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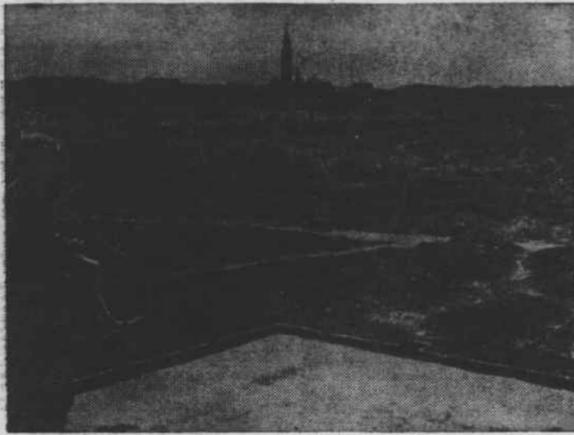
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WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

UNO Weathers First Big Test; Rail Unions Balk at Pay Award; Civilian Output at Peak Rate

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(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.)



Seated on stone block of ruined public building, Polish girl views desolation of once modern building section of Warsaw. Once proud Polish capital is now ghost city of Europe, with half of its population half-starved and ill-clad.

UNO: Weather Storm

Fraught with danger to the United Nations Organization and world peace, the tense Russo-Iranian dispute melted under the promise of diplomatic compromise, with Moscow saving face and Tehran its sovereignty.

Secretary of State James Byrnes, chief U. S. delegate to the UNO security council, started the happy train of events, suggesting that both countries state their position in the dispute over Russian failure to withdraw from Iran before UNO considered action in the case.

Russia had walked out of the security council after its decision to consider the question and Byrnes' proposal offered an excellent opportunity for the Reds to walk back in without losing prestige. Making the most of the chance, the Russians wrote UNO that they were pulling out of Iran without imposing any conditions for their retirement and their troops should be gone by May 6.

Taking his cue, Iran's representative then told the security council that if definite assurances could be obtained that the Russians would apply no pressure for oil concessions or Red-backed provincial governments as a condition for withdrawal, Iran would consider the matter closed.

And upon that happy note, UNO appeared to have overcome its first great hurdle.

RAIL PAY: Balk at Findings

In protesting the 16-cent-an-hour raise awarded by a labor-management arbitration board, railroad union officials declared that the boost granted failed to meet higher living costs and adjust differences in pay between railroad workers and employees in other industries.

Declaring railroad workers were entitled to a 46-cent-an-hour increase, B. M. Jewell, representing 15 non-operating unions, and E. E. Milliman, president of the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees, asserted that the minimum award should have included 11 1/2 cents an hour for higher living costs plus the general industry-wide 18 1/2 cent-an-hour postwar advance.

Meanwhile, railroad officials also complained against the arbitration board's wage decisions, estimated to add up to \$400 per year for 1,220,000 members of three operating and 15 non-operating unions and cost the carriers \$584,000,000 annually.

Echoing the carriers' warnings that increased wages would require rate boosts, President Fred G. Gurley of the Santa Fe announced that the 16-cent-an-hour award was too large and his road would immediately appeal for higher freight tariffs. Stating that the wage increases would add \$25,000,000 yearly to Santa Fe operating costs, Gurley said the boost coupled with higher material, supply and fuel costs against reduced income made the step necessary.

Because both the railroads and unions had agreed to accept the arbitration board's findings as final in submitting their dispute for settlement, no work stoppage loomed because of disagreement over terms. The recommendations were handed down even as a fact-finding panel conducted hearings on demands of the Brotherhood of Locomotive

Engineers and Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen for a 25 per cent wage increase and changes in working rules. In demanding that wages and working rules be considered simultaneously, the two unions refused to join the other 18 in submitting the pay issue to arbitration.

CONGRESS: Pay Adjustment

Government employees were in line for a pay increase as a result of congressional action but an administration measure to raise the minimum wage to 60 cents an hour appeared doomed because of the farm bloc's insistence that the same bill hike the parity formula over President Truman's protest.

