

# THE ALAMANCE GLEANER

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**WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS**

**WFA Sees Ample Civilian Food Supply During Coming Year; Production Up; Allied Forces Battle Japs in India; Congress Votes Role in World Relief**

(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.) Released by Western Newspaper Union.

**TELEFACT**

**OF EVERY 10 AIRPLANES NOW PRODUCED IN THE U.S.**

7 1/4 ARE COMBAT PLANES  
1 1/4 TRAINER & LIAISON PORT

**AGRICULTURE:**  
**Food Supply**

Civilian food supplies during 1944 should be the same as last year with farmers continuing record-breaking performances. War Food Administrator Marvin Jones said, but stocks of milk, cheese and fats may be slightly less.

At the end of 1943, the U. S. had the largest livestock inventory in history, Jones said, with 19 per cent more hogs and 3 per cent more cattle, although sheep and lamb numbers were down 4 per cent.

With farmers urged to cultivate 16,000,000 more acres than last year, they still face manpower problems, Jones related. The outlook for production of farm machinery and fertilizer have improved, he added.

Revealing \$350,000,000 was spent for supporting farm prices in 1943, Jones said they served the double purpose of offering incentive for production and holding down consumer costs.

**Postwar Outlook**

Addressing the National Association of Mutual Insurance companies in Chicago, Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard declared postwar America's exportable surplus of farm commodities would be 15 per cent of production.

Assessing the figure resulted after estimating increased domestic demand for consumption and industry, Wickard said: "Again we are either going to have to extend credit or give agricultural products to other nations, or we are going to have to accept goods and services in exchange."

Advances in agricultural production will pose a major problem in postwar America, Wickard said, remarking that with only moderate demand and usual educational methods, yields will jump up 40 per cent in six years.

**WAGES:**  
**Peg Sticks**

Testifying before the senate banking committee considering extension of price control after June 30, War Labor Board Chairman William H. Davis declared that the WLB intended to stand by its "Little Steel formula" limiting wage increases to 15 per cent over January 1941, levels, but only if living costs remain relatively stabilized.

To assure such stabilization, Davis recommended continuance of consumer subsidies. Prohibition of subsidies would result in appreciable rises in basic commodities and make present wages inadequate, Davis said.

Davis opposed suggestions that wages be limited, declaring such action would work against promotions and upgrades, and discourage shifts to industry.

**WORLD RELIEF:**  
**Authorize UNRRA**

By overwhelming vote, congress put itself on record for participating in world relief by authorizing expenditures of \$1,350,000,000 for the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration to help the people of occupied countries get back on their feet following their liberation.

Although UNRRA will feed, clothe and restore essential services in the stricken countries, it will do so only for the purpose of getting the people started in rebuilding their agricultural and industrial economy.

Matching the U. S. contribution, 43 other United Nations will put about \$650,000,000.

**BIG BUSINESS:**  
**Report Incomes**

With war orders accounting for 66 per cent of the business, International Harvester had gross income of \$448,035,041 and profit of \$25,692,944 for its fiscal year ending October 31, 1943. For the 12 months ending July 1, 1945, the company has been authorized to use 20 per cent more material for farm machinery.

Overcoming merchandising difficulties, America's No. 1 mail order house, Sears, Roebuck & Co., took in \$852,596,706 and cleared \$33,868,087 in 1943. Although shortages prevail, the quality of goods has improved in recent months, President Arthur S. Barrows said.

In reporting sales of \$552,000,000 and profit of \$7,403,000 in 1943, Wilson & Co. disclosed extensive developments in new meat preparations and packing, such as boneless beef and dehydrated corned beef, which should have wide markets after the war.

**JAPAN:**  
**Organize Workers**

Again Premier Gen. Hideki Tojo told the Japanese parliament that the war situation was critical, but this time he underlined its gravity by calling for the establishment of military discipline in industry, under which an entire factory group could be punished for a single worker's offense.

Under Tojo's plan, workers would be organized under a system of military rank, with superior officers having the authority to punish employees from the boss down.

Heretofore conscripted for labor service for only four months of the year, all Japanese high school and college students will now be subject to such duty for any necessary periods.

**TVA:**  
**Under Fire**

Tennessee's lank Sen. Kenneth McKellar took his battle against present TVA financial policies to the floor of the senate, demanding that the big one billion dollar government power project be compelled to operate altogether on direct appropriations from congress and turn over its revolving fund to the U. S. treasury.

