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WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Both Parties Study Election Trends; Higher Wage Scale Ends Coal Strike; Permit System May Regulate Marketing As Hog Shipments Flood Packing Plants

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



Admiral William Halsey, left, and Gen. Douglas MacArthur map latest Allied war plans in South Pacific. Vice Admiral A. S. Carpenter is pictured behind General MacArthur.

HOGS:

Heavy Receipts

With hog shipments flooding packing centers and many slaughterers reported shifting receipts to less congested yards, there were rumors that the government may impose a permit system to regulate marketing.

During a recent three-day period, packers received 574,000 hogs, almost 40,000 over the record October peak of the previous week. With packers in possession of from three to ten days' supplies, 250 to 270 pounders brought \$14.40 in the Chicago yards, with weights below 180 pounds dropping from 15 cents to \$1 under the \$13.75 "floor."

Although the government had worked out a permit system for marketing last year, it did not apply it when heavy runs leveled off. According to experts, preference would be given to bigger hogs if the permit system were to be applied now.

Meat Production

Meat production for 1944 will total 24 billion pounds, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported, but increased government needs will cut civilian allocations.

More than 96 million hogs will be slaughtered in 1944, the BAE said, or three million more than this year. Because of smaller spring pig crops, however, next fall's marketings should drop below current levels.

Despite record slaughtering in 1943, cattle on farms should number about 80 million head January 1. Because of the feed situation, total cattle fed should slide below 1943 levels in the corn belt and other areas, BAE said.

Because of a shortage of ewes and labor, the 1944 lamb crop should be one to two million head smaller than this year, with slaughter also dropping. Butchering of sheep at 1943 levels would seriously deplete supplies by 1945.

ELECTIONS:

GOP Trend

With the election of Republican Simon S. Willis as governor of Kentucky, the GOP swept through all recent elections to strengthen indications of a swing in the political pendulum.

In New York, Republican Joe R. Hanley amassed a majority of 348,000 votes to win the lieutenant-governorship from Democrat Lieut. Gen. William N. Haskell. Should Governor Tom Dewey decide to make the presidential race in 1944, Party-man Hanley will fill his shoes.

Governor of New Jersey during World War I, Republican Walter Edge ran up a majority of 128,000 votes to win the office again during World War II, besting labor-backed Democrat Vincent Murphy.

Republicans maintained their 62-year control of Philadelphia with the election of Republican Bernard Samuel for mayor over White House favorite and Democrat William Bullitt by 64,000 votes.

Said GOP National Chairman Harrison Spangler: "The light of the New Deal has flickered out." Retorted Democratic National Chairman Frank C. Walker: "I read no national trend whatsoever in . . . the . . . results."

Record Debt for U. S.

As of October 31, the direct federal debt of the U. S. stood at approximately 165 billion dollars. Broken down, that represents a debt of \$1,203 for every person in the country or \$5,000 per family, on the basis of four members. Interest rates have fallen to an all-time low of less than 2 per cent, however.

The present debt contrasts with the one of 55 billion which existed before the war, when the interest rate averaged 2½ per cent. Following World War I, the public debt reached 26½ billion dollars, with over 4 per cent interest.

The present 165 billion dollar debt does not include over 4 billion dollars of government guaranteed obligations.

MANPOWER:

Define Essential Industry

At least 75 per cent of a company's business must be essential for employees to be frozen into their jobs under War Manpower commission regulations.

In plants with essential as well as nonessential production, only workers employed on the essential manufacturing can be frozen into their positions.

Workers frozen in essential industry cannot transfer to other jobs without obtaining release from their employers, unless they can offer evidence that their skills are not being fully utilized in their occupations, or they are not being employed full time.

RUSSIA:

Near Rumania

As German forces retreated in the southern Ukraine, they were only 100 miles from the prewar Rumanian border, while in the north, they fell back to within 45 miles of the old Latvian boundary.

Krivoi Rog remained the focal point in the southern Ukraine, with the Germans fighting bitterly to hold open an escape corridor for their troops threatened with encirclement in the great bend of the Dnieper river. With the Germans holding at Krivoi Rog, it appeared as though they were successful in moving most of their forces from the trap.