The senate and house strove to get together on a uniform pay increase for U. S. employees following their approval of conflicting raises. While the senate had o.k.'d an 11 per cent boost, the house voted a \$400 a year advance. Since the house also decided to limit department appropriations in the 1947 fiscal year to those of 1946, however, the higher pay would cover fewer employees and thus cut the federal payroll by 200,000.

In pushing for an upward revision of the parity formula as an amendment to the 80 cent an hour minimum wage bill over President Truman's veto threat, the farm bloc sought to protect farmers' returns in a period of rising costs. Trumpeping administration disapproval, Secretary of Agriculture Anderson declared revision of the parity formula to include farm wages would result in a 33 per cent boost in farm prices and spark an inflationary cycle.

PRODUCTION: Rosy Prospects

In meeting the pent-up and ordinary demands of consumers, requirements for a large military establishment and heavy exports, the U. S. faces an unparalleled period of prosperity. Reconstruction Director John W. Snyder indicated in a report to President Truman.

Despite work stoppages and material shortages, civilian production had reached a rate of 150 billion dollars during the first three months of 1946, Snyder said, with private wages and salary payments returning almost to the pre-V-J day rate of 82 billion dollars. Non-agricultural employment totaled 44,700,000 in February, with 2,700,000 jobless seeking work.

Indicative of the huge demand for goods, Snyder said that consumer and business purchases during the first quarter of 1946 equaled those of the Christmas period in contrast to an ordinary drop of 10 to 12 billion dollars. Though overall civilian production rose, the textile shortage remained acute, being aggravated by mills' refusal to sell unfinished goods because of higher profits on bleached or printed cloth.

Notwithstanding increasing production and high taxes, the threat of an inflationary spiral remains, Snyder said. Noting the trend, he pointed out that on March 15 wholesale food prices were 3.1 per cent above those on the same date last year and the prices of other products were up 2.5 per cent.

OVERSEAS RELIEF: London Confab

The problem of tiding war-stricken countries over the 1946-47 consumption year concerned delegates from 18 Allied, neutral and former enemy nations at the Emergency Economic conference for Europe being held in London.

With the U. S. aiming to ship 1,000,000 tons of wheat monthly toward a goal of 11,000,000 tons, efforts were bent on stimulating contributions from other countries to fill out the huge deficit. In this connection, a report of the conference's combined food board recommended that Russia be requested to furnish cereals and that steps be taken to increase the extent of Argentine exports.

Little Ireland followed the U. S. in setting an example to participating nations, announcing it would send 35,000 cattle, 9,000,000 pounds of canned meat, 20,000 tons of sugar as well as milk, bacon and cheese to the continent this year. Normally Eire sends most of its cattle and eggs to Britain.

MIHAILOVITCH: U.S. to Aid

Lauding Gen. Draja Mihailovitch's contributions to the Allied cause in the early stages of the European war, the U. S. state department asked the Yugoslav government that American officers attached to the Chetnik leader's headquarters be permitted to testify on his behalf in his forthcoming treason trial.

Famed for his daring guerrilla warfare against the Germans during the height of Nazi domination, Mihailovitch lost his grip on the Yugoslav resistance movement with Allied recognition of the Communist-trained Tito following the Russian resurgence in 1943. At odds with Tito, Mihailovitch became a fugitive, charged with collaborating toward the end with the German invaders.

In coming to Mihailovitch's defense in the face of bitter Communist allegations against the Chetnik leader, the state department said many American army fliers had been rescued and returned to Allied lines through the daring efforts of his forces. It was also pointed out that U. S. officers were attached to Mihailovitch's headquarters as liaison men in co-ordinating resistance operations.

F.D.R.: Sell Stamps

Individual hobbyists and dealers shared in the purchase of Franklin D. Roosevelt's famed stamp collection, which brought heirs to his estate over \$210,000. Representing a lifetime collection of the late President, the stamps were appraised in advance of the auction at \$80,000.

Berry Hill, a New York dealer, was one of the biggest buyers at the sales, paying \$1,885 for most of 29 lots of French stamps and die-proofs and \$1,615 for four groups of German stamps included in statistical albums showing the extent of inflation in the reich after World War I.

