

# THE ALAMANCE GLEANER

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## WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

### Nazi Resistance Grows in West; Chinese War in Critical Stage; Strong Cattle Markets Forecast

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(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.)



Dark shaded areas on map show extent of Japanese occupation of China, and progress of drive along east coast to seal it off to counteract possible U. S. landings.

## EUROPE:

### Nazis Fight Back

Long famed for artillery fire, U. S. army units brought their big guns into full play as dogged doughboys slugged their way through the Siegfried line above Aachen in the face of mounting German resistance.

Although the main fighting focused above Aachen, action remained heavy along the whole 460 mile front, with the Germans seeking to unsettle Allied advances with strong armored counterattacks.

With an array of 75 to 240-mm. field pieces laying a creeping barrage before advancing doughboys, and with squads of tanks rumbling over the countryside to blast enemy strong-points at short range, Lieut. Gen. Courtney Hodges' Third American army tore a big hole through the vaunted Siegfried line, finding stationary defenses manned by inferior German troops, with the best saved as reserves for counterattacking.

Equally bitter fighting raged on either side of the Third army sector, with the Nazis counterattacking strongly around Nijmegen in Holland to blunt the British Second army's end run around the Siegfried line in the north, and elite enemy troops putting up stiff resistance to doughboys flushing them out of the great underground fortifications guarding Metz, key to the coal-laden Saar basin.

On the southern anchor of the western front, the enemy fought back viciously from prepared defenses in the rolling countryside in an effort to stop the U. S. Seventh army's thrust toward passes in the Vosges mountains and the wide Belfort Gap leading into southern Germany.

In Italy, the U. S. Fifth army pushed closer to the great communications center of Bologna, through which the enemy has been routing reinforcements to his sagging Po valley front.

As the Russians increased their pressure against Hungary, and other Red forces drove across Yugoslavia for a junction with U. S. and British units, the Germans were put to it to plug up the Balkan gateway to southern Germany.

Although the Nazis reportedly succeeded in withdrawing the bulk of 200,000 men from the southern Balkans before the British invasion of Greece and the Russian drive to sever communication lines along their escape route, the Reds pressed to nip off the straggling remnants.

In driving across eastern Yugoslavia, the Russians overran rich metal deposits around Bor, which the Germans had been working extensively, and developed the capital of Belgrade. With Romanian troops fighting by their side, the Reds advanced to within 135 miles of Budapest, heart of Hungary.

## CATTLE MARKET:

### Prices Strong

Large government purchases of low-grade beef, and decreased hog shipments in the face of big demand, will tend to keep market prices at a high level this fall and winter, the department of agriculture reported.

Because of the sale of more range cattle than last year, however, and the relatively smaller marketings of finished grades, overall prices may average lower than in 1943. With a much larger prospective supply, calves are also expected to fall below last year's prices.

At ceiling prices throughout mid-summer, hog prices are expected to remain high through the next six months, with the government in the market for the smaller pork supplies reflecting the 24 per cent reduction in the spring pig crop.

## POSTWAR INDUSTRY:

### Fear Concentration

To prevent the concentration of industry in 11 northern and eastern states in the postwar period, a senate committee recommended that the government stand against the reconversion of its war plants in these states to civilian production.

Indicating the possibilities of such concentration, the committee pointed out that before the war these 11 states produced 65 per cent of the nation's manufactured goods and received 51 per cent of all plants and facilities erected by the government for the war effort.

Besides calling for a shifting of war production to the south and west after Germany's downfall, the committee recommended an adjustment of freight rates, attention to patents, and technological aid to small industrialists as part of a long range program for stabilizing business in these areas.

## CHINA:

### In Crisis

News from China recently has been none too rosy, with the country's armies falling back before the Japs' drive to seal off the whole eastern coast to counter an attempted American landing, and the U. S. air force compelled to abandon four advanced bases before the enemy's push.

In an effort to help China help herself, President Roosevelt dispatched ex-War Production Board Czar Donald Nelson to confer with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek in the building of an integrated industry to exploit the country's vast resources.

With Chinese industry largely undeveloped, the Japs blockading the eastern ports, and mountainous terrain and primitive roads handicapping the overland route from Burma, valiant Chinese armies have been sorely ill-equipped.

With Chiang's regime losing much face as a result of successive military defeats, the Chinese political situation also has been blurred, with the Communists pressing for greater power in government.

## PACIFIC:

### Jap Ship Shortage

Effect of the heavy U. S. aerial and naval campaign against Japanese shipping in far Pacific waters was reflected in the Tokyo radio's announcement that a shortage in ocean tonnage had contributed to a food crisis. Flood and drought were other factors mentioned.

Tokyo admitted the critical shipping situation as the destruction of planes and subs was revealed, and as army fliers intensified their attacks on enemy craft plying in the Philippine area.

