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In Rope Plants

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

1943 Record Breaking Tax Measure **Clears Final Congressional Hurdle:** United Nations Hunt Subs Off Africa; U. S. Objective: a 'Young Man's Army'

(EDITOR'S NOTE: When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of Western Newspaper Union's news analysis and not necessarily of this newspaper.)



Left: William Jeffers, rubber administrator, visiting a synthetic rub-Left: William Jeners, rubber administrator, vising a synthetic rub-ber plant in Akron, Ohio. Jeffers appears to be taking a bite of the coagulated rubber, sinking his teeth into an extremely complex problem. Center: Wendell L. Willkie as he entered the White House to report to President Roosevelt the results of a 31,000-mile aerial trip of 17 countries. Willkie is emphatic in favoring a second front. Right: Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson as he testified before the house military affairs com-mittee in connection with the lowering of the draft age from 20 to 18.

TAXES: Set a Record

Everybody agreed that it was

coming but when the record break-ing 1943 tax bill cleared the final congressional hurdle the public hesi-tated for a moment to look it over and then pushed on with their jobs in the nation's war effort. Analyz-ing the provisions of the bill as agreed upon by senate and house conferees in speedy action this is what the public learned:

The treasury estimated that federal revenues would be increased by just under seven billion dollars-\$6,881,830,000, to be exact.

Normal income tax rates were stepped up from 4 to 6 per cent. Surtaxes which formerly ranged from 6 to 77 per cent have now been set at from 13 to 82 per cent.

A new tax-called the 'Victory tax' -was imposed on all income larger than \$624 per year. (This meant a gross tax on all wages over \$12 a week, although a portion of the tax will be rebatable at the end of the war, the amount of rebate would vary.)

Personal income tax exemptions were reduced from \$1,500 to \$1,200 for married persons and from \$750 to \$500 for single persons. Credit for dependents at the same time was reduced from \$400 to \$350.

There are many other provisions to the bill but these were the ones which John Q. Citizen was going to feel most directly. He would notice, too, however, that there were increased excise taxes on such items as liquor, beer, wine, cigarettes, cigars, lubricating oil, slot machines. photographic apparatus, train, bus, and plane fares. He would also no-tice increased corporation taxes but

PACIFIC: Showdown

There was a new name in the dispatches and official communiques reporting the results of the show down battle for control of the Solo won islands and ultimate suprema-cy in the whole South Pacific bat-tle zone. The name was Buin—a strong Japanese base in the northern Solomons. It was here that the United Nations learned the Jap had concentrated a good share of his

striking power. Buin is located on the southern end of an island (Bougainville) and is less than two hours away from Guadalcanal by bomber and only one day's run for Jap ships. Yet to reach this point, U. S. planes based at Port Moresby, New Guinea had to fly over 700 miles of moun-tains and then over miles of Japcontrolled sea. This was the same oblem that U. S. land-based planes at Port Moresby and on the Austra-lian mainland had to face in helping the marines, army and navy units at Guadalcanal.

Early in the final struggle for both points—Buin and Guadalcanal—U. S. points scout planes determined how much strength the Jap had actually gath-ered at Buin. They learned there were large numbers of cruisers, destroyers, transports, seaplane tend-ers, cargo vessels and a swarm of flying boats. This meant that the Jap really wanted to recapture his lost positions around Guadalcanal. This came as no surprise to the U. S. forces for even last August when the first marine detachments dislodged the Japs from that area, military experts predicted that they would be back and would fight hard

RUSSIA: Desperate Nazis

Hitler seemed to have forgotten his pre-winter policy of consolida-tion and defense as he continued his smashing drive along the banks of the Volga. Battling desperately to achieve its goal before winter, the Nazi war machine threw ev-

the Na21 war machine threw ev-erything possible into the battle for Stalingrad and into the Mozdok area of the Caucasus. The Soviet army announced that 6,000 German troops had been killed in one day's action on the Stalingrad front. "Our troops re-pelled furious attacks by enemy in-fantry and tanks," the Red com-munique said. munique said. Battles of local significance were

reported northwest of Stalingrad, where a Soviet relief army was moving toward the city. Fighting was restricted largely to reconnaissance operations, the communique said.

