



WHO'S NEWS THIS WEEK

By LEMUEL F. PARTON
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NEW YORK.—It would appear that the blizzard of report forms with which war agencies snow under business isn't entirely premeditated and somebody ought to do something about it, if anybody can. At any rate, the War Production board co-operates with a committee of business men who will try to cut down the paper overhead, by evolving simplified systems of reporting and accounting. They are waist deep in government blanks and battling their way out. The government seems sympathetic.

Hearing the newly organized defense forces against the paper blitz is W. J. Donald, president of the American Trade Association Executives. He is chairman of a special advisory committee which will work with the WPB, a King Canute wielding a valiant broom against the paper inundation.

Possibly this is the "managerial revolution," which young Prof. James Burnham described in his provocative book of a year or so ago. At any rate, Mr. Donald is a fair laboratory sample of the oncoming men of management of the professor's discourse, a John the Baptist in the managerial wilderness for many years, urging the managers to shake a leg and do something on their own account before being swamped by the bureaucrats. He was director of the American Management Association from 1921 to 1932, scolding the managers, during this period for being "too smug" and not considering what might happen to them unless the metes and bounds between management and finance and management and government were more clearly defined and regarded.

Mr. Donald, Canadian born, naturalized in 1923, naturally will have to use up a lot more paper in his education and explorative campaign among the individual members of 1,200 trade associations, whom he will consult. He wants comments and suggestions. In Sarina, Ont., where he was born in 1890, he attended the Sarnia Collegiate institute, and later was graduated from McMaster university at Hamilton, Ont. He came here in 1911 as manager of the installation staff of the American City bureau, making his U. S. A. career in business economics.

NEWS values shrink like depreciated currency in time of overissue. Col. Robert L. Scott Jr. caught eight or ten lines in the paper when he flew over Mt. Everest, clearing the highest mountain in the world by a full mile. For the young colonel, this was a detail of a work-a-day hop from India to China.

War reputations build like a coral reef. Off and on for the last few weeks there has been a dribble of news about the long, lanky, Colonel Scott of Macon, Ga., working himself as a "one-man air force" in Burma and China. On June 26 he succeeded Col. Caleb V. Haynes as chief of the India-China air command. That means that he and the 21st pursuit squadron, which he commands, are the heirs of the "Flying Tigers," or the American Volunteer group which bombed its way to glory along the Burma road.

Early in this encounter, Colonel Scott demonstrated what we have fondly supposed to be our national aptitude for quick and resourceful action. A troop of Japanese was moving steadily up the Chindwin river in West Burma. The colonel had only a small pursuit plane. He swung a 550-pound bomb in it, and with it scored a bulls-eye on the advancing troop. These and similar exploits won him a silver star.

He is a former West Pointer, 34 years old, indentured in rough and tumble flying, when, with Colonel Haynes, he flew the mails, in 1934. He later commanded the 78th pursuit squadron in Panama.

Colonel Scott celebrated his 34th birthday by piloting a Flying Fortress across the South Atlantic to India and making a quick jump to North Assam in a Tomahawk Fighter.

It seems to this onlooker that the new OWI would do well to piece together the stories of self-starters like the colonel and deal them as hot news. The necessity of planning and organization being what it is, the fact remains that these lads are the real spark plugs of our fighting forces and the public would like to receive more news of them.

Six Million Farmers Throughout U. S. Producing World's Largest Food Crop

War Material Vital, but Soldiers and Workers Must Get Nourishing Food

Uncle Sam's farm—the whole United States—will produce this year the biggest food crop in the world's history! Harvesting of this planned production for the war effort has begun and the immensity of it all is an all-time tribute to the American farmer.

Off Uncle Sam's farm assembly line every minute of every day throughout 1942 are coming something like 104,000 quarts of milk,

Take that swift-winged army Aeroplane plane up there. In its wings, tail and fuselage are 650 square feet of cotton linen.