Dr. L. L. Ruland, a hobbyist, topped bids to pay \$4,700 for 62 lots of Chinese stamps presented to Mr. Roosevelt by Chiang Kai-shek. K. Biloski, a Canadian dealer, paid \$2,100 for 848 stamps of a Russian collection tendered to the late President by Soviet Ambassador Maxim Litvinoff.

Almost \$8,000 was realized on the sale of 107 lots of Venezuelan stamps and albums.

NEAR EAST: Plot Thickens

Long the pawns of European power politics, natives of the Near East again figured in the diplomatic double play of the oil-rich region, with reports that the Russians were aiding chieftains of 5,000,000 Kurds in Iran, Turkey, Iraq and Syria in the establishment of an independent republic.

Though the Kurds in these countries enjoy relative freedom in the mountainous regions under local chieftains, the independence movement reportedly has thrived under Russian backing. An independent Kurdish republic already has been proclaimed with headquarters at Mehabad in northern Iran and Russian technicians were said to have arrived there to help strengthen native forces.

Headed by Ghazi Mohammed, the Kurdish movement was thrown into gear at a conference of tribal leaders held in Baku, Russia, last November. Revenue and troops reportedly are being furnished by the chieftains who attended the powwow, with the heart of the movement centered in British-controlled Iraq. Like Iran, Iraq's oil fields form part of the huge near eastern deposits prized by the major powers.



United Nations of N. Y.:

New York is the breath-taking stone and steel monument to the 20th Century. It was erected by the brawn, brains and sweat of foreigners and their descendants. The varied nationalities, religions and races have lived together in peace and enjoyed the benefits of democracy. New York is the striking reality of the American dream. . . . If one great city can be the living example of the UN ideals—and if 48 United States can do it—so can the United Nations. . . . New York represents the test-tube of the One World experiment. If 8 million people can accomplish that—billions can. For the experiment has succeeded far beyond the wildest hopes of starry-eyed dreamers and prophets.

Our fabulous metropolis should be an inspiration for visiting UN delegates. Here is living proof of UN ideals. The Big Town's diversity of creeds and nationalities would amaze even many native New Yorkers. Every member of the United Nations has contributed to its myriad population, plus some nations that aren't members. This is a big city and a little world.

The British atmosphere of Ye Olde English Chop Houses along Thames Street. Many of them are replicas of famed eateries in London. They feature wood-paneled walls, separate stalls and are decorated with early prints. The cuisine is simply ripping, old boy. It is usually so quiet there—you can hear a monocle drop.

The West Forties and Fifties have a French population that is large enough to form a French Quarter. Bastille Day and other French national holidays are celebrated here, and many restaurants serve Gallic dishes. If you pass this sector — you can enjoy the sight of stylishly-groomed mademoiselles living up to their reps as slick chicks. Whew-la-la!

Every section of the planet is represented in our incredible overgrown hamlet. Among the foreign colonies that thrive here are the Hindus, Persians, Mexican Indians and Koreans. The Hindus and Persians are for the most part prosperous merchants and importers. . . . The mosque in Brooklyn attracts devout Mohammedans. Most of the Mohammedans in our town are Turks.

The Estonians periodically hold music festivals, at which many of the men and women appear in the Estonian peasant costume—and a good time is had by all. . . . An imposing edifice known as the Norwegian Seamen's Church is maintained chiefly for Norwegian sailors. It has always had its pastor selected by church and governmental authorities in Norway.

The East Side Armenian shops—holes-in-the-wall — feature copper coffee urns, silver vases, ornate Victorian lamps and mantel clocks and an occasional porcelain shepherdess. Pricelike antique metalware is sold here as well as the shoddiest machine-made articles.

After Czechoslovakia became an independent nation in 1918 many Slovaks from downtown moved up into the Czech quarter, and the two groups have combined many of their interests. Pride in their languages and traditions has prompted them to maintain separate schools where (after public school hours) the children can be taught their native speech and history. One of the city's most colorful spectacles is the annual Decoration Day Czechoslovak parade in native costume.

