He goes around acting so obnoxious because he wants everybody to think he's syndicated." . . . At Reuben's: "She's very dull. Never knocks anyone!"

Quotations of the Town: F. Scott Fitzgerald: The silver pepper of the stars. . . . Roger White: Any one discriminating against race or religion is a discriminal. . . . Tom Reddy: She was wearing a hatrocity. . . . Ralph Edwards: As fleeting as babyhood to a parent. . . . H. Carten: A moth leads an awful life. He spends the summer in a fur coat and the winter in a bathing suit. . . . Clare Luce: It's such a scarey feeling to see wrinkles creeping in—time's little mice. . . . L. Brown: You can't draw from sweet memories unless you make regular deposits. . . . B. D. Gibson: The beach displayed a wide variety of feminudity. . . . Anon: A career is all right for a woman, but she can't run her fingers through its hair.

Quotation Marksmanship: Ambrose Bierce: A scrapbook is edited by a fool. . . . Jack Elinson: Looks like America is now the Land of the Free For All . . . Allen Raymond: Editors are 3rd basemen whose legs have gone. . . . H. Davies: Funny, but the ashes of a broken heart can stir up more heat than the flare of a new flame. . . . James Cannon: He talks about himself like a guy who just left the room. . . . Disraeli: Every man has a right to be conceited until he is successful. . . . Rev. R. W. Sockman: The test of courage comes when we are in the minority; the test of tolerance comes when we are in the majority. . . . John Buchan: Little towns dumb with snow under the winter moon. . . . J. Conrad: Kisses are what's left of the language of Paradise. . . . Damon Runyon: She has an ice-cream cone where her heart is supposed to be. . . . Anon: Naziism is like small-pox. It leaves permanent scars on its victims. . . . When you see a married couple coming down the street the one ahead is the one that's mad.

You Should Know Louisiana

By EDWARD EMERINE
WNU Features.

"A good place to visit—a better place to live."

That is Louisiana's boast. It is Louisiana's promise, backed by every square foot of land from the pine forests of the northern uplands to the marshes of the Mississippi delta.

Louisiana is a land of incredible natural richness, in its swamps and bayous, its cane and cotton fields, its lakes and streams, its farms and cities—and its people. Here the beauty and romance of an empire was formed by the alchemy of time.

It was a miracle of chemical combinations that brought about the transmutation of these base metals into gold. Geologically, the chemist Nature, with pestle and mortar, mixed marine and alluvial sediments, added the acids of eons, and brought forth a wondrous combination to make the Louisiana of today. The extremely fertile top soils, producing agricultural products and valuable forests, are the state's basic resources. But beneath the surface are rich deposits of salt, sulphur, petroleum and natural gas. Over all hangs a favorable climate, with sun and rain proportioned and balanced to bless the land.

Racially too, Louisiana has had its minglings and infusions. The Creole is a descendant of the French or Spanish settlers. The Islenos, in spite of intermixture with other nationalities, retains much of the Spanish. The descendant of the German, almost completely absorbed by his Latin neighbors, still lives above New Orleans on the "German coast." The great-grandchild of English Royalists resides in East and West Feliciana parishes. The Russian, as well as the Central and South American, now makes Louisiana his home. The Filipino has Manila village, and there is a Chinese settlement at Bayou Defon. It is doubtful that a full-blooded Negro can be found in the state.

Two centuries of linguistic intercourse have modified the French dialects of the Creole and Acadian, with words and inflections borrowed from the English, German, Negro and Indian neighbor. There are Negroes who cannot speak English, yet early Anglo-Saxon idioms and expressions may be heard in their archaic purity in some sections of the state. Regardless of the dialect, words are soft-spoken in Louisiana and pleasant to the ear.

Under Many Flags.

Louisiana has known many governments and many flags. Discovered in 1528 by the Spanish explorer Narvaex, in 1682 LaSalle claimed the territory in the name of France. He later attempted colonization with 280 men, who perished with him. The colonial period comprises the French domination down to 1769, Spanish domination from 1769 to 1803, when there was a brief period of French rule again. The "Louisiana Purchase" in 1803 brought the region under the Stars and Stripes. Louisiana joined the Confederacy in 1861 with other southern states, and figured prominently in the Civil war.