Long at odds with TVA's Chairman David Lilienthal because of the latter's alleged political activities against him, Senator McKellar said

**EUROPE:**  
**Take Over Balkans**

Germany made her final preparations for an anticipated double-barreled attack against the continent by the Allies by integrating Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria into the Nazi war machine to provide a common pool of men and resources.

The Nazis' incorporation of the Balkans came as the Russ drew closer to the Hungarian border by stabbing deeper into prewar Poland and surged onward to the Rumanian boundary by chewing off Germany's last grip in the Ukraine.

**SOUTH AMERICA:**  
**Uruguayan Nationalists**

With the ejection of pro-Allied ministers in the Uruguayan cabinet of President Gen. Higinio Morinigo and ardent nationalists' seizure of control of that country, ultra-neutral Argentine's isolation in South American politics appeared at an ending.

Action of the Uruguayan nationalists was aimed at promoting closer relations with Argentina, which has resisted pressure to go to war against the Axis, insisting on its sovereign right to regulate its own foreign policies.

**RECONDITIONING:**  
**Heal Quickly**

To heal the wounded quickly and well and restore them to suitable military duty, the army has expanded its reconditioning program, utilizing education, occupation and recreation.

Point of the program is to prevent the patients from deteriorating mentally while recuperating physically, as is often the case even in civilian treatment, and to instill them with the knowledge that they are keeping pace with their buddies in convalescing.

**WORLD RELIEF:**  
**Nazi Prisoners in Italy.**

desperately in the hilly country to dominate the heights from which he could pour his deadly artillery fire upon Allied troops maneuvering below.

In the west, the Allies sent fleets of bombers against France and Germany to rip defenses and railways over which troops and supplies could be shuttled and blast factories turning out Axis armament.



**Walter Winchell**  
*(WNU Service)*

**Things I Never Knew 'Til Now**  
*(About Canada's War Effort)*

Canada is the only one of America's Allies which has not used Lend-Lease help . . . Most of her money payments to the Allies have been outright gifts because Canada is opposed to piling up war debts . . . The United States is Canada's best customer; and Canada is at the top of the list of our best customers . . . Canada is the world's largest producer of aluminum. Last year she produced more than the whole world did in 1939 . . . Canada is the world's largest producer of nickel and is practically the only source of supply available to the United Nations . . . Canada is the world's largest producer of asbestos, terrifically important on aircraft carriers and battleships . . . She is a heavy producer of lead, zinc and mercury, and the most important discovery of tungsten ore yet found on this continent is now being developed by the Canadian government direct . . . It's the backbone of battle armor.

Without Canadian radium the field services and hospitals of the United Nations' armies would be almost helpless . . . Canada is producing five times as much armor plate, guns and tools as she did in 1939 . . . She is producing 16 types of gun carriages and mountings, although before she entered the war she had never manufactured a big gun . . . She has delivered 100,000 units to date . . . Canada has the largest small arms factory in the British Empire. She has produced more than a million rifles and enough ammunition to fire 300 shots at every soldier in the German army . . . Canada is second only to us in building ships, although she had not built a seagoing cargo ship in 20 years when Hitler marched on Poland . . . Canada supplies all of the signal corps of the United Nations with a large amount of their equipment, including nearly 100 types of signaling sets . . . Canada has developed a new secret explosive for the invasion—the most powerful in the world.

Canada has mobilized the mightiest of all her resources, her fighting people . . . Forty thousand women are in the Canadian armed forces. Over 5,000 are in the Canadian Navy Services, and 16,000 are in the RCAF . . . On Canada's mighty munitions assembly line, one out of every four persons is a Canadian woman. They handle the technical signaling devices and secret naval codes—and, believe it or not, they plot the convoy routes . . . The Canadian Gov't has found them so proficient at Radar and Asdic that women are used as instructors. Nor is their work confined to intricate mechanical devices. They overhaul aircraft engines, operate power machines and actually operate the new instrument which determines errors in cannon fire.

The newspaper you are reading probably is printed on Canadian newsprint. Canada is by far the largest producer of newsprint in the world . . . In spite of her terrific war effort, Canada is sending more newsprint to the U. S. than she did at the start of the war. A large part of it goes in direct support of our own war effort, because American production has declined 24 per cent and our other markets have almost disappeared . . . In our crucial year of 1941 Canadian production of newsprint was more than three times that of the U. S.—and everybody knows how much paper a bureaucrat can use.