Major battles also continued in the Black sea area southeast of Novorossisk, where the enemy broke through to a highway. Soviet troops put up a stubborn resistance, counterattacking at several points. FARM WAGES:

Wickard Gets Control

Acting upon an order from James F. Byrnes, director of the Office of Economic Stabilization, the agricultural department has assumed full jurisdiction for stabilization of farm wages. Secretary of Agriculture Wickard was directed to establish machinery to handle the problem. Officials were reported to be con

sidering a plan under which government subsidies would be payed to farm operators in order that they might increase farm laborers' wages.

Meanwhile, the house committee on agriculture issued a report warning that a serious shortage of farm labor may result in a shortage of many necessities within 12 months. The report, released by Chairman P. Fulmer of South Carolina, said that "Before long, a few million hungry stomachs are going to awaken the people and the programmers to a better understanding and apprecia-tion of those who till the soil."

EXPECT NAZI BOMBS: Churchill Tells People

The British people have been warned by Prime Minister Winston Churchill that Nazi air action against their homes this winter "may be heavy and menacing enough to call for everything that civil defense can produce to defeat it."

His warning was considered pessimistic-though true-when compared with his statement of early October that the Germans possibly would at-tempt "a very small return" in retaliation for smashing RAF raids over the reich.

Because of successful daylight raids over the continent by British and American bombing planes, Nazi Reichsmarshal Goering has regrouped the German air force. Brit-ish officials pointed out that such regrouping might also increase the effectiveness of the Nazi air force

over England. Smashed





America's Theoretical Aerial Strength Translated Into Actuality; Japanese Revise Three Major Campaigns.

By BAUKHAGE News Analyst and Co

advance

Attack on Rommel

American might.

destroyed.

ble handicap.

Aircraft Carrier-

Fleet Spearhead

defensive warfare."

In that raid 112 American bomb-

Germany must rebuild her planes

WNU Service, 1343 H Street, N-W, Washington, D. C.

As this is written Washington discussing a pitched battle in the Sol-omons and the beginning of a sharp rise in American air activity over Europe. Exciting stories are com ing in from all quarters of the globe about the achievements of our pilots and our planes but few civilian realize the significance of these sep-arate exploits. The enemy does. And in the opinion of air force officials in Washington the Axis partners have at last been brought face to face with the fact that America is in the way that the theoretical test. in the war, that the theoretical strik-ing power of the United States has translated into a practical impact of American strength which is now being felt on every front.

Since the smashing victory of Midway, the Japanese have been forced to change their whole campaigns in three different sectors: in the Aleu-tians, in New Guinea, in the Solomons

And, as Rommel girds for another attack in Egypt, it is conceded that what might have been a victory in the drive on Alexandria was turned to defeat in a not unimportant measure by American bombers and fighters.

And lastly, with the great raid on Lille early this month, the Germans found themselves faced with the prospect of terrific destruction of their cities or the revision of their whole program of air defense.

From the beginning, the Germans knew that America had the men, the money, the resources to build the most powerful war machine in the world. But they never thought the parts of that machine could be assembled in time. Now as we ap-proach the anniversary of Pearl Harbor, we are still unable to fur-nish our Allies with the men and material required to make any single front, of the many we are feed-ing, strong enough for an offensive in which there is combined action, air, land and sea. But in one arm we have developed the beginning of superiority and for the first time we are emerging on many fronts as the growing giant of the air.

This is now possible because we have been able to do three things: provide a terrific engine of preci-sion destruction in our mammoth bombers; provide those bombers with such fire-power that it makes up for their lack of maneuverability and thus offers in a single unit the ability to carry out precision bombing of individual targets and at the same time the ability to fight off the enemy defense in the air, a combination perfected for the first time in this war.

War Foreseen In Antipodes Sort of Attack the Japanese

Are Making Was Long Expected There.

WELLINGTON, N. Z .- While the rest of the British empire is still adjusting itself to the fact that Aus-tralia faces a threat of invasion, Antipodeans have long realized that the thousands of miles of ocean which separate them from Japan offer no decisive protection against direct attack.

