

### Let's Face Facts

Boom in Farm Values Looms Up as Menace To Economical Farmer

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Country America is headed directly into a land-boom spree, if something isn't done to stop it. Average farm land values rose nine per cent in 1942 over those of 1941. In 1943 the rise was 15 per cent—a boost of 25 per cent in two years—and values are still going up at a rate of at least 1 per cent a month.

In some areas the upward push has been even greater. In Kentucky,

for instance, crop controls for tobacco before the war and the abnormal demand for Burley leaf during the war have brought about an increase in farm land values of 70 per cent over the 1935-39 average. Out on the Pacific coast, the quest of thousands of war factory workers for security on the land and the increase in produce values meant a rise of 30 per cent to 50 per cent in farm land values during the same period.

The great rise in prices of farm commodities has induced many purchases for quick profit. A California land dealer reported the sale of a 1,000-acre rice farm at \$30 an acre—that's \$30,000—but the farmer who bought it was able to obtain more than \$50,000 for his crop in one year. A vineyard near Fresno valued at \$200 during the depression sold recently for \$8,000.

Even the land brokers are worried about the situation, despite down payments of one-third the selling price. No one expects farming to continue to be as profitable as it is now for an indefinite number of years, even if farm produce prices remain on a high level. The day when it will be hard for many purchasers to continue payments at the rate contracted for is foreseen by conservative land dealers.

#### War Bonds Preferred

Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard has urged repeatedly farmers who are making money to pay off mortgages and invest it in war bonds, rather than in more land, if by doing so they bid up the price to a point where it would become unprofitable to farm during periods of depression, especially if the buyer must give a heavy mortgage. It is clear that every farmer who so burdens himself with large installment payments will have to meet the competition of those who have paid off mortgages out of the \$94 billion income farmers have received in the last two years.

During a trip I made through the Middle West and South last winter I discovered that the most progressive farmers were very well aware of this situation, which is happening in greater or lesser degree in nearly every part of the country. They were particularly resentful of the men who have had comparatively little experience in farming, but now see a chance to make a quick cleanup on high markets.

Not only do these newcomers pay too much for their land, but without the perspective of years of experience, pay much higher wages to their help. This makes it especially difficult for the experienced farmers to keep good farm hands, especially in the face of demands of selective service and the competition of munitions industries.

The Farm Credit administration is doing what it can to retard the present tendency. Throughout the country it has refused to make loans based on sales at exorbitant prices. Its loan business has been greatly curtailed, and tenant farmers contemplating purchase are being advised to figure with care what they can reasonably expect to earn on a farm over a period of years and to base their purchases on such calculations, rather than on present commodity prices.

It has even been suggested that down payment of half of the price should be a legal requirement for any farm purchase.

#### Refuse to Match Speculators

There is little the individual farmer can do to check this growing menace, except to hold on to his farm and refuse to meet the competition for acreage of speculative farmers. But there is a good deal each can do, if he will inform himself of the situation in his own area and then let his congressman know about it.

He might also write directly to Senator Josiah W. Bailey of North Carolina, who has been named chairman of a subcommittee of the senate finance committee named to consider two bills introduced by Senator Guy M. Gillette of Iowa.

The other members of this group are Senators Robert M. La Follette Jr. of Wisconsin and Harry F. Byrd of Virginia. The Gillette bills would tax the profits from the resale of farm land within two years of purchase of 90 per cent, with diminishing taxes on resales up to six years.

Public hearings have not been held on these bills as yet and the subcommittee has made no report. A show of public interest in the matter undoubtedly would get some action.

### Seabees Open Ice Cream Parlor



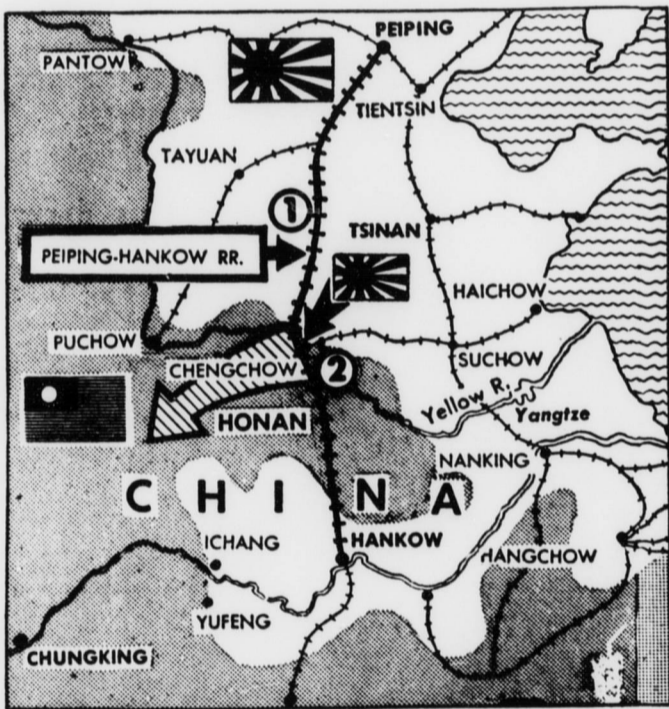
Destined for the scrap heap because many of its parts were worn out and could not be replaced, an ice cream manufacturing unit of Guadalcanal was salvaged and put in order by a naval construction battalion and now is turning out ice cream twice a week for Seabees and the marine unit to which they are attached.