Yes, Uncle Sam's farmers are turning out war crops this year. Corn and wheat, for example. Most of it goes for feed and food, but some is used in making ethyl alcohol which in turn is employed in making explosives, synthetic rubber and other products.

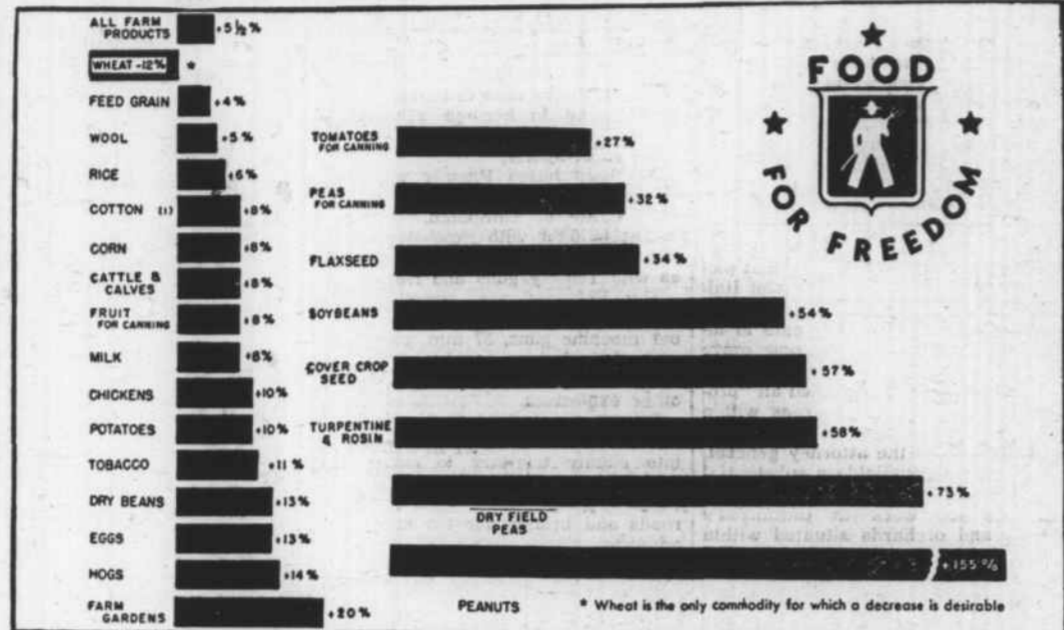
Peanuts and soybeans are used to make oil which replaces other oils employed in cooking, and releases them for use in nitro-glycerine explosives. Oil from soybeans and flaxseed is used in the paint and varnish covering our ships and planes. Flax is a source of linen for parachute harnesses and rigging. Wool from our sheep makes uni-

guns turned out this year will be determined largely by the kind and amount of food our workers eat. The newest type planes need high

Milk and Shipping
In 1942 we are building 8 million tons of shipping—a tremendous amount. But the farmers of Minnesota and Iowa alone will produce more than 8 million tons of milk in 1942.

octane gas no more than our war workers need highly nutritious foods.

Better Food Means More Guns.
Good food, in fact, can be translated more or less directly into guns. For example, the British minister of labor has said to our agricultural



American farm goals for 1942, showing increase over 1941 production.

45,000 pounds of potatoes, 73,000 pounds of beef, veal, pork and lard. Think of it! EVERY MINUTE.

If you saw the U. S. navy riding majestically in a sea of milk, chances are you'd call it a nightmare. But could be! Our farmers this year are scheduled to produce 57 billion quarts of milk—more than enough to float not only our navy but every battleship, aircraft carrier, cruiser, destroyer and submarine owned by the United States, Britain, Russia and all the other United Nations combined.

If you are good at mental pictures, maybe you can visualize 50 billion eggs. That's enough eggs to make a line reaching seven times from the earth to the moon.

Or 22 1/2 billion pounds of meat—enough to pave seven four-lane highways an inch thick from New York to San Francisco—seven of them.