One of the principal U. S. targets was the great oil storage center of Balikpapan on Borneo.

## FARM INCOME:

### High Level

With an increased volume of crops marketed as the harvesting season advanced, September farm income jumped up 24 per cent from the preceding month to approximate \$1,880,000,000 and total \$13,848,000,000 since the first of the year, 6 per cent over 1943.

The 6 per cent increase in income for the first nine months of the year approximated the boost in farm production, with crops up 7 per cent and livestock 6 per cent.

Gains in cash receipts from tobacco and cotton were especially pronounced while substantial increases also were shown in oil-bearing crops, with only flaxseed failing to keep pace. With greater sales of meat animals anticipated, the seasonal decreases in marketings of dairy products was expected to be offset.

Reflecting a boost in valuations of real estate arising from higher prices, farmers' equities have increased by \$30,000,000,000 since the start of the war, according to H. R. Tolley of the U. S. bureau of agricultural economics.

At the same time, Tolley said, the accumulation of \$12,000,000,000 of cash or liquid assets gives the farmers a sizable nest-egg with which to readjust operations in the post-war period.

Future equities will be greatly influenced by prevailing price levels, the amount of debt incurred and the uses made of accumulated wartime assets, Tolley asserted.

Under the impetus of wartime conditions, Tolley said, agriculture grew into a \$70,000,000,000 industry in 1944 from \$49,000,000,000 in 1940. If cash, deposits and savings bonds were added, the total value of the farm plant would approximate \$83,000,000,000, he said.

## Battle Royal

Even in the excitement of wartime, this year's presidential election promises to develop into an old-fashioned political dogfight.

As both candidates warmed up, President Roosevelt declared: "Some political propagandists are now dragging red herrings across the trail of this national election. For example, labor baiters and bigots and some politicians use the term 'communism' loosely, and apply it to every progressive social measure and to the views of every foreign born citizen with whom they disagree."

The same week, Governor Dewey proposed to "Revise the personal exemption so that the man who makes \$11 a week no longer has an income tax taken out of his envelope."

Reduce personal income tax rates... Change and lower the income tax on incorporated business companies so that it no longer acts as a drag upon production... Shorten the present endless list of nuisance taxes.

Gov. Dewey

With one man out of every six having left the mines since Pearl Harbor, employment in the industry has dropped from 558,000 to 463,000, with a shortage of 32,500 men expected by the end of the present coal year.

As a result of labor losses, employment in anthracite mines is the lowest since the 1870s, while the number of workers in the bituminous pits is the smallest since 1902.

## WAR PRODUCTION:

### Labor Shortages

As a result of the War Manpower commission's system of referring job applicants to important war industries, employment problems in the heavy-tire, artillery, ammunition, rayon, aviation gas, rockets and mica plants throughout the country have been relieved.

On the other hand, the WMC reported, radar, tire cord, explosives and ammunition loading plants, and certain critical shipyards, lost workers despite the need for additional numbers.

WMC reported smaller labor turnover in recent months in essential industries, with 4.9 per cent of the total now quitting compared with 5.6 per cent last June.

With employment in the nation's mines falling to the lowest level in years, domestic and industrial coal consumers were warned to continue fuel conservation and buy whatever kind of coal was available instead of waiting for preferred grades.

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Memos of a Columnist's Sec'y

Hugh Baillie, United Press chief, now covering the war on the Eastern front, wires back that the Nazis aren't quitting yet. But some of Hitler's pals over here want us to! One of my friends at Collier's tells me that back in the Spanish-American War our Navy was the first to use rocket guns on the USS Vesuvius. When it was told to some top Admirals they were flabbergasted.

Labor leader Lewis was the butt of a practical joker in a crowded Washington hotel foyer. Someone pinned a "For Roosevelt" button on his back, and was he fee-yoo-ree-us!

The Press Box: The N. Y. Herald Tribune headlined that telegrams praising Gov. Dewey's oratory are pouring in... Howcum? Isn't there a ruling against wires of congratulation during this war? Remember the journalistic whoops when the gov't took over Montgomery Ward? They wailed that it would devastate liberty.

The other day the same gov't took over a large Ohio war plant and the same gazettes buried the yarn... The Post offered an arresting contrast: One of its stories quoted Churchill stating that no war criminals will be free after the war. Another yarn revealed that British Fascist Capt. Ramsey (mixed up in Nazi espionage) had been released from gaol and was free to do as he bloody well pleased... How Tempus Fugit: Commy newspapers in the U. S. now praise the Repub stronghold -Wall Street.

At the National Press Club, Washington, the other day, George Gallup, the surveyor of public opinion, was cornered by some scribes. One said: "Doc, what does it look like to you right now?" To which Dr. Gallup replied: "Roosevelt, Bricker, Fala, Dewey and Truman!"