The Latin-American colony on Saturday nights is alive with excitement. Dance dens are throbbing with rumba rhythms. Watch these lithe people weave their ball-bearing torsos during the tantalizing tempos. They make the rumba a fine art.

Famed Chinatown is packed with more happy orientals than you can find in Asia. Here are unique joss houses where Chinese Buddhists worship. Shops hawk exotic herbs at fantastic fees. And if you listen closely, you can pick up the jive lingo and swift patter of the almond-eyed jitterbugs.

At the foot of Washington Street you will appreciate New York's cosmopolitan rep. This is the Syrian Quarter where newsstands feature Arabic dailies.

Five New Members Are Elected To Champion Farmers Association

By W. J. DRYDEN
WNU Farm Editor



WILLIAM F. RENK . . . With the help of three sons he produced 85 carloads of food from his 850-acre farm at Sun Prairie, Wis. Farmer Renk, former Wisconsin commissioner of agriculture, with the able assistance of his sons, Wilbur, Walter and Robert, last year sold more than 1,000,000 pounds of beef, pork and lamb in addition to 25,000 bushels of hybrid seed corn and 10,000 bushels of Victoria oats and a carload of wool.



J. D. MCGEE . . . This champion is an outstanding example of a farmer who went heavily in debt in order to succeed. He now operates 2,300 acres of land at Morgan, Ga. McGee's major cash crop is peanuts, but he believes in and practices a modern system of versatile farming—raising hogs, Hereford cattle, as well as producing oats, corn and cotton. Does not believe in putting all of his eggs in one basket.



THOMAS J. PEARSALL . . . Rocky Mount, N. C., is proud of Manager Pearsall of the M. C. Braswell Company Farms. He has the job of operating a farm of 22,000 acres and supervising the work of 1,100 men, women and children who live and work on the farm. Cotton, tobacco, corn, lespedeza, hogs, beef and dairy cattle as well as small grains are produced by Tom Pearsall and his family of 1,100.



WILLIAM RICHARDS . . . Bill gave up a successful career as a chemical engineer and racing car driver to purchase a Cape Cod dairy farm in 1941 at Forestdale, Mass., and converted it into a truck garden. Born and raised in Boston, he decided to become a vegetable producer after suffering a serious track accident. Known as Veg-Acres Farms, his 640 acres include 125 acres of broccoli. Like most scientists, he leaves nothing to chance. Irrigation, cold frames and modern mechanized methods are utilized by Racer Richards.

Five members have been admitted to agriculture's most exclusive organization, the Champion Farmers Association of America. Representing all sections, and phases of farming, they prove a living example that farming in America can be profitable and honored. Their names will stand high on the roll of agricultural fame, men of merit whose achievements win universal admiration.

The new members are William F. Renk, Sun Prairie, Wis.; J. D. McGee, Morgan, Ga.; Thomas J. Pearsall, Rocky Mount, N. C.; and camera-shy William Gehring, Rensselaer, Ind. (Ed. Note: No inducement proved sufficient to Farmer Bill, to secure his consent to pose for a photograph.)

The nominations for this award are made by farm leaders and elected by C.F.A.'s membership of agricultural authorities—the awards are presented by Firestone, which cooperated in the founding of the association in 1937.

Camera-shy William Gehring, who wouldn't have his picture taken, won his place by helping greatly to bring the rich muck lands of northern Indiana into heavy production through the application of proper fertilizer, irrigation, crop diversification and highly mechanized farming. On his farm at Rensselaer, Ind., his production of mint, of which he sold more than \$500,000 worth last year, has proven the financial possibilities of this crop. He also grows potatoes, sweet corn, and onions on his farm of 4,000 acres. Prior to 1931 he worked in a factory. Without farm experience he went to the muck lands to overcome their production problems and set an example to others.

A Veteran Farmer. William Renk is a veteran farmer who has consistently followed a progressive policy. He emphasizes efficiency in every phase of farming, with the aid of three super-helpers, his sons. They are pioneers in arch-type construction of farm buildings, and their machine shop is a credit to their ability. Seven tractors, self-feeders, hay slides—and their ability to produce quality seed corn—hybrid—marks them as real progressive farmers. The Renks have developed a direct sales demand for their hybrid seed.