Or 91 million acres of corn—an area one-fifth larger than Italy and Sicily combined.

But why all this production of food and fiber? It isn't a part of our victory plan to drown the Nazis in milk or to bombard the Japs with eggs and potatoes.

Farmers Build Planes and Ships.
Well, food and fiber are not merely so many bags of wheat and so many bales of cotton. They are Flying Fortresses and big battleships, like the Washington and the North Carolina; and aircraft carriers, like the Wasp; and General Grant tanks; and workers in the factories and brave men at the front. Those are the crops our farmers are harvesting this year in 3,022 counties of the United States.

forms for soldiers and clothes for civilians. Aviators' jackets, pants, helmets, and boots are lined with shearing sheep skins. In fact, the average soldier uses 100 pounds of wool a year, against an average of 2 1/2 pounds for civilians.

But vital as are these materials for our weapons of war, they are much less important than the food which nourishes our workers and sustains our fighters. Food is one essential without which no man can fight or work.

Bataan Proved It.
Look at Bataan to see how true that is. Look at Bataan to see the importance of food. According to reports, mule meat and rice were all our forces had to eat from early February until the time of ultimate surrender. We just couldn't get through to them with enough pork and beef to do them any good. And what happened? Our last counter-attack failed, not because of bullets or bombs, but because of sheer exhaustion. A shortage of food and sleep had drained out almost the last dregs of vitality. Bataan fell only after its defenders no longer had the physical strength to stand.

That time, food worked for the enemy. Given the shipping, six million American farmers are determined that from now on food shall work for us. They know that today a tractor used in production of food is just as important as a tank on the battlefield. They know that what they do on their farms is important.

The number of planes, tanks and

officials: "Give us the meat, eggs, and cheese, and we'll increase production 15 to 20 per cent."

Again, an appalling loss of production is suffered annually through sickness of workers. In 1941 more than 20 times as many man-days were lost by sickness as by strikes. The most common sickness is the ordinary cold, and the best preventive for it is a good diet.

So, it's the job of our farmers to keep our men fit—as fit as our machines. It's their job to provide the vitamin A which helps fliers see at night; the vitamin B which helps curb sea-sickness, nervousness and digestive troubles; the vitamin C which wards off scurvy, bad teeth, irritability, listlessness and plagues which in the World War took a bigger toll of lives than bombs, bullets, shells and gas combined.

Yes, vitamins and good food are war weapons. But to get them—and especially to get the right amounts of the right things—is a colossal task.

That is why goals are just as necessary for agriculture as they are for plane or tank manufacturers. We want a specific number of fortresses, or medium bombers, or pursuit ships, or training planes.

So, too, in agriculture, we want a specific amount of pork, of beef, of milk, and all other farm products. Fortunately, our farmers are ready for the job. Eight months before Pearl Harbor they began turning out war products requested by the British for lend-lease shipment. Three months before Pearl Harbor, farmers were fully organized on a war-time basis.

Farm Production Is Planned

On April 3, 1941, Secretary of Agriculture Wickard called for a big expansion in the products which the British had just made known they would need under lend-lease: evaporated and dry skim milk, cheese, eggs and pork. And our farmers set out to see that neither our own folks nor the British would run short.

During the summer of 1941—still several months before Pearl Harbor—the department of agriculture went to work on a plan to get war production goals for all farm products. The production goal idea had been used for years by Triple-A on basic crops, but it was a new departure to apply it to all farm products. It meant estimating our own needs, those of our Allies, the allowances necessary for food reserves, and finally the ability of farmers to produce. It meant breaking down the national goals into state, county, and finally into individual farm goals. It meant the contacting of practically every producer by a Triple-A farmer commit-tee man.

Size of this undertaking is almost beyond comprehension. The six million farm plans in the United States are more than twice as many as all the other business establishments in the country—factories, mines, oil stations, country stores, city retail shops. To get six million farmers co-operating in war production is by far the biggest job of subcontracting of the entire war. But it has been done—and the United States is the only nation that has gone into this war with plenty of food ammunition.



