

Latest Ship Loss Figures Of Allies Given In Report

Over 6,000,000 Tons of British, Allied, Neutral Craft Sunk

London — Britain, her allies and the neutrals lost 1,098 ships aggregating 4,734,407 tons in the year since the Nazi invasion of the Low Countries, new Admiralty statistics show.

This chiefly, is the toll of British, Allied and neutral shipping in the Battle of the Atlantic but the totals include Britain's losses in the Dunkerque withdrawal in May and June, 1940, and the withdrawal from Greece last month.

From the state of the war to the end of April, according to Admiralty figures, British, Allied and neutral ships lost total 6,078,330 tons in all.

The admiralty arrived at this figure by adding an unspecified number of ships of 117,286 tons lost at Dunkerque to the regular list of 1,443 ships totaling 5,961,044 tons.

Broken down, these figures show 885 of the ships were British, totaling 3,810,541 tons, and 558 were Allied and neutral vessels totaling 2,150,503 tons.

(American shipping men estimated early this year that, at the rate of operations so far, it would take Germany at least another year to whittle Britain's merchant fleet down to its pre-war total of 21,000,000 tons. This was based on an estimate of about 5,500,000 tons lost and about 8,000,000 tons acquired from Norway, The Netherlands, Belgium, France, Denmark and the United States, through last January.)

A part of the press criticized the luzzard release of the figures.

The Evening News, placing shipping losses for the entire war at a total of at least 8,078 tons, said, "the people of America naturally want to know, within reason, the full facts of the situation before the vital decision on conveying of Allied cargoes by United States warships is made by their government."

The paper asserted that "officialdom has excelled itself more in inertia and stupidity" than in its failure heretofore to bring home to all

Housewives Begin Blanket Storage

The arrival of warm weather means putting away those blankets which will not be needed again until next fall, says Miss Pauline Gordon, extension home management and house furnishing specialist of N. C. State College.

A warm spring day when the sun is shining and a light wind blowing is an excellent time to wash out the soil of winter and store blankets out of the reach of moths.

Miss Gordon explained that the warmth of a blanket depends upon a soft, fluffy nap. Wool fibres are soft, crimped and scaly. When a wool blanket is placed in warm soapy water, the fibres become softened or plastic. If the blanket is subjected to hard rubbing or wringing, the fibres tend not only to creep up on each other, but to stick together.

Because of the danger of wool shrinkage and matting of the wool when it is washed, every homemaker should understand the rules of washing blankets properly. Since wool cannot stand too much cold or too much heat, only lukewarm water should be used for washing and rinsing. The temperature of the water should never be above 90 degrees F.

The second thing to remember, Miss Gordon said, is to use soft water and mild neutral soap, never a strong laundry soap. Two table-spoonsful of borax to each tub of water should be added if the water needs softening. If a sediment forms, the water should be strained.

Water should be squeezed, not twisted, out of a blanket. If a wringer is used, the blanket should be folded flat and the tension on the rolls released to avoid crushing the nap.

Interested Britons and Americans the "grim lessons" of the shipping losses.

"The storm blown up in America among interventionists, isolationists and those in between over shipping losses is an inevitable consequence of the middle and mismanagement in the information services of this country."

The Star said "the clumsy treatment of the news of shipping losses has given isolationists and pro-Germans in the United States a useful lever."

During April losses were 488,124 tons, the Admiralty disclosed, a total surpassed by only two previous months in the year—June, 1940, when 533,302 tons were sent to the bottom, and March of this year when the total reached 489,229.

Included in the April losses, however, were 187,054 tons sunk in the recent "intensive operations" in the Mediterranean, the Admiralty said.

Subtracting of this Mediterranean total from the whole of the April losses shows that only 301,070 tons were sent to the bottom in other naval war theaters last month.

Thus, omitting the cost of the Greek withdrawal, Britain's mercantile losses were less in April than in any month in the one-year period except the first month—May, 1940—when total losses were 248,650 tons.

Packing to Leave Antarctica



Members of the Byrd Antarctic expedition are shown getting things in order before leaving Antarctica. Most of the equipment was left behind. Bottom, a group of penguins are herded into line by Navy Aviation Machinist Mate Orville E. Gray. Background is the snow cruiser. Top, Old Glory waves over the almost buried camp at the West Base of the frozen land at the bottom of the world.

Farm Taxes Are Found Regressive

A series of studies recently completed by 30 of Iowa's 1,000 county agricultural planning committees concluded that "Tax assessments on farm land are never (well, hardly ever) closely related to the productive value of the land."

They discovered:

1. Very little relationship between assessed value and productivity.
2. Only slightly more relationship between assessed value and sale value, and
3. Without exception a pronounced tendency for all land to be assessed very near a predetermined township average value.

Good land was found to bear much less tax burden in proportion to its income-producing capacity than poor land. "Where good land is assessed at anywhere from 40 per cent to 65 per cent of its sale value, poor land in some cases has been found to have been assessed as much as 600 per cent of its sale value." Moreover, "high-value lands in northern Iowa are under-assessed compared with the poor quality land in southern Iowa."

This concern with the tax problem may seem like locking the barn after the horse is stolen, since, according to the 1940 census, 47.6 per cent of Iowa farms were already operated by tenants. From 1930 to 1940 over 6,600 farmers were foreclosed and lost their farms because of failure to pay delinquent taxes alone.