Statehood was granted Louisiana as the War of 1812 began. Not the least picturesque of those who fought at the Battle of New Orleans was Jean Lafitte, the pirate, and his crew. Lafitte, upon whose head a price had been set by Louisiana authorities, spurned British gold and offered to guide warships within striking distance of New Orleans. Andrew Jackson, with the Tennesseans, Kentuckians, Creoles and pirates, won a great victory at Chalmette when they turned back the tide of Red Coats. Parkenham, the English general, fell fatally wounded on the battlefield.

Out of a colorful past emerges the Louisiana of today, tranquil, hospitable and progressive. The chemist is still busy there. The laboratory of the scientist and the factory of the industrialist are collaborating in a new field of development. Louisiana has within its borders the raw materials and facilities necessary for the successful operation of chemical industries. Its farms supply cotton, sugar cane, rice, corn and sweet potatoes. Its forests provide many kinds of timber. Its deposits of oil, gas, salt, sulphur, coastal shells, sand, gravel and other minerals are abundant.

Wealth From Waste.

Wallboard is made of once useless sugar cane pulp, rubber from petroleum and carbon black from natural gas. Chemical and scientific research has opened new fields for plastic and synthetic manufacture, using Louisiana's great resources. Seven paper mills manufacture newsprint from pulpwood, salt cake and other chemicals. Cooking oil, stock feed, rayon, film, cellophane, celluloid, felts, surgical dressings and glycerine are produced from cottonseed. Sugar is made from sorghum and countless by-products of rice are being utilized.

Starch, glue and industrial alcohol are manufactured from sweet potatoes. Oil from the tung tree is used in making paints, varnishes, linoleum and waterproof materials. Soy beans are converted into plastics. Collection of peat moss is simple and cheap. Lime, both hydrate and caustic, is made from oyster and clam shells. Rice hulls make an excellent insulant. There are fabulous resources in the state's Gulf coastal waters, yielding annual harvests of sea food.

Even with accelerated industrialization, the charm of Louisiana and its people remains unchanged. Magnolia trees in the moonlight, soft voices to speak of romance, gayety and color in recreations and celebrations, unparalleled beauty and serenity — that is Louisiana. And that it will remain: a good place to visit—a better place to live.

CANAL STREET . . . With modern New Orleans on the left and ancient New Orleans on the right.

JAMES HOUSTON DAVIS
Governor of Louisiana

"Jimmie" Davis was born on a hill farm in the Beech Springs community of Jackson Parish. He is a graduate of Louisiana State university. Former school teacher, court clerk, Shreveport police commissioner and public service commissioner, he was elected governor in 1944. His hobbies are music, singing, fishing and hunting.

Louisiana's Famed Creole Cooking Is Gourmets' Delight

Mark Twain spoke of the pompano cooked in Louisiana as being "delicious as the less criminal forms of sin." William Makepeace Thackery found New Orleans "the city of the world where you can eat and drink the most and suffer the least." Irvin S. Cobb found New Orleans bouillabaisse, a fish chowder, unexcelled.

The people of Louisiana set tables of luscious Creole dishes that have evolved over a period of more than two centuries and present a triumphant synthesis of the French love for delicacies and the Spanish taste for pungent seasoning. While Creole cooking today is found at its best in the vicinity of New Orleans and in the Teche country, its excellencies may be enjoyed throughout Louisiana wherever the French influence has penetrated.

In the preparation of sea food Creole cuisine is at its best. Oysters, with crabs and shrimp, are cooked in gumbo and it is said that a Creole puts everything into gumbo except the Creole! In addition to sea food, game and domestic fowl, there are varieties of roasts and other elaborate dishes.

Rice is used by Louisianans as Irish potatoes are used elsewhere. Hominy grits is to breakfast what rice is to dinner. The perfect complement to a Creole meal is Creole dripped coffee—although a taste for it has to be acquired since it is blacker and stronger than that used in other states.

As one goes farther north in Louisiana the cooking more and more resembles that of the South in general, but there are few places where Creole methods have not had some influence. In the vicinity of Natchitoches, the Spanish influence is particularly noticeable. The Monroe area is famous for its barbecues. Usually 15 or more ingredients are used in preparing sauces for barbecued meats. A popular "country dish" of this section is pot liquor and corn pone.