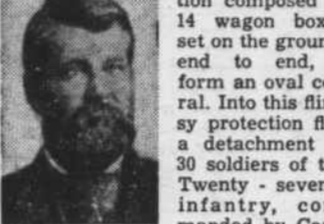
Released by Western Newspaper Union.

The Wagon Box Fight

AUGUST 2 of this year marks the 75th anniversary of one of the most remarkable engagements in American military history. That was the Wagon Box fight on Little Piney creek near the present town of Story, Wyo., and it is noteworthy for several reasons.

With the possible exception of "Custer's Last Stand" on the Little Big Horn river in Montana in 1876, no other Indian fight has been more written-about nor inspired more fiction masquerading as fact. Certainly no other event in Plains warfare ever resulted in more extravagant statements as to the number of Indian opponents and losses inflicted upon them, even though the white man invariably exaggerated both in telling or writing about his battles with the red man.

The Wagon Box fight is so named because it was fought in and around a small fortification composed of 14 wagon boxes set on the ground, end to end, to form an oval corral. Into this flimsy protection fled a detachment of 30 soldiers of the Twenty-seventh infantry, commanded by Capt. J. W. Powell.



Capt. J. W. Powell

Lieut. J. C. Jenness, when, on the morning of August 2, 1867, they were attacked by a force of nearly 1,000 Sioux and Cheyenne warriors.

The soldiers had recently been supplied with new breech-loading rifles, a vast improvement over the old muzzle-loaders of Civil War days and they had nearly 7,000 rounds of ammunition for these weapons. But, despite this fact, it seemed like a forlorn hope for them, for they were outnumbered 300 to 1 and the memory of the disaster which had overtaken Capt. W. J. Fetterman and his 80 men the previous December was fresh in their minds.

Resolved to sell their lives as dearly as possible, they immediately opened fire on the savages who began riding in an ever-narrowing circle around the corral and for the next three hours they fought off repeated attacks by the Indians, both mounted and on foot, until they were rescued by a relief party from Fort Phil Kearney, six miles away. One of the remarkable features of this fight was the number of charges made by the Indians and the determination with which they pushed



This inconspicuous "monument" (a section of iron pipe capped with a brass plate) marks the site of one of the fiercest battles in Indian warfare—the Wagon Box fight.

home their attacks in the face of the incessant fire from the breech-loaders of the defenders of the corral. Both were unparalleled in the history of Indian warfare.

In view of these facts, the wonder is that the Indian casualty list was not larger than it actually was. After the battle Powell reported that his men had killed 60 Indians and wounded more than 100 while suffering a loss of three soldiers killed, including Lieutenant Jenness, and three wounded. Some of his men later boosted the Indian losses to 300 killed and wounded.

Then the myth-makers got busy. It started with Col. Richard I. Dodge in his book "Our Wild Indians," published in 1882. He set the number of Indians at 3,000 and their losses at 1,137 killed and wounded. Later "historians" repeated his figure of 3,000 warriors but reached a new height of absurdity by placing their losses at 1,500!

Indian participants tell a vastly different story. They say their losses were six killed and six wounded. This is a bit too conservative, especially for the number wounded, but it is probably much nearer reality than the usual accounts by the white man.

In his biography of Chief White Bull, who was in the Wagon Box fight (published under the title of "Warpath" by the Houghton Mifflin company), Stanley Vestal, who is probably the best authority today on the Sioux wars from 1866 to 1891, points out that Indian losses rarely ran to more than 1 or 2 per cent and that the highest known casualty list in all Sioux history was only 15 per cent. Therefore, says Mr. Vestal, "even Captain Powell's estimate is fantastic." Certainly the claim of a 50 per cent loss is preposterous.

Reich Has 90,000 British Captives

Of These 6,000 Are Said to Be Civilians Ranging From Children Up.