Moreover, Australians foresaw the sort of attack which the Japa-nese have been making, an inva-| smashing enemy bases and supply sion by stages ultimately directed at the industrial regions which nourish Australian resistance. Years be-fore the attack on Poland an examination of the Antipodean country's defense needs led to the conclusion that assault by sea and air would precede attack by land, and that the probable first move of the Japa-nese would be to attempt to knock

Command of the Air. Thus it was declared by military chiefs that "aircraft carriers, convoyed by other warshps, could reach Australia perhaps six weeks before the invader's army" (this point of view was advanced by those who thought that even without the fully There our heavy bombers helped to render Rommel's supply ports of Tobruk and Benghazi virtually use-less. Against Nazi ground forces our planes, notably the Airacobra, expected move to seize the Philip-pines and the Netherlands East Indies an attack on Australia was pos-sible) and that "this would enable acting as a shallow dive bomber and also as a strafer, played a vital part in smashing the Axis supply lines. But it was—and is and will be sible) and that "this would enable the battle for command of the air to be fought before the attacker was American bomber wings over Ger-many itself that cast the most embarrassed by a fleet of trans-ports" while at the same time the alarming shadow across the Reich. The Lille raid brought home the attacking warships clamped down a blockade.

fact that Germany must now face The first need of Japan was seen as an advanced base where airfields could be established. Even if this were established in a non-vital area it would help, for it would serve as ers, besides carrying out their mission of precision daytime bombing, were able to bring down 115 of the 120 Nazi fighter planes that were a distribution to the defense and would give alternative lines of attack if a more direct approach to the main goal failed.

The main goal, in terms of geog-raphy, was set down as the narrow to match ours, or suffer an incredicoastal strip between Newcastle and Port Kembla, New South Wales. It And so we see the faith in air power and American invention justi-fied. This, however, does not mean was thought that the desire to conquer territory and not the doctrine of attacking the enemy's main forces would mold the Japanese victory. It means merely the preparation. Smoking ruins are a tri-umph but possession is nine points of victory. No land is conquered until a human being stands upon it, strategy.

The Unguarded North.

his feet firmly planted, his position secure. And that means, in the It was realized by Australians themselves long before World War II that the center of gravity of their last analysis, man power, not air power. That is the next step. defense system was too far to the southeast. Hence, the progressive plan revealed to extend the de-fense industrial set-up to other states. This diminished the demands on the far searching Australian trans-The aircraft carrier, says Rear on the far-reaching Australian trans-Admiral Carl Sherman, naval hero portation system and advanced toof World War I, and commander of ward the goal of regional protecof the Lexington, is "the spearhead of the fleet, the backbone of the navy, the slugger in offensive and

Defensively, Australians are not so interested in their unguarded north as might be expected, for the The admiral may be a bit prejureason that since the Japanese have diced, of course, but after you have read "Queen of the Flat Tops," moved so close the once-feared foothold on the northern shores has which is the story of the Lexington's ceased to have its old meaning. epic adventures, you may agree with him. Lest I be carried away with

Years ago it was held that an

WASHINGTON.-In order to re-lieve a threatened war shortage of manila and other fibers used in ropa and twine, caused by Japanese sei-zure of the normal supply sources, probably 16,000 acres will be planted to the manila fiber plant in Panama and Corte Pice her the add of this and Costa Rica, by the end of this year, the Office of War Information said The importance of the fibers to the war effort was described by the

Plan 16,000 Acres

Use Vast Areas to Overcome

Shortage of Fiber.

OWI announcement. "Without them," it said, "we could neither fight nor eat. Without rope no warship could race to battle against the Nazis and Japs; no car-

against the Nazis and Japs; no car-go ship cross the seas with tanks and guns for the armies fighting Hit-ler. They must have hundreds of millions of feet of rope. "Without binder twine there would be famine in the midst of bumper crops, because the crops could not be harvested. The farmers who grow the food we eat must have hundreds of millions of feet of binder twine for their harvesting ma-chines." chines "

Manila fiber can be obtained from the abaca plants 18 months after they are plants 18 months after they are planted and they reproduce themselves annually, the report said. Another and slightly inferior form of rope and twine fiber is sisal, which normally came from the East Indies, and the Combined Raw Materials board reported a doubling of the sisal plant acreage in Haiti.

A third fiber source is hemp, which can be grown in many parts of the United States. The department of agriculture planted thou-sands of acres of hemp this year in order to obtain seed with which to plant hundreds of thousands of act next year.

Youth 'Likes Funerals' So Shoots His Sister

MILLERSBURG, OHIO.-Holm county juvenile authorities said that Manuel Maft, 17, an Amish, had admitted shooting his sister and trying to poison a brother because he "likes funerals" and "just wanted to shoot somebody."