Along the Black sea coast further south, Russian troops continued to pour over the bleak, barren Nogaish plains, with German forces streaming westward toward the Rumanian border. As a result of recent movements, the battle front in Russia ran in almost a straight line from north to south, with the huge Dnieper river bulge eliminated.

EUROPE:

Food Plentiful

With 1½ billion bushels of bread cereals harvested and dairy herds at high levels, Europe's food stocks appear adequate for the next year on the basis of reports of European newspapers and Swedish correspondents. Only pig and poultry supplies are smaller.

Because of the efficiency of Germany's rationing system, it was said, food will not contribute to any collapse of the Nazi home front. Increased production of vegetable oils are supplementing the Germans' diet. On the other hand, Russia faces serious food shortages this winter, with conditions approaching famine in some areas.

Should the war in Europe end suddenly, big difficulty in feeding the populace would arise in moving the food from the farms to the cities, where plants made idle by cessation of war production would create severe problems of unemployment.

INSIDE JAPAN:

Morale High

Intensive propaganda has had its effect in Japan, with its 90 million people firm in their conviction that theirs is a holy war to smash the white man's economic domination of Asia.

Early victories after Pearl Harbor heightened Japanese enthusiasm, and although overburdened transportation facilities have aggravated the general food shortage with black markets thriving, travelers say that the usually frugal populace has accepted added privations as one of the necessities of war.

Financed by paper money issuance, Japan's war industries are booming, with everybody from employer to worker prospering. Coolie wages alone have risen from about 34 cents to \$2.30 a day. The Japs are heavy war bond buyers.

As head of the Japanese religion, Emperor Hirohito still commands awesome loyalty of the people, with Premier Tojo cleverly playing upon this reverence to mobilize the state.



Emperor Hirohito



The New York And Washington Wire:

Admiral George Robert, who was Vichy's Governor at Martinique, is the honored guest of the U. S. Navy in a suite at the luxurious Normandy Hotel, San Juan, Puerto Rico. He will get a free ride to France on a Spanish ship . . . The Berlin radio now follows traitor Robert Best's newscasts with this: "Mr. Best speaks for himself and does not represent the opinions of this station" . . . During Sec'y Knox's tour of Europe (on his return via the South Atlantic by plane) he learned the pilots had never been initiated over the Equator. Playing Father Neptune, Mr. Knox then initiated them by mixing a drink for both. It was cold chicken soup mixed with orange juice.

The Magic Lanterns: There was just one unfurling, so this space can be devoted to flickers good enough to rate some fresh orchids . . . The film that hit you hardest was "Heroic Stalingrad—the City that Stopped Hitler" . . . The finest all-around job out of Hollywood—"The Watch on the Rhine," an improvement on its footlight version . . . The most talent-laden—"For Whom the Bell Tolls," which had magical acting from the top—G. Cooper and I. Bergman—to the tiniest bits, including horses and guns. None of the cinema's golden gals and youths were in it, which gives you an idea . . . The laughingest film of recent months was "The More the Merrier" . . . The most disappointing were Crosby's "Dixie" and Hope's "Let's Face It," high-priced jobs that looked marked down . . . The film that promised most and delivered less was "The Adventures of Tartu," which mixed England's best with Hollywood's corniest . . . The week's import was "Top Man," a show case for young Donald O'Connor and a roomful of bands—in short, juve and jive. Jump the yarn, which is no jump, since it lies flat, and you can revel in song and dance flippancies.

The Dials: Edward Murrow and Larry Le Sueur, who rarely sugarcoat their broadcasts, sent word that the Reich is approaching its 1918 whimpering. And Howard K. Smith relays from Switzerland that the Nazi jails are loaded with sassy Nazis who are beginning to tell Himmler's goons to go hell themselves . . . Tojo, the dog-faced boy, bit his tongue as follows: "The enemy, who was defeated at the beginning is, in fear of the richness of our conquered territory, trying to overwhelm our nation" . . . Translation: "Here they come, boys, and shooting" . . . You know who's good? Dunninger, the telepathic marvel, who takes words right out of your cranium, before you can mouth them. He's probably dictating this plug right now by telepathy . . . America's song stanzas range from the ditties in "Oklahoma" to the corny "Pistol Packin' Mama," which is the new name for "It Ain't Gonna Rain No Mo'."