LONDON.—The first authentic account of life among British captives in Germany, showing that letters home paint a rosier picture of conditions than they really are, is contained in a pamphlet, "Prisoners of War," published on behalf of the war organization of the British Red Cross society and the Order of St. John of Jerusalem.

These prisoners number about 90,000, of whom some 6,000 are civilian internees, ranging from a little girl of five to elderly men.

The chief worry is food, and here the Red Cross is doing a magnificent job. The ordinary diet is covered by the International Convention, giving prisoners the same scale of rations as the depot troops of the detaining country. It is a low standard for British and Dominion troops, though it will keep a man from starving.

Some Bright Spots.
The Red Cross, with its affiliated groups, tries to supply each prisoner with a parcel worth 10s. of good things every week, plus tobacco, and these—after considerable trouble in the early days—now get through regularly, and are the bright spots in the men's lives.

But once the men have ceased to be hungry, the mental stagnation has to be coped with. It is the waste of years of their lives that gets them down. They have to rely on their own ingenuity to keep their minds active, and the Red Cross tries to provide the means to keep them from becoming despondent.

Reading, the universal resource, shows interesting trends. Substantial books—biography and the classics—are in great favor, many men finding their first opportunity for serious reading. Detective novels are not as popular as Wild West or adventure stories. Chess and other indoor games are sent, including table tennis.

Among the British sport is always a necessity. The Red Cross sports committee sends equipment to every camp. Men in working parties (many prefer laboring to camp life, as it passes the time) do not have the time or energy for hard exercise.

Football and Cricket.
But conditions vary from camp to camp and if any sort of playing field can be arranged there are usually men eager to kick a football or play cricket (leather cricket balls are banned as are baseball bats which might be used as clubs). International matches have been played, also games against German teams. In some camps bathing is possible.

Prisoners are entitled to, and receive, medical attention. Some German doctors have had remarkable successes in plastic surgery. As in everything else, treatment varies, and British doctors, who are nearly always among the prisoners, send to the Red Cross lists of special diets, drugs, false teeth and spectacles required. A section for the blind gets special care, with co-operation from St. Dunstan's. Braille watches, card games and textbooks go out, so that those blinded in war can fit themselves to take their place in the post-war world.

Nearly every camp gets up its theatrical shows. Among the prisoners are danceband leaders, actors and singers, many famous, and the concerts (instruments from the Red Cross) are a source of pride as well as of solace.

Food Rationing Coming In Year, Canadians Told

OSHAWA, ONT.—Canadians face rationing of essential foodstuffs within the next year or so, probably on a basis similar to that now employed in Britain, according to Attorney General Gordon Conant. Speaking here, Conant blamed the federal government for the present acute shortage of farm labor and contended that the government's failure to apply selective service two years, or even one year ago, had resulted in the present serious situation.

Bunker Hill Monument Is Closed for Duration

BOSTON.—Bunker Hill monument, completed just 100 years ago, has been closed to the public for the duration. Commanding a sweeping view of Boston Navy yard and important harbor installations, the 220-foot granite obelisk has drawn tens of thousands of tourists to its observation tower down through the years. It took 17 years to build this historic shrine, Lafayette having laid the cornerstone in 1825.

Britons Fled Base In Nazi Transport

Escape in Own Staff Car With Enemy Convoy.

MATRUH, EGYPT.—Two young British lieutenants revealed that they had escaped after the fall of Tobruk by joining a German motor convoy in an imperial command staff car and riding comfortably into Egypt.

When the procession got too slow for them they blew the horn and the German trucks pulled over. There were so many captured British vehicles in the convoy the Germans didn't notice that British lieutenants were driving one.

The lieutenants—R. P. Beaugreen of London and H. F. Briggs of Hull—said that before the fall of Tobruk all of their artillery except one gun was knocked out by the Germans.