J. D. McGee started in 1928 on a small farm—purchased with borrowed capital. Last year his peanut crop was worth \$40,000. Soil conservation plays an important part on his farm, as they must on any farm that succeeds. He is a director of the Georgia-Florida-Alabama Peanut Growers' association, and an authority on the economic problems of the industry. Congress has heard with interest his facts and figures on peanut production and possibilities.

"Speed Richards"—they call William Richards. This not only applies to his farm operations but to his former record as a racing car driver. He started out by leasing a tract near Providence, R. I. Later Richards purchased his present farm from earnings from the leased tract—tenant farming may pay well. He launched an extensive and costly fertilizing program—essential for this type of farming. A major innovation was a large irrigation system drawing on a lake as a water source.

In Many Organizations. Speed Richards takes an active part in farm organizations. He is a member of the governor's advisory council on agriculture, the Boston Market Garden association, Town Finance committee, Extension Vegetable committee and Farm Bureau. At 38 he has three daughters, one son and a modern successful highly mechanized farm.

Thomas J. Pearsall believes in progressive plantation policies which have attracted national attention. He is not a farm owner, but he manages the famous Braswell farms at Rocky Mount, N. C., containing 22,000 acres. Starting 10 years ago, he was considered "revolutionary," because he was a strong supporter of education among his Negro tenants and sharecroppers. The result—labor turnover greatly reduced and crop yields increased. He installed mechanical and technical innovations, such as terracing and strip cropping. A state representative and president of the Agricultural Foundation, Inc., he is now raising two million dollars for the farm research program at North Carolina State college. Tom has a wife and two sons to aid him.

It is particularly noticeable that the section of the United States in which a farmer lives has little to do with his ability to be a "champion." These five farmers come from New England, the Mississippi valley, the North and the South. The American farmer can do his job in any state, or climate, when he sets him-

self to the task with a will. Although the war is over, the world needs food—meats, grains, vegetables and fruit. But somehow we all have the feeling that the "champs" down on the farms of America will see that few people starve.

Georgia Boy Rose From Buck Private To 4-Star General

WASHINGTON.—He was born in Perry, Ga., in 1887, where his father published the Houston Home Journal. As a boy he worked around the newspaper plant but was more interested in the Perry Rifles, a local guard unit. Having heard his parents speak of former members of the Hodges' family as Confederate soldiers in the Civil war, he was determined to become a soldier.

He entered West Point in 1904 but because of trouble with mathematics left the United States Military academy and enlisted in the army as an infantry private. In 1909 he received his commission as a second lieutenant, simultaneously with the commissioning of his former West Point classmates. Instead of spending three years at the Point, he became an officer after service at various infantry installations. His early army career included service



with General Pershing's Mexican Punitive expedition and the 6th Infantry regiment of the 8th division in France, Luxembourg and Germany in World War I.

He was appointed commandant of the infantry school at Fort Benning, Ga., in 1940. He became chief of infantry in Washington, was made chief of the ground forces replacement and school command when the army was reorganized into ground, air and service forces, and later became commanding general of the X army corps. He was assigned to command the Third army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, in February, 1943, and served in this capacity until March, 1944, when he was assigned to the First army in the European theater of operations.

Assistant to Gen. Omar N. Bradley when the First army took part in the invasion of Normandy, capture of Cherbourg, and the breakthrough at St. Lo, Hodges assumed full command in August, 1944. He paved the way for the Third army's and his famous First's spectacular lunges across France, was the first into Paris, first into Germany, first army commander since Napoleon to cross the Rhine river in battle, first to enter and clear out the Hurtgen forest in the cold winter months, and first to meet the Russians.

Among his higher decorations are the Distinguished Service Cross and the Silver Star from the first war and the Distinguished Service Medal and an Oak Leaf Cluster for services in the current conflict. General Hodges presently commands the First Army with headquarters at Fort Bragg, N. C.

From private to four-star general is a route any soldier would like to travel—and Courtney Hicks Hodges is one who did! And in future years some of America's highest ranking officers will come from the ranks, from among men who made the army a career.