New York Melodrama: Years ago a Broadway showman befriended a young man . . . When The Young Man suddenly acquired a job on the radio—to which he invited guest stars—the man who once befriended him asked him to put his wife on the program . . . "Don't be silly," was the retort, "your wife is a has-been. I need 'names' for my show!" . . . That was seven years ago, and the fellow has carried a grudge all that time . . . Now it looks as though he will even things . . . The Young Man was recently inducted into the army . . . And the fellow who befriended him—and was turned down for a favor—is now a big shot officer . . . He has requested Our Hero's services . . . Owwww!

Quotation Marksmanship: Nina Wilcox Putnam: Men are as transparent as cellophane and as hard to remove, once you get rapped up in them . . . Thorne Smith: A voice almost as low as his intentions . . . Dr. G. Vincent: So few of us really think; what we do is rearrange our prejudices . . . Margaret Case Hariman: Money is what you'd get along beautifully without if only other people weren't so crazy about it . . . Swift: Censure is the tax a man pays to the public for being eminent . . . Sir Robert Walpole: Gratitude—a lively sense of future favors . . . Evelyn M. Campbell: Her face had been nicely chipped from granite.

One Palm Beach realtor reports most of the leases there have been gobbled up . . . Fred Allen's latest news: That he resumes in December for the same sponsor.

Waste Fats Make Munitions and Medicines; Need 200 Million Pounds a Year, Says Nelson

Every Family Must Save a Pound Each Month to Meet Quota

"An adequate supply of fats and oils is essential to the successful prosecution of the war."

With those words Donald Nelson, chairman of the war production board, urged housewives of the nation to cooperate actively in a campaign designed to salvage every available ounce of waste fat.

The fat salvage drive is aimed at every home. Its specific target is the kitchen where, unfortunately, millions of pounds of glycerine-containing fat are being poured into the garbage pail or down the kitchen drain.

Fats will help win the war and be a prime essential in negotiating and implementing the peace. Fat and oil sources have taken a terrific beating in the war. Whole areas that produced palm and coconut oil have been laid waste, cattle have been killed off to feed fighting men. Europe is in the throes of a fat famine.

How seriously this shortage may affect our own troops and our civilian population depends in a large measure on the people themselves. The quota of 200 million pounds of fat for household salvage in 1943 was not set as a measure of the need. The shortage for all purposes, military, industrial and domestic, was far in excess of that figure. It was worked out that American households could save and turn in 200 million pounds of used kitchen grease without undue hardship and without depriving families of their fat energy requirements.

Due to many factors, some of them beyond the control of homemakers, the rate at which kitchen grease is being turned in, is far short of the quota. Yet, a glance at the figures, at the quantity of meat, butter and shortening, available for family use is convincing proof that American households could salvage double their quota if they would buckle down to the job on a drop by drop, tablespoonful at a time program of saving and then turn in their grease to a local meat dealer collector.

The need for waste fat for glycerine and other by-products for explosives, munitions and medicines is not diminishing as our troops advance on all fronts. To the contrary, it is increasing. Nor is the



need sporadic or momentary. It is a long term, continuing program which will probably extend well beyond the limits of a shooting war, according to an Office of War Production statement.

Without glycerine we could not produce gunpowder to fire many of our shells and ship and plane instruments would not function.

Glycerine has no substitute, or in any case, no satisfactory one has yet been discovered for many types of explosives. Because of the shrinking reserve stock of this vital ingredient, the WPB already has found it necessary to ban the use of glycerine in practically all civilian products, cigarettes, cosmetics, dentifrices and dozens of others.

This drastic move was made because we are nowhere near to bringing used fat collections to the point which will achieve the 200 million pounds yearly quota necessary to provide the glycerine its many war uses require. National collections have continued to climb, even with the advent of meat and shortening rationing, but the highest monthly total so far—7,312,617 pounds last

March—is almost nine million pounds short of the required monthly total.