After Tobruk fell, a German armored car roared up the coast and took them prisoners. While the Germans were busy the lieutenants stole a British staff car. Several had been taken over by German Field Marshal Erwin Rommel for his own use, but they didn't realize it until they passed two sentries. They expected to be shot; instead they received the Nazi salute.

"Then we joined a German convoy moving east," Lieutenant Briggs related. "There were so many British vehicles with it, Jerry took no notice."

They weren't found out until they reached Bardia, near the Egyptian-Libyan frontier. A sentry tried to stop them, they said, but "our staff car was going almost 50 miles an hour and we nearly ran him down." The Germans gave chase, but failed to catch them.

Within the British lines they were severely shelled before they succeeded in "surrendering" and identifying themselves.

Rebuilds Radio on Ferry Plane Despite Injury

LONDON.—Despite the fact that the blood was flowing freely from his injured hand, Alexander Sutton, 19 years old, of Glasgow, a wireless operator on board an American bomber being ferried to Britain, dismantled his radio when it broke down and reassembled it unaided. The bomber was about halfway across the North Atlantic when the radio went wrong. It was midnight, and there was little light by which to make repairs.

Knowing that the captain of the plane depended on getting wireless bearings, Sutton decided to dismantle the whole set.

He had memorized the blueprint and he started in almost pitch darkness to carry out the difficult task. After two and a half hours, he got the set going again, but the captain was astonished to see the boy saturated in blood. He had gashed his hand while dismantling the set, and the fact that the bomber had been flying at over 20,000 feet had caused the blood to spurt freely from the wound.

Use Dry Ice Instead of Powder in Militia Guns

DENVER.—Col. Clyde E. Hill, commander of the Colorado defense force, has announced that the unit will be armed with "dry ice" guns to replace the Springfield rifles taken over by the army. Hill explained that the new weapon is powered by gas from dry ice which propels a bullet with the same velocity as a powder-burning cartridge.

Ray J. Monner, Denver, designed the dry ice gun which he said had been demonstrated to the war department. The rifle shoots a .22 caliber bullet. Its operation is based on the fact that gas evaporating from solid carbon dioxide (dry ice) exerts about 1,170 pounds of constant pressure per square inch in the gun's magazine. A trigger opens a valve, releasing the gas pressure and discharging the bullet. One loading of dry ice, Monner said, would fire 1,600 rounds of ammunition.

Must Put Up With Noisy War Plant, Judge Says

DETROIT.—If you're bothered by a noisy war plant near your home, don't tell Traffic Judge George T. Murphy about it. Residents around a tool and die company complained that the plant, going day and night, had a noisy blower on the roof. "I'll not waste much time on complaints like these," said Judge Murphy as he dismissed the charges, then asked the complainants: "Would you rather hear falling bombs or the noisy blower on a war plant?"

WAAC to Use 'Mam' In Lieu of Army 'Sir'

DES MOINES.—It'll probably be "Yes, mam," "No, mam," in the women's army. Obviously, the "sir" which every buck private and junior officer addresses a superior officer is hardly suitable. Officials at the WAAC training school said "mam" probably will be the substitute.



Threshing wheat in Bartholomew county, Indiana. This picture was taken on the Perry Thompson farm at the height of activities.

Triple-A Committeemen Enlist Farm Cooperation

Even while Japanese bombs were exploding on Hickam Field and spreading ruin over Hawaii and the Philippines, Triple-A committeemen were covering the country enlisting farmer co-operation—voluntary co-operation. There were shortages to contend with—shortages of labor, shortages of machinery and equipment, shortages of burlap, baling wire, and dozens of other supplies. The state and county war boards have worked with every available agency to keep shortages from holding production. Most of the goals were set higher than production had ever been before. Only a few were lower. Wheat, for example, was down 12 per cent from the 1941 level because there was already a two-year supply of wheat on hand. We couldn't afford to use land, labor, and materials for a crop that isn't needed, any more than we can now afford to build pleasure cars and luxury gadgets.