Mrs. Jonathan Wainwright, wife of the heroic General captured by the Japs, is due at the Waldorf October 7. She will do a broadcast with Mrs. R.

Newspaperman Stuff: Two syndicated columnists were talking shop the other night... The first remarked that one of his papers had dropped his stuff because he attacked people the paper liked... The other said: "They tried that with me. But I quit!" "Yeah," said Ann Sheridan, "but I'll bet you had to slide like hell to make it!"

The Moon Pitchers: In the new "March of Time" due this week, "What to Do With Germany" offers the best shot yet of Hitler losing control of his eyeballs. The scene apparently was among film captured by the Allies from retreating Nazis. An amazing scene—the convincer that Hitler is nuts... "Seventh Cross," a punchy anti-Nazi theme, becomes punch-drunk when it attempts to show good Germans in the Fatherland.

The President of Ecuador will be a White House guest... "There's No Place Like Washington" will be published around Election Day. Cong. S. Bloom's dght'r auth'd... Good news for the ladies: The WPB will give the official nod to shoe manufacturers some time soon. To make femme shoes again—with high heels...

The Vatican's gold in the U. S. (since 1941) will soon be returned to Rome. It was flown here via clipper 3 years ago... 32,000 firms dealing with war industry have applied to Dun & Bradstreet's for rating. Meaning that many expect to resume civilian work shortly... Beware of stories from H'wood on Sinatra. One aggrieved person has been gunning for him and may try printer's ink as the weapon.

Despite the promise of the Truman Committee not to do anything about the Breakers Hotel, Palm Beach, before Sept. 1st, the returned wounded there (Ream General Hospital) have been quietly transferred by Gen. Somervell to Camp Atterbury, Indiana... And, although he claimed there was no need for such a hospital on the Florida East Coast, Somervell is now transforming the WAC barracks at Daytona Beach to replace the Ream Gen'l Hospital... The current "inside" all over Washington and Palm Beach is that someone very dear to someone very influential used to spend the Winter at Palm Beach and was very upset when she could no longer go there!

## AMERICAN FARMERS SURPASS THEIR OWN MARK TO PRODUCE ANOTHER RECORD FOOD CROP IN 1944

153 Million Ton Grain Harvest  
Second Best.

25 Billion Pound Output of  
Meat All-High.

America's soil and America's farmers are an unbeatable combination. That's the belief of N. E. Dodd, chief of the agricultural adjustment agency of the U. S. department of agriculture, as he points to the eighth successive record food production soon to be completed, and the all-time high for total farm production that is also being entered on the books for 1944.

In all the history of the world, says Dodd, no country has before provided from its own farms enough food for all its civilians and all its fighting men, and had some to share with its allies. Proof, he says, can be found in a review of the record.

The 1944 harvest, according to department of agriculture figures, is estimated at 4 per cent more crops reaped and threshed than last year, while food production is up 5 per cent over 1943's record and 29 per cent over the pre-Pearl Harbor average for 1937-41.

Beginning in 1939, when war engulfed the European continent and America began to receive calls for supplies of all kinds, both food and total agricultural production have increased each year, building up to the 1944 records that top anything in the nation's history.

Yield of crops appears generally excellent, despite the hard use the soil has had of necessity during the war years. It is pointed out that only seven major crops show a lower yield than the average for 1933-42, which includes 1942's phenomenal yields. These crops are buckwheat, rice, dry beans and peas, peanuts, soybeans and sweet potatoes.

Leading crop this season is wheat. It is the second billion-bushel harvest in U. S. history, exceeding by 10 per cent the previous record set in 1915. Estimates are for some 1,115,402,000 bushels in 1944, 33 per cent more than last season and 47 per cent more than the average for the 1933-42 decade. Yield per acre exceeds 1943 by 10 per cent, and the earlier decade by 30 per cent. Biggest average acre yield for winter wheat is reported from Nevada, with 30 bushels per acre, compared with the national average of 18.6 bushels. Idaho is next with 29 bushels, followed by Washington with 28.5 bushels and Utah with 27 bushels per acre. Idaho and Utah lead in acre yield of spring wheat over the durum, with an average of 33 bushels per acre, compared with the national average of 17.5 bushels.

### Bumper Corn Harvest.

If the anticipated corn harvest of 3,101,000,000 bushels is realized, it will top last year by about 25,000,000 bushels and exceed the 1933-42 average by 732 million bushels, or nearly one-third. This is only a little below the all-time record set in 1942. The acre yield this year is slightly under 1943, but 23 per cent more than the average for 1933-42. Iowa heads the list for acre yield among the states with 52 bushels, compared with the national average of 31.8 bushels. Idaho takes second place with 47 bushels, followed by Illinois with 45 bushels, and New Hampshire, Vermont and Wisconsin tied with 40 bushels per acre.