### Pegging a Strike at a Jap Pillbox



A Jap pillbox has been located on Bougainville island, and Sergt. Charles H. Wolverton of the 37th division sticks out his tongue as he takes aim before letting a grenade fly to its target. These are two of the soldiers who beat back Jap counterattacks in the Empress Augusta Bay area in March, taking a toll of about 7,000 Jap dead.

### Rail Key Loss Perils Honan Province



Two critical situations face China as Jap drive along the Peiping-Hankow railroad (1) has resulted in the taking of Chengchow by the enemy (2), key points on the north-south line. As the map shows, Chengchow is on the northern rim of the Honan province, a great food-raising area. From Chengchow the rail line cuts across Chinese territory (indicated by dark areas).

### Prize-Winning Waste Paper Campaign Photo



The above picture won the national grand prize in the news picture contest sponsored by the U. S. victory waste paper campaign. It was entered by John Mendicino of the Chicago Sun. Award was a \$500 war bond plus \$200 war bond for first place in the East North-Central region. Prize winners were announced by Linwood I. Noyes, president of the ANPA.

### Watch Skies



This photo was made as General Eisenhower (arrow) was on an inspection tour of an RAF bomber wing, somewhere in England. With him at the control tower are, top left, Maj. Gen. L. H. Brereton, USAAF; top right, air marshal Sir Arthur Coningham; center left, group captain C. R. Dunlap. The general at lower left is unidentified.

### Sewell Avery Family



Sewell Avery, chairman of the board of Montgomery Ward & Co., Mrs. Avery, and their daughter, Nancy, shown after the annual meeting of the stockholders of the company, in Chicago. The Ward plant was seized under President Roosevelt's orders.

### Behind Firing Line



As if they didn't have enough shooting, these American doughboys who came back from the front line at Anzio beachhead for a rest, bang away at targets on the rifle range, somewhere in Italy.

### Miss Pan-America, '44



Lovely 19-year-old Virginia Warren of Miami, Fla., holds huge trophy presented to her, following her selection as Miss Pan-America of 1944, at a contest held in Miami.



### Things Few New Yorkers Know About New York

New York isn't all stone and steel. Staten Island is dotted with small towns and fertile farm lands, by cracker . . . There are about 600 Indians in our burg . . . The Stock Exchange has its own medical dept. and tailor . . . Most odorable spot in town is Front street, where the city's supply of coffee is roasted . . . You can find almost anything in Manhattan, including a lighthouse—at Fort Washington Point . . . New York's most expensive real estate is supposed to be Nassau street—as much as \$825 a square foot has been shelled out for property there. . . Meals in the city's hoosegows are planned by expert dieticians. No room service, however.

The tiny cemetery on Tenth street was the scene of our town's most macabre crime. The bones of a rich New Yorker, buried there, were once stolen and held for ransom. The remains were eventually recovered but the skeleton-nappers were never arrested . . . On Second avenue there is a 3, 9 and 19 cents store. Don't know the reason for the unusual prices . . . The stone fortifications that were used during the Revolutionary war can still be found near B way and 190th street . . . Six different streets meet at Sheridan square . . . Oldest named shop is the Chinese eatery called Hang Far Low . . . The clock tower at the north end of Battery park sounds the signals for the watches kept on shipboard . . . Wall street is only about seven blocks long, but it's the financial heart of 48 States.

For some unknown reason, above 58th street several avenues suddenly change their names. Eighth avenue becomes Central Park West; Ninth avenue becomes Columbus avenue; Tenth avenue becomes Amsterdam avenue; and Eleventh avenue becomes West End avenue . . . No one need go hungry or homeless on the streets of New York. The Dept. of Welfare is ready to provide food and shelter for all unfortunates. Then how come there are so many panhandlers? . . . Haunted house legends have grown up around the ancient brownstone mansion that adjoins Woodlawn cemetery. No one has lived there for more than a century and it's completely furnished.

Five stories below street level subterranean vaults at the Federal Reserve Bank are barred by doors weighing as much as 90 tons. The best air raid shelter in town . . . Juvenile delinquency isn't new. According to Police Dept. statistics, 50 per cent of the city's lawbreakers have always been under 25 years of age . . . Mayor LaGuardia has a tiger skin in his home to symbolize his victory over the Tammany tiger . . . Among the Weather bureau's unusual duties is collecting pollen to aid in the study of hay fever . . . Plenty of amusement spots in our town—over 700 legit theaters and movies.

