

Let's Face Facts

USDA Report Biased Regarding Problem of Freight Equalization

By **BARROW LYONS**
WNU Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D. C.—

Under the guise of impartial and balanced analysis, the United States department of agriculture has just issued an extremely biased piece of propaganda, primarily in the interest of the railroads, but incidentally against the interests of the average farmer.

This propaganda is contained in the principal article of the June issue of the monthly release on the marketing and transportation situation, published by the bureau of agricultural economics. The article is devoted to inter-territorial freight rate differences.



Barrow Lyons

This report covers some of the points developed in studies made of freight rate discriminations against the South and West by two governmental bodies—the board of investigation and research and the Tennessee Valley authority.

The review is apparently an attempt to influence farmer opinion, and is in bad taste coming as it does when the Interstate Commerce commission has just completed final hearings in the freight rate equalization cases. It seems to be an attempt to undermine the determination of the South to obtain justice, for it raises broad doubts as to the wisdom of the South's position. In effect, it also casts doubt upon the position taken by President Roosevelt.

Important Data Omitted

Although the piece goes through the means of weighing carefully all factors involved, its presentation leaves out of consideration the most important and relevant data, namely, portrayal of the conditions which have given the South its tremendous determination to remove the handicaps that have retarded its industrialization, and the importance to southern agriculture that these handicaps be removed.

But not only does the department of agriculture presentation omit important facts, it subtly distorts some of the data which it presents. For instance, it shows that first-class freight rates are 39 per cent higher in the South than in Eastern industrialized territory, and all class rates taken together 33 per cent higher, but then goes on to minimize the significance of these facts. It recites that average revenue per ton-mile in the South is only 5.5 per cent greater than in the East, without making it clear that this is due largely to lower grade freight carried on southern roads. Nor does it anywhere envisage the advantages which would accrue from lower class rates.

This intensely lopsided presentation suggests that the railroads may have influenced the department of agriculture, perhaps through the instrumentality of large agricultural shippers, upon whom they have been working hard to oppose the southern governors' conference.

The truth is that a majority of the people of the South, and many in the West, have come to the realization that without greater industrialization their sections cannot hope to have the same advantages in education and material culture as the people of the East and Middle West. Poverty, illiteracy, bad health, ignorance will continue to oppress a large percentage of the people of the South and West until average income is raised through development of industry. Until then local governments cannot give their people the same advantages as people in other parts of the country.

Other Sections Unhurt

In no way can the industrialization of the South and West hurt the farmers of those areas. By increasing average income, industry will increase the consuming capacity of the South and West for all of the things the farmer grows. It can mean only the development of richer markets nearer to the farms. Industrialization of one region never injures the farmers of another region, but only expands the markets for the things he ships.

Even the big shippers, some of whom have been told that commodity rates might be raised if class rates were equalized, would not be losers, but would gain from increased prosperity anywhere.

True, progress has been made by industry in the South, even under the handicap of a 39 per cent class rate discrimination. Removal of this handicap would support one of the chief hopes we have of maintaining a high level of employment and income after the war.

Those who understand the great struggle between the small farmers and the big farmers, see in this freight rate situation just another phase of the conflict. By increasing the economic standards of the South, many small farmers would be enabled to operate more profitably, and enjoy more of the advantages of this modern age. On the other hand, by holding back the industrial growth of the South, many more small farmers would be forced to become hired hands on the growing plantations of the large farmers.

Supplies and Troops Continue to Roll In



Striking panorama of the French invasion beach was made by a coast guard combat cameraman from a hillside cut with trenches, in foreground, by ousted Nazi defenders. The channel is black with ships as reinforcements and supplies pour ashore to reinforce the troops to continue their advance southward. Barrage balloons float overhead to protect the landings. Until captured harbors have been repaired, and perhaps even later, the beachheads are being utilized to land men, supplies, munitions and food as well as hospital and canteen supplies now being furnished the invaders.

Nazi Collaborationist Loses 'Crowning Glory'



The French patriots made the punishment fit the crime (as any female who has had her "crowning glory" sheared will attest). Grande Guillotte, 23-year-old French girl was taken from her home by force and sheared of her long hair for collaborating with the Nazis. Many French patriots have joined together and have designated a large number of collaborationist suspects. While they have not announced the punishment to be given to all the men on the list, it looks as if the women will soon be missing their hair.

First Marines to Land in U. S.



The First marine division, with 2,743 happy members, arrived in San Diego after 26 months in the South Pacific. This unit struck America's first land blow at Japan at Guadalcanal. Their most recent action was on New Britain island where they drove out the Japs.

Marines Flush Out Japs



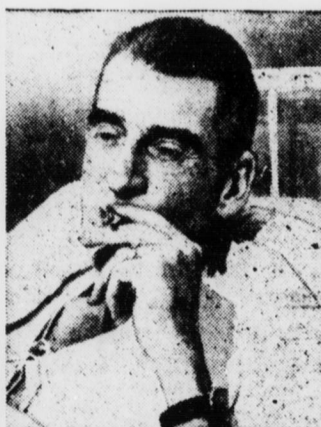
Saipan marines attacking a Jap position, flush the enemy out with demolition charges, and pick them off with rifle fire as they try to escape. The moment the photo was made marines had just killed a Nip who had tried to escape from his foxhole. Seven-eighths of the Saipan American losses were marines.

German Nurse Talks



Press interview is given by this German nurse, taken during fighting around Cherbourg. With other nurses she was later transported back to her lines while hostilities ceased.