In Canada price ceilings mean something . . . The cost of living has gone up only 2 per cent in two years, while in the United States and Australia it went up almost 14 per cent on the same scale of measurement . . . The Canadian people are shelling out taxes at a rate which would equal more than 30 billion dollars in this country . . . Last year the Government of MacKenzie King threw 4 billion dollars into the kitty to beat Hitler . . . Production and national income in Canada have doubled since the start of the war . . . After the war Canada will expand like we did in 1900 . . . The Shipshaw power development in northern Canada has an installed capacity equal to the total capacity of Niagara Falls plants on both sides of the river. It has a continuous output of electrical energy greater than that of our own great Boulder Dam plant . . . Canada, with less than a fifth of its water power resources developed, has the second largest amount of hydro-electric generating capacity of any country in the world.

**Latest Movies Shown in Front Line Camps Help to Keep Fighters in Touch With Home**

**Picture Industry Donates Films to Army and Navy**

Combat-weary Yanks, relieved from front-line duty by replacements and sent to the rear to rest, turn to movies as a means of escape from the mad business of battle, according to letters received in towns throughout the country by relatives and friends of boys now in foreign service.

These letters complained at first that the pictures were old, but recent correspondence ends complaints and indicates that conditions are improved.

New Hollywood productions fresh from the studios are shipped to all theaters of war by the Army Overseas Motion Picture service and are shown somewhere every night in every combat zone occupied by American troops.

Protected by top priorities, these film programs, printed in the 16-mm. size and known as "Films for Fighting Men" are a gift from the motion picture industry which began in February, 1942, with the presentation of 80 prints from four different pictures. Since then these free films have gradually increased until now a total of 189 pictures are issued each week, divided into 63 prints each of three different programs. Each program includes a full-length feature and at least one short subject. To date the grand total of 11,782 programs has been sent overseas.

These programs of new films are shown only to uniformed members of the armed forces in combat zones, and to sick and wounded in overseas hospitals, and to men on isolated outposts where other film entertainment cannot be had.

When troops are en route to battlefronts on transports, they are shown specially selected 16-mm. film versions of "Hits of the Past." This avoids duplicate showings of new films, so servicemen do not see the same pictures twice.

**Musical Shows Favorites.**

Every feature-length picture and every short subject made by the major studios in Hollywood is included in this service, offered to our armed forces through a selection board in New York city composed of army and civilian personnel. This board is guided in its choice by expressions from soldier audiences in the various theaters of war. Opinions polled to date show that servicemen's tastes lean toward musicals, comedies and light drama. War pictures are last on their list, while features and shorts which bring views of the good old U. S. A. are always welcome.

Upon reaching the various war theaters, these 16-mm. films—less than half the size of those seen in your local theater—are sent to the various combat zones through 19 film exchanges maintained by the Army Overseas Motion Picture service. Handled in this reduced size, they are easy to ship and can be exhibited on portable equipment readily transported in active regions.

The showing of these pictures is always subject, of course, to the hazards of war. Usually they are displayed to battle-weary troops in rest areas behind the front. The object, however, is to get them as near the fighting line as possible. In some instances they have been shown so close to the line of battle that prisoners subsequently captured said they heard the sound track.

Although planned originally for the army only, recent arrangements made through the war department have thrown these showings open to all combat troops, regardless of their branch of service. This includes the

navy, marine corps, the coast guard when their own films are not available in active areas; also members of Allied armed forces operating in these zones. Both the Red Cross and USO are authorized as agents to show these 16-mm. pictures.

**Movies in Training Camps.**

The motion picture industry's 16-mm. gift films should not be confused, however, with the 35-mm. showings of the Army Motion Picture service, and a similar system maintained by the navy.

Through a commercial arrangement with motion picture distributors made 20 years ago, both the army and the navy rent for their own use 35-mm. prints of motion pictures which play the commercial movie houses. These films, obtained at low rental, are now shown on a nonprofit basis by the army in all training camp theaters in this country, and at established army post theaters in all territorial possessions.

30,000-mile tour of the Pacific theater, Maj. Gen. Frederick H. Osborn, U. S. army, director of the morale services division, army service forces, said that motion pictures have proved an effective antidote to the tension and physical strain of battle, and that they are particularly welcome to men just returned from the front.

His tour, which included "the largest motion picture circuit in history" maintained by the overseas motion picture service of army service forces in the Pacific, proved to him, he said, that "the Pacific soldier is the most avid movie-goer in the world."

The distribution of first-run films to the various fronts by air is on a par with any similar commercial operation, the general pointed out, and came about "because combat officers want their men to relax after they come out of the lines. The movie has proved to be the solution.

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Army men in the South Pacific watch a movie in an open air theater. Their faces reflect varied reactions. Soldiers often see three or more pictures a week.