You don't have to leave New York to enjoy natural scenery. The eye-filling sights along the Hudson are as beautiful as anything you'll find in any part of the world . . . A few New Yorkers who love to go to fires have private fire alarm boxes in their homes . . . Most popular part of the public library is its record booth where you can hear recordings gratis. You must make reservations two weeks in advance . . . For its post office in the RCA building, the gov't pays Radio City \$1.00 a year rent . . . There is a deserted theatre under Carnegie Hall . . . Swankiest elevators in town are at the New York Central edifice. Decorated with red Chinese lacquer and sky-blue ceiling . . . 50,000,000 pounds of food pour into New York every 24 hours.

Broadway is the city's oldest street. It was down early Broadway that a courier dashed shouting the news of the Battle of Lexington . . . More crimes have taken place on the Main Stem (between 47th and 49th streets) than in any other spot in town. No one knows exactly why. . . There is a huge warehouse in Radio City's sub-basement . . . The opulent house at 73rd street and Riverside drive that resembles a castle was erected by Charles M. Schwab and cost two and a half million . . . A unique subway station is the one at 190th street. It's carved out of the side of a cliff . . . No trick is missed in an effort to improve radio programs. NBC's studios are coated with a special sound-insulating glue . . . Inside the Brooklyn Bridge abutments are large catacombs. A department store used to cache its liquor there.

Exotic East Indian merchants can be found on lower Fifth avenue. They sell "priceless" gems. One merchant is named Mohammed Ali . . . The Bowery Diamond market is one of the burg's picturesque sights. Diamonds worth millions are bought and sold on the sidewalk in the midst of the poverty-stricken sector . . . George Washington's love for the drama helped make New York a theatrical center. When he lived in the Big Town, Gen. Washington rarely missed a first night.

**RHEUMATIC PAIN**  
Use only as directed. First bottle purchase price back if not satisfied. 60c and \$1.00. Today, buy C-223.

### DON'T LET CONSTIPATION SLOW YOU UP

When bowels are sluggish and you feel irritable, headachy, do as millions do—chew FEEN-A-MINT, the modern chewing-gum laxative. Simply chew FEEN-A-MINT before you go to bed, taking only in accordance with package directions—sleep without being disturbed. Next morning gentle, thorough relief, helping you feel swell again. Try FEEN-A-MINT. Tastes good, is handy and economical. A generous family supply costs only **FEEN-A-MINT 10¢**

**A Bomber Reports**  
From the Dutch we get this report turned in by a Netherlands pilot after he'd bombed a Japanese airstrip in occupied Netherlands East Indies: "Beg to report honorable airstrip has lost face."

**Mother says: PAZO for PILES**  
Relieves pain and soreness  
There's good reason why PAZO ointment has been used by so many millions of sufferers from simple Piles. First, PAZO ointment soothes inflamed areas—relieves pain and itching. Second, PAZO ointment lubricates hardened, dried parts—helps prevent cracking and soreness. Third, PAZO ointment tends to reduce swelling and check bleeding. Fourth, it's easy to use. PAZO ointment's perforated Pile Pipe makes application simple, thorough. Your doctor can tell you about PAZO ointment. **Get PAZO Today! At Drugstores!**

**Use Indian Dialects**  
The army often uses Indian dialects for messages since the enemy is unable to decipher them.

**FOR QUICK RELIEF CARBOIL**  
A Soothing ANTISEPTIC SALVE  
Used by thousands with satisfactory results for 40 years—six valuable ingredients. Get Carboil at drug stores or write Spurluck-Neal Co., Nashville, Tenn.

**SNAPPY FACTS ABOUT RUBBER**

Natural rubber is still something of a mystery, even after years of laboratory experiments. It has carbon and hydrogen, but there are other qualities which have not as yet been determined. Before the war, 60 per cent of the tires and tubes made each year were used as replacements, and 80 per cent of the new motor vehicles sold replaced those annually scrapped. Brazil rubber selling at \$3.06 a pound in 1910 stimulated the development of the Middle East plantations to the extent that 3,000,000 acres were under cultivation in 1915, providing the bulk of the world's supplies.

*Jerry Shaw*  
**In war or peace B.F. Goodrich**  
**FIRST IN RUBBER**

**To relieve distress of MONTHLY Female Weakness**  
Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is made especially for women to help relieve periodic pain with its weak, tired, nervous, blue feelings—due to functional monthly disturbances. Taken regularly—Pinkham's Compound helps build up resistance against such symptoms. Here is a product that helps nature and that's the kind to buy! Famous for almost a century. Thousands upon thousands of women have reported benefits. Follow label directions. Worth trying!  
**LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND**

**FOR ITCHING OF MINOR SKIN RASHES**  
get this medicated powder. Contains ingredients often recommended by many specialists for simple rashes, diaper rash and chafing. Mexsana soothes and forms coat of protection on tender skin. Costs little. Always demand Mexsana.

**SAVE YOUR SCRAP TO HELP GAIN VICTORY**  
Old METAL, RAGS, RUBBER and PAPER