The sister, Sarah, told officers that she had antagonized her brother by trying to persuade him to join the Amish church. She was recovering

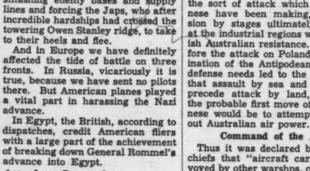
from her wound. Manuel will be committed to the state bureau of juvenile research at Columbus for 30 days' observa-

Ancient Dwellings Are

Unearthed in England LONDON .- Ancient pit dwellings of a type never before unearthed in England came to light recently as a

result of war activities. Mrs. Stuart Piggott, who de-scribed the find to the Royal Archeo-logical society, had with her an amber necklace which she said was robably made about 1500 B. C.

A pit dwelling was a miniature house in which a corpse was en-cased. None had been discovered in Britain before though it was known this burial custom existed in North-ern Europe in prehistoric times.



hurt less, for they would be indirect taxes.

Financial experts reasoned that direct taxes would not be raised any higher even though the U. S. war needs become more urgent. Other means of increasing the government Many plans, including compulsory savings, have already been given careful study by the treasury department.

PROMPT ACTION: On 18-19 Draft Bill

Prompt senate and house action keynoted legislative moves to draft 18 and 19-year-old men, thus add-ing approximately 1,500,000 'teenage youths to the ever-growing army, which is expected to reach 7,500,000 by the end of 1943.

Principal difference in the house and senate bill evolved around the "draft priority" system. This system, approved by the house and rejected by the senate committee, would prohibit the induction of mar-ried men in any given state until all supplies of single men were exhausted, and would prevent the induction of men with children until all childless married men were called.

Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, selective service director, opposed the measure. He stated that it would upset schedules until December 1, when the 18-19 draft group will be forces.

"processed" and ready for induc-tion. Senator Taft took the lead in the drive for the system. He long has been an advocate of national uniformity in draft quotas.

omons reached its climax both the Japs and the Allies admitted the truth of such prediction. The results spoke for themselves.

Northern Front

On the opposite (northern) end of the Pacific front U. S. army bombers continued their almost daily raids on Kiska, last Jap stronghold in the Aleutians. These raids were important because earlier reports indicated that the Japs had reinforced their garrison there and had also been building new installations at Gertrude Cove on the south side of the island. It was believed that when the Japs were chased out of Attu and Agattu, two other Aleutian bases, they took many of their supplies with them, preparing for a last ditch stand at Kiska.

NEW BASE: For Fighting Subs

ater of war.

That a good number of the Nazi U-boats had been shifted from the U. S. Atlantic coastal area to the Africa sea lanes was indicated by the announcement that U. S. troops had arrived in the Negro republic of Liberia and RAF planes were using that country as a base for hunting Nazi submarines.

Only 750 miles from Dakar, important base in French West Africa. and just across the Atlantic from the "bulge of Brazil," Liberia could

serve as a vital point in protection of any threatened raid there by Axis The fact that U.S. troops and the RAF were dispatched to Africa add-ed to the growing speculation that Africa was looming large as a thecity.

"I have never seen one man take such a beating." That is what a comrade said of Marine Private Eugene Moore, one of a tank crew attacked by a horde of Japs on Gavutu island in the Solomons. After a hand grenade had been thrown down the tank turret where

it exploded. Moore attempted to es-cape. The howling Japs kicked him, knifed him, bounced him against the picked him up. Navy doctors saved his life.

MISCELLANY:

RAIDS: Cologne remained a broken city as hundreds of Royal Air force four-motored planes bombed the Rhineland capital with two-ton "block busters" for the first time since May 30, when 1,130 British planes blasted huge sections of the

A Comparison

To reduce this achievement to lay terms: Heretofore the big bomber which could drop tons of destruc-tion on the earth below, was so cumbersome in the air that it was a prey to fast moving acrobatic fight-er planes. Like the buffalo which could be pulled down by a herd of agile wolves. Now, because of the terrific effectiveness of the guns our bombers carry, those fighters cannot get near enough to them to dam-age them. The wolf pack is cut to pieces before its fangs can seize the monster.

In addition to giving our heavy built pursuit planes — the agile wolves — which are sinewed with some of the might of their bigger brothers.