The average admission is 14 cents, and any profit derived therefrom goes toward expanding the service.

Ever since the declaration of war, as a special favor to servicemen, pictures playing the army circuit have, as a rule, preceded showings in commercial theaters except where these showings conflicted with exhibition contracts of movie theaters near the camps. Servicemen unfamiliar with required trade practices, complain at times because they see pictures in these commercial theaters before the camp movie houses show them.

The navy does not experience this difficulty because, generally speaking, its pictures are shown free on shipboard or, in some instances, for a small admission at naval stations, the profits going toward improving and expanding the service.

**Old Films Shown at First.**

When the conflict broke suddenly after Pearl Harbor, we were just as unprepared for maintaining a worldwide entertainment program as we were for global combat. The first expeditionary forces that left for the South Pacific took along 1,000 old 16-mm. pictures purchased in the open market, which were the only films of that size available at the time. Later, when the African expedition sailed, a similar war department purchase was made. And further complications were added through the indiscriminate buying of old films and portable equipment by embarking troop units as large as battalions, all striving to meet an entertainment emergency.

Although the army has been able to recall all but 300 of these old films, those still in circulation despite efforts to recover them, combined with the unauthorized 16-mm. films remaining overseas, add up to a sizeable headache. Servicemen who still sit through these old programs complain loudly.

Another source of complaint lies in the wartime dislocation abroad of the commercial motion picture industry. In such battle-blasted areas as Sicily, films as ancient as Rin-Tin-Tin are often featured in local theaters for outrageous admission prices. But this is not strange, considering that Mussolini barred American films in Italy in 1938. No new pictures have been shipped into Italian territory since, excepting those supplied through the motion picture industry's gift service. The 16-mm. gift films, however, are now going overseas at the rate of 159 prints of three new programs each week. New combat zone circuits are being added rapidly and projection facilities are improving and increasing. This means that film shows in all theaters of war, barring the inevitable disruptions and annoyances occasioned by battle action, are bound to achieve a state of diminishing reports and rising perfection.

In a report to Lieut. Gen. Brehon Somervell, commanding general of the army service forces, covering a

A screen against a jungle backdrop brings the soldier close to home again.

The army service forces has arranged to distribute films in rotation to the combat areas of the Pacific, after which they are routed to supporting units farther to the rear. In this way, troops in actual combat are the first to be shown the latest of Hollywood's screen offerings. Also given high priority for early showings are the wounded in hospitals.

**Movies Take Him Home.**

"The soldier wants to see pictorial views of streets that remind him of his home town, of people he might meet on those streets; of women to remind him of his mother, his wife; his sweetheart; of ordinary happenings in which he will again participate.

"This tremendous movie chain's value as a good will factor is beyond computation. In New Guinea, for example, where Australian and American soldiers fight side by side, they sit down to see an American film side by side. Our troops visit Australian camps where the screen is predominantly American."

Newsreels, comedies, and musical pictures are high on the G.I. hit list. "Soldiers dislike war pictures with glorified heroes," General Osborn said.

"They like to see informational films, those that explain war strategy and show real battle scenes. The soldier is anxious to see what his weapons can do. The army's 'Why We Fight' series has immeasurably bettered his understanding of issues at stake. 'Snafu,' the cinema comic of the Army-Navy Screen Magazine, is a Pacific favorite."

General Osborn included Australia, New Guinea, New Zealand, New Caledonia, Solomon Islands, New Hebrides, New Georgia, Bougainville, and Fiji in his 30,000-mile itinerary of the Pacific theater.

"I have seen tropical theaters seating 3,000 soldiers on wooden benches, and 1,000 sitting on crates and logs and oil tins in an outdoor excavation," he said.

"Soldiers frequently sit in tropical downpours for one and two hours before showtime to enjoy a run-of-the-mill film made 'silent' when the sound track breaks down, and then return the next night to see it again.

"During alarms the men quietly leave the theater and as quietly resume their seats afterward to see the rest of the movie. While excavations were under way on a New Guinea base, a bulldozer was assigned the priority detail of hollowing out the ground for an open-air amphitheater.

"I have seen men watch a picture from such a distance that the screen was the size of a postage stamp, and I have heard men gripe at a poor show, but sit through it to the end. With several pictures playing on various bases on an island, men were known to walk nightly many miles around the entire island until they had seen all the pictures.



Members of the army service forces set up their motion picture equipment wherever there is a convenient spot for a show. Here they have erected the screen on a rocky field on some south sea island. The projector and sound equipment are being hooked up in the foreground.