Hybrid seed corn has played no small part in increasing corn production, according to the department of agriculture. Hybrids have been found to raise yield as much as 20 per cent, and in 1943 it was estimated that 600,000,000 bushels more corn were produced than would have been possible without the hybrids. Nearly 52 per cent of the corn acreage last year was planted to hybrid varieties, government figures show.

A third more sorghums for grain than in any previous season is anticipated with the harvest of about 150,000,000 bushels compared with 112,000,000 bushels in 1941, the highest production to date. The acre yield is 15 per cent more than in 1943, and 33 per cent greater than the 1933-42 average. California sets the pace for acre yield with 36 bushels per acre compared with a 17.9 national average, followed closely by Arizona with 33 bushels, Illinois with 28 bushels and Missouri with 21 bushels per acre.

The oats crop is estimated at 1,190,540,000 bushels, 4 per cent more than last year and 16 per cent more than the 1933-42 average. Acre yield is only slightly higher than last season and about 5 per cent above the 1933-42 average. Washington and Wisconsin have the highest acre yield among the states, probably influenced by the new Vicland variety which is harder and particularly adapted to those areas. Washington's 46 bushels per acre and Wisconsin's 42.5 bushels compare with the national average of 30 bushels. Utah with 41 bushels, and Nevada and Idaho with 40 bushels per acre also report good years.

Good crops of buckwheat and barley, and a near-record rice crop, when added to the other grains, indicate a total grain harvest of 153,000,000 tons. This would be slightly less than the



Busy with harvest on farm near Trappe, Md., William Eason and crew leave field with four bushels of tomatoes, infinitesimal part of estimated crop of 3,173,800 tons.

peak year of 1942, but 10,000,000 tons more than in 1943 and ranging from 12 to 28 per cent in excess of the harvest during the five years before 1942.

Hay production of some 98,000,000 tons in 1944 would mean a harvest of this important feed greater than in any years but 1916, 1927, 1942 and 1943. Acre yield of all tame hay is estimated at 1.39 tons, with California's average reaching 2.84 tons per acre, and Arizona's 2.40 tons. California also leads in acre yield of alfalfa hay with 4.20 tons compared with the national figure of 2.21 tons per acre. Arizona is again second, with 2.75 tons per acre. The state of Washington tops California for clover and timothy hay with 2.10 tons per acre compared with the national acre yield of 1.32 tons, and 1.85 tons per acre in California.

Peanut production may set a new record. The anticipated 1944 harvest is 2,365,630,000 pounds picked and threshed, 7 per cent more than in 1943 and 76 per cent more than the 1933-42 average production. Acre

yield is up 13 per cent over 1943, although it is 6 per cent less than the average for 1933-42.

Dry beans, dry peas and flaxseed are considerably below the large 1943 production, although compared with prewar harvests the production is of good size on all three crops.

Production of white potatoes is expected to be down substantially below the 1943 record harvest, although exceeding the 1933-42 average by about 4 per cent with a production of 377,589,000 bushels. Acre yield is down about 11 per cent this year, although some 4 per cent above the 1933-42 average yield per acre. The crop of sweet potatoes is estimated at about 2 per cent above average, although some 5 per cent below 1943's high.

Banner Vegetable Output. Housewives interested in supplies of fresh fruits and vegetables are expected to look with favor upon the record or near-record fruit and vegetable harvests indicated for 1944. Fruit supplies for the 1944-45 season are estimated to be 10 to 15 per cent greater than in 1943-44. Tonnage of citrus from the 1944 bloom is expected to be as large or larger than the record 1943-44 production

Fred Marshall of Minnesota epitomizes the American farmer, whose estimated 1,115,402,000 bushels of wheat for 1944 represent an all-time high for the U. S.

Another record egg production on farms is indicated. During the first eight months of 1944 total production is reported as up 6 per cent over the same period last year, and 48 per cent over the 1933-42 average. Although chickens for market dropped substantially below last year's high, about 3,500,000,000 pounds of chicken meat, or 42 per cent more than the 1933-42 average, are expected to be produced in 1944.

An increase of some 4 per cent in the production of all meats is indicated for 1944, compared with the 1943 record. A total of 25,000,000,000 pounds is expected this year, of which 10,790,000,000 pounds will be beef and veal. Beef production is estimated at about 10 per cent more than in 1943, with veal possibly 20 per cent more. An indicated 13,250,000,000 pounds of pork would be a little less than the large production in 1943, due to lighter market weights, but lamb production will probably total about 3,300,000,000 pounds, or 11 per cent more than last year's peak. Lamb and mutton production of about 970,000,000 pounds compares favorably with prewar years, although it would be 12 per cent below the 1943 record.