Nevertheless, many of the 88,206 full owners in Iowa in 1940 would benefit greatly from a more equitable tax system. While taxes based on ability to pay, that is income tax, would be the fairest type, such farmers would find some relief merely in a method of assessment reflecting the productivity of their land.

Incubators Take Up Job of 'Setting Hen'

The old "setting hen" is being put out of business by artificial methods of incubation. Commercial and semi-commercial poultrymen now depend almost entirely on incubators as a source of baby chicks.

In recognition of this trend, the N. C. State College Extension Service has published a circular (No. 249) entitled "Incubation". It describes both natural and artificial methods of incubation, and points out the advantages of artificial incubation from the standpoint of disease and parasite control, and mass production.

A copy of the circular may be obtained free upon request to the Agricultural Editor, N. C. State College, Raleigh. County farm and home agents also will have supplies of the publication.

The text for the circular was prepared by Prof. R. S. Dearstyne, head of the State College Poultry Department, and C. F. Parrish, T. T. Brown, and C. J. Maupin, Extension poultry specialists. The 12-page publication is well-illustrated.

In discussing the advantages and disadvantages of the two methods of incubation, the State College poultrymen wrote: "While much has been said, pro and con, about replacing stock and by the use of setting hens, there has not as yet been developed artificial incubator that will hatch a higher percent of fertile eggs than the hen."

"However, the chief disadvantages of this system lie, first in the fact that broody hens are not always available at the time they are desired; second, large numbers of eggs cannot usually be set at the same time; and third, the possibility of lice spreading from the hen to the young chicks."

The publication puts stress on the use of suitable eggs for hatching purposes.

Arrangements have been completed for the resumption of tobacco exports to England under provisions of the Lease-Lend bill to bolster the dwindling support of flue-cured leaf.

Poultry specialists of Iowa State College have developed an "egg-saver" machine that makes possible the removal of infertile eggs after 15 to 20 hours of incubation.

Taxes May Bring Change In Classes

While the reaction to the Treasury department's proposal for upping taxes by \$3,500,000 is still much less



Cupid Has Wings

George Vieira, buck private at Camp Roberts, Paso Robles, Cal., and his former dancing partner, Marjorie Keeler, leave Los Angeles by plane for Las Vegas, Nev., where they were married. The rush was necessary because the bridegroom was on a two-day furlough. The bride is the sister of Ruby Keeler, former screen actress.

As Incendiary Literature, The Impending Crisis Rivalled Uncle Tom's Cabin

A "Helper" was born more than one hundred years ago near Mocksville, N. C. His full name was Hinton Rowan Helper. This son of the southern soil wrote a book that caused as much excitement in many sections of America as Stowe's Uncle Tom's Cabin. He published, in 1857, The Impending Crisis: How To Meet It.

Helper had definite opinions concerning the economic handicap under which the South labored as a result of slavery. He was not of the wealthy planter class, and to him the institution of slavery was all wrong.

The Impending Crisis states a number of facts concerning northern and southern states to show that manufacturing, commerce, and population increased in free northern states much more rapidly than in southern slave states. After comparing conditions, he concluded that the examples of much greater economic and social progress in free states was due to there being no slaves, and that the lack of such progress in southern states was the result of using slave labor. The thousand and one other conditions which have an effect upon progress were overlooked.

Helper's book was immensely popular in the North and was used by the Republican party as campaign literature. Its appeal within the ranks of the newly organized Republicans was due to its telling the story of slavery in the very manner they wished to believe it.

The Carolina writer studied census reports and cited the following population statistics: "In 1790, Massachusetts contained 378,717 inhabitants; in the same year North Carolina contained 393,751; in 1850, the population of Massachusetts was 994,514, all freemen; while that of North Carolina was only 869,939."

Concerning trade, he stated, "In 1853, the exports of Massachusetts amounted to \$16,895,304, and her imports to \$41,367,956; during the same time . . . the exports and imports of North Carolina were so utterly insignificant that we are ashamed to record them." All these differences were attributed to slavery. There is no mention of our dangerous coast

which caused much of our export and import trade to clear through ports in South Carolina and Virginia. The advantage in favor of the increase in value of manufacturing, mining, and mechanic arts in Massachusetts is likewise explained by Helper by saying the New England state was free and North Carolina was slave.

Truly, The Impending Crisis was a rival of Uncle Tom's Cabin as incendiary literature in the years just before the War between the States.

Egg Route Worked Out For Farmers Of Jones, Onslow

An egg route has been worked out for farmers of Jones and Onslow Counties which will take eggs on a graded basis, reports Jack Kelly, assistant farm-agent.

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vociferous and plaintive than had been expected, "tax fear" of middle income groups may combine with expanding income of factory workers to bring a change in lineup of the country's spending groups, at least temporarily. Such a trend is seen in increased spending of the latter—mostly for household appliances, new bathrooms and kitchens, furniture, carpets, clothes, etc.—while the former, those in income-tax-paying brackets, begin to watch their pennies lest year's tax-paying time find them in the hole. Actually, congressional mail has brought more letters from "willing-to-pay" patriots than from objectors, so far as the individual income is concerned. Likewise, most business interests seem to be withholding objection, probably on the ground that it would not be good business policy to resist a burden that will be put upon them, willy-nilly.

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