Chief in Hospital



Injured while rescuing an enlisted man during the fierce fighting at Saipan, Marine Lieut. Col. E. F. Carlson, winner of navy cross, C. O. of the Carlson's Raiders.



Notes of an

Innocent Bystander:

The Intelligentsia: Sumner Welles "Time of Decision," a Book-of-the-Month special, is rated in Washington and London as the most important book yet on the diplomatic history of this war and the diplomatic future of the world. . . . Look mag's color photo of FDR was taken since his recent illness—the best of him yet. And you can't retouch technical color! . . . Anita Colby, the darling of the Stork, Morocco and Colony set (who made the Powers girl famous), is now feminine director of the Selznick Studios, if you will ped'n their lognette. . . . Eth Barrymore is being booked for a lecture tour. Her subject will be the "high points in the life of the Barrymores" . . . "A Soldier's Letter to Mrs. Luce," in the Nation, should be read by everybody. . . . A Waterbury editorialist complained about a New Yorker's one unimportant error in the same edition the editorialist's own paper apologized for three of its own. Haw! . . . Hero Commando Kelly's Satepost fee (\$25,000) and the \$25,000 from Zanuck were taxed \$13,000!

"Do Nothing Till You Hear From Me," which was high on the Hit Parade only a few broadcasts ago (and has garnered a mint for Duke Ellington), was written by Cootie Williams, Duke's ex-trumpet genius. Cootie peddled it to Ellington for \$25. . . . Its real name is: "Concerto for Cootie" . . . Rooms are so scarce in navy-crowded Norfolk, Va., that Herb Fields and his band (playing at the Palomar) had to rent six motor cars to sleep in. . . . The name Winchell appeared in the Congressional Record long before the current one started worrying those in Washington, who have good reason to worry. His name was Benj. Winchell. The oldest papers in the files of Congress relate to Ben and his son Ruggles. The papers date back to 1758. . . . Radio networks have altered the well-known lines of the song, "Beyond the Blue Horizon." The wordage—bes the rising sun—has been switched to "the setting sun."

Midtown Vignette: It happened in the Stork Club the other night. . . . Corp. Brod Crawford, former Hollywood actor, saw a lieutenant at the bar, a buddy from Movietown. . . . He greeted him by his first name, of course. . . . The lieutenant stiffened and in tones colder than Sophie Tucker's ice-box replied: "Address your superior officer as a soldier." . . . After 15 minutes of heated argument the session ended when the officer gave the corporal a direct order. . . . Infringement of which is punishable by a court martial. . . . A witness to the episode relayed it to a colonel seated in the rear. He was Col. Butch Morgan, one of the real tough guys who fly our fighting planes. He is the most decorated hero in this war. . . . Colonel Morgan walked over to the lieutenant and said: "Lieutenant, where do you know Corporal Crawford from?" . . . "Hollywood, sir," was the reply. . . . "What did you call him in Hollywood?" asked Colonel Morgan. . . . "I called him Brod," was the answer. . . . "Well," said the Colonel, "when you meet a friend off post, you address him by his first name, and don't go pulling your rank on him—and that's a direct order from your superior officer."

It has been estimated that 55,000,000 Americans go to the movies every week. The film industry is one place where mediocrity pays handsome dividends. Producers of B films are among America's highest paid executives. Those celluloids also reap the most loot. . . . Too many ambitious youngsters believe that beauty is the only qualification for film success.

Quotation Marksmanship: Raymond Moley: Walks as if balancing the family tree on his nose. . . . V. Kitchen: There's no use itching for something unless you're willing to scratch for it. . . . H. Savoy: She was as light as a feather, and she didn't weigh much either. . . . A. Bierce: A fork is an implement used by a civilized man to put dead things in his mouth. . . . Tom Eden: An American who takes off his coat for his country is worth 10 who just take off their hats to the flag. . . . Billy Sunday: Try praising your wife, even if it does frighten her at first. . . . J. Lorimer: The best way to hold a man is to make him want to hold you. . . . Maude Warren: Everybody is able to give pleasure in some way. One person may do it by coming into a room, another by going out.

Love Letter of the Week: From Printer's Ink and the page by Hugh E. Agnew, titled: "You are immature if you think: That everything currently popular is really good. . . . That smart and smart are synonymous. . . . That you could run the business better than the man who built it. . . . That clever copy is selling copy. . . . That the popular side is the right side. . . . That men over 50 seldom get new ideas. . . . That popular mediocrity is a criterion of taste. . . . That the majority is always right."

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WANTED—To get in touch with unemphered lady who would leave home and who understands chemie machines to make chemie bed spreads for private party in another city. Transportation furnished. Gilbert System Hotel, Jacksonville 3, Fla.

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FOR SALE

Motor Cruiser, 54x12x32; twin-stroke Sterling gasoline engines, 100 h. p. each; 3 cabins each with toilet, galley with 170-gallon electric oven; DeLco cover tanks. Designed by Cox & Stevens, built by Ginter, best in its class. Used little. Now in drydock, open to inspection. First time offered. Doubleton, 1001 N. W. 10th St., Stockton, Eau Gallie, Florida. Phone 2701.

Electric Saws & Drills—V. fine stock, also air hammers & drills. Lines of chainsaws, pipe cutters, paint, oilcan & roton. Hundreds of other items. Tools & more for the North. Write for catalog. Construction Co., Tallahassee, Fla., at Bond St., Jacksonville, Fla., call Mr. Beekham 5-036.

Fish 'Walks' on Water

The ribbon-bill fish can "walk" on the top of the water. It has been known to spin along upright on the surface of the sea for several hundred yards, giving it the appearance of walking on its tail.

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