Our pursuit planes are able to carry bombs, too, and perform some of the functions of the dive bomber with the added advantage of maneuverability.

With this equipment we have been able to make the Japanese hold on the Aleutians untenable. We have already dislodged two footholds (Attu and Agattu islands) and will prob ably force the Japs out of the third. Kiska, before the winter sets in. That is one radical change of plan which the Japanese did not anticipate we could bring about.

In the southwest Pacific there ha been wrought another change of plan. In conjunction with Austra-lian fliers, American forces have completely broken one offensive, the one directed at Port Moresby, by ern sea battling.

of the sea what he thought about it. He pored over my copy and refused to return it. So I am going to quote his words.

"This is a fine book," he told me after he had read it. "The author, Stanley Johnston, sums up my opin-ion. He says that the 'flat-top' Lexington ushered in a new era in naval warfare which will rank with the battle of the Monitor and the Merrimac in the Civil war. And he makes you believe it."

my own enthusiasm, I asked a lover

Johnston was in the highly enviable position of being the only re-porter on board, and now has given the world a first-hand picture of the terrifically important last cruise of this converted battle cruiser, right up to the time she was sent to the bottom by American torpedoes after withstanding Jap "tin fish" and direct bomb hits.

Johnston saw it all from the "Lex," as she was affectionately known.

All of our new group of naval air heroes appear as modest young run-of-mine men, in Johnston's record. He was struck by the complete lack of heroics, as he was struck during every action and particularly during the last terrible hours aboard the carrier, with the complete lack of confusion and the outstanding bravery of all aboard, even when the gallant ship was a blazing inferno. This is all the more remarkable when it is known that a great many of the ship's complement were mak-ing their first trip to sea. No naval or military man is going to miss reading and studying this volume, and no civilian ought to who has any interest in the methods of mod-

invading force would be limited by available tonnage to a maximum of 60,000 men. That was when in 60.000 men. vaders would have had to come from distant Formosa and when South China was still free of Japa-

nese. Today, with the Nipponese established nearer, a larger force could be moved-would have to be moved.

But the key to the whole situation is still seen as tonnage, and the hope of Australians continues to be that any attack would be beaten off with such heavy losses of ships that it would permanently impair Japan's war-making capacity, espe-cially since the Coral sea and Midway battles.

This Woman Just Lucky;

She Misses Tornadoes

PRYOR, OKLA. - Mrs. Mary Hughes has every reason to believe she was born under a lucky star. Three times while she lived in Snyder, Okla., tornadoes struck once killing 110 persons. On all three occasions Mrs. Hughes was

absent from Snyder. On April 27, when Pryor, the little northeast Oklahoma boom town, was wrecked by a tornado, Mrs. Hughes, a hospital operator, was in Oklahoma City visiting a daughter. Her hospital here was badly dam-aged in the Pryor tragedy.

Russian Sportswomen

Kill 2,800 Nazis in Year MOSCOW .- The Soviet press reported that Russian sportswomen, including the best known swimmers, jumpers, boxers, and skiers, have killed more than 2,800 Germans and wrecked many railways in a year as guerrillas.

Old Silk Stockings Are

Now Used for Bandages PORTLAND, ORE.—An ingenious means of sending bandages to China is being conducted by the American Bureau for Medical Aid to China.

Women are asked to contribute old silk stockings. These are fumi-gated, then used as padding in shipments of other goods-thus saving cargo space.

With each 25 stockings which are unpacked at various Chinese points is found an illustrated folder, print-ed in English and Chinese, showing how the stockings may be used in bandaging various wounds.

'Ghost Ship' Has Prow

Painted Like a Whale

CLEVELAND .- The coast guard station at Cleveland received a hur-ry-up call from a group of ore boats in Lake Erie about 18 miles off shore. The lookout on one of the freighters said he sighted a whale with a "harpoon sticking in it." Oth-er freighters heard the call, moved closer and deck-hands exclaimed closer and deck-hands exclaimed that a "ghost ship" was roaming the lakes. Coast guardsmen closed in. They found a sailboat, with its prow painted to resemble the gaping jaws of a monster whale, which had broken loose from its mooring.

She Filled Job Too Well TOPEKA, KAN.—A girl service station attendant, hired to replace a man called to war, was fired. The manager said her language was too tough.