If you don't think waste fat is important listen to this: 31 table-spoons of used kitchen fat will make enough glycerine for a pound and a half of gunpowder. Or 31 table-spoons of fat will provide powder to fire four 37-mm. anti-aircraft shells. Figuring another way, a pound of fat will yield enough glycerine for 1½ pounds of powder for machine gun cartridges. (There are other materials in gunpowder besides glycerine derivatives, but the glycerine compound is what puts the "punch" in the explosive.)

Other uses for glycerine in war equipment requiring a liquid that does not freeze easily, or has some other necessary quality, are in recoil mechanisms for guns, hydraulic devices, such as presses and elevators, pumps, ships' steering gear, in compasses, depth charge releases and many for other mechanical purposes. Glycerine is also employed in special compounds to coat weapons, as anti-freeze in radiators and on windshields, and in medicines.

Medical Uses. The medical use of glycerine is constantly growing in importance. Glycerine is present in these and many other preparations:

Tannic acid used in the treatment of powder and other burns.

Some insulins used in the treatment of shock as well as diabetes. Tinctures of opium and gentian used as sedatives to ease pain.

Smallpox vaccine as a preventative injection given to all men in the armed forces.

Sulpha diazine ointments for treatment of fungus growths.

Nitro glycerine tablets for a heart stimulant. Acriflavine used as an antiseptic. Military medicine is achieving remarkable results in saving lives.

With new techniques and drugs, the death rate from wounds has been reduced from 7.6 per cent in World War I to 3.1 per cent in this conflict. Sulfa compounds and blood plasma are given much of the credit for this splendid accomplishment.

In order that that high rate of recovery and the low rate of death of our wounded may continue, the manufacturers of medicinals for the armed forces must have a plentiful supply of glycerine. As more men are sent into various fields of action, it is inevitable that there will be more casualties and that a still more plentiful supply of healing drugs will be needed.

At the present time the householders of America are contributing around nine million pounds of used kitchen fats to the war effort each month, but this is only a little more than half of what is needed to keep our glycerine stocks at a safe level. It is safe to say that at least three times this amount of valuable glycerine-containing fat still is being wasted. Remember, all fat is wanted. The color is unimportant, as brown fat is as good as white for chemical processing.

The housewife has only to save as much fat as possible each day, store it in a tin can and take her savings regularly to the meat dealer, who will pay her for it and send it on its way to the war production line. Within 21 days it will be processed and the glycerine thus obtained will be put to some vital war use.

Rural Driving Hazards Greater in Winter; Death Toll 24% Above Summer Months

Winter's most serious driving hazards are slippery snow-and-ice-covered roads and poor visibility caused by frosted or fogged windshields and long hours of darkness, and these hazards are more serious on rural highways than on city streets according to studies by the National Safety Council.

Declaring that shortage of manpower and of safe winter driving

Braking Distances on Various Surfaces at 20 mph

Surface	Braking Distance (ft.)
DRY CONCRETE	21 FT.
WET CONCRETE	26 FT.
NO CHAINS	69 FT.
CHAINS ON REAR WHEELS	40 FT.
NO CHAINS OR SAND	169 FT.
CHAINS ON REAR WHEELS	88 FT.
SAND ON ICE	86 FT.

ON CONCRETE PAVEMENT

ON PACKED SNOW

ON GLARE ICE

equipment will be an added handicap this winter in 36 northern states. Prof. Ralph A. Moyer, of the Iowa State college engineering experiment station, who is chairman of the council's committee on winter driving hazards, points out significant facts for consideration by farmers and all others who must drive on rural roads this winter.

"Traffic deaths in snow belt states last winter ran the mileage death rate 24 per cent higher than the summer toll," Professor Moyer said,

"while the southern winter caused only a 5 per cent increase."

Following are rules, based on council research, for driving under adverse road and weather conditions:

1. Adjust speed to conditions.
2. Slow down well in advance of intersections and curves.
3. Follow other vehicles at safe distances.

Winter Rules.

4. Put on the chains when roads are slippery with snow or ice.
5. Signal intentions of turning or stopping.
6. Apply brakes lightly and intermittently on icy roads.
7. Remember that braking distances on snow and ice are from 4 to 11 times greater than on dry pavement, and that wet ice at near thawing temperatures is twice as slippery as dry ice near zero.