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WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Truman Treads Middle of Road In Naming New Cabinet Heads; Japs Tighten Hold on Homeland

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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.)

Cabinet Changes—President Harry S. Truman continued to tread a middle path in politics with his recent cabinet appointments, taking a New Dealer, an extreme liberal and southern Democrat into his official family.

In naming New Deal Rep. Clinton Anderson (N. M.) and liberal ex-Senator Lewis Schwellenbach (Wash.) as secretaries of agriculture and labor, respectively, Mr. Truman literally went into congressional ranks to make his selections, again moving to re-establish friendly relations between the White House and Capitol Hill. As a member of the department of justice, Tom C. Clark, the new attorney general, has enjoyed the confidence of both liberals and conservatives alike, further strengthening Mr. Truman's hand.

Though the President accepted Mrs. Perkins' resignation as secretary of labor because of her desire to return to private life, he was said to have taken Secretary of Agriculture Claude Wickard's in an effort to bolster the department, and Attorney General Biddle's as a natural result of the cool relations between them. Among other things, Biddle had sought the reappointment of the district attorney who sent Mr. Truman's old political sponsor, "Boss" Pendergast, to prison.

The President followed the announcement of his new cabinet appointments with a request to congress for passage of legislation permitting the reorganization of the executive branch of the government. Under such legislation, he would be able to consolidate or eliminate various agencies as conditions would dictate for economy and efficiency.

Sketches of new cabinet members follow:

| Anderson | Schwellenbach | Clark |
|---|--|---|
| Advocate of abundant production to stifle black markets and inflation, Secretary of Agriculture Clinton Anderson, 49, recently attracted attention as chairman of house food investigating committee. Adopted son of New Mexico, Anderson built up successful insurance business and became large land owner, holding 1,000-acre cattle and dairy farm outside Albuquerque. He has served as treasurer, relief administrator and unemployment compensation director of the state. | Elected to senate on highly liberal platform in 1934, Secretary of Labor Lewis Schwellenbach, 50, retired in 1940 to become federal judge. Vet of World War I, Schwellenbach soon entered politics after conflict's end, was defeated in bid for governorship of Washington in 1932 after calling for government ownership of utilities and use of idle lands and factories for unemployed. Noted for his liberalism, Schwellenbach's appointment was warmly received by both the AFL and CIO. | Dark, quiet 6-foot Attorney General Thomas (Tom) C. Clark, 45, is representative of the Deep South and the protégé of House Speaker Sam Rayburn and Senator Tom Connally. Prominent in Texas legal circles, Clark entered department of justice in 1937, becoming assistant and then head of the anti-trust division. As chief of war frauds unit, Clark reportedly has recovered more than \$100,000,000 for the government and brought about the indictment of 1,000 persons. |

JAPAN:

Tighten Reins

Backed almost to the wall, Japan increased efforts to shore up the home front for the critical days that lie ahead. Even as the Nipponese officials acted, B-29 bombers followed up their devastating attacks on Nagoya with equally concentrated assaults on Tokyo, striking at the thousands of tiny shops producing small parts for big industries. Steps taken to combat the U. S. swallows included:

1. Mobilization and special training of 20,000,000 students and an agrarian militia to defend the homeland.

2. Suppression of all pacifist sentiment and punishment of persons failing to turn in Allied propaganda pamphlets.

3. Efforts to perfect the operations of the Kamikaze (suicide) air corps.

4. Granting of virtual military authority to Japanese employers to utilize the time of their labor as they see fit without regard to working hours, rest periods or other regulations.

5. Collection of nearly 5,000,000,000 bushels of surplus rice from agricultural districts now before bombings disrupt the transport system for distribution to shortage areas. Villages possessing no rice surpluses must substitute wheat, corn, German millet or dessau grass.

tional districts and all central government abolished.

Doenitz' arrest followed Allied declarations that he was being allowed to operate as an ersatz fuhrer to complete the formal surrender of German air, sea and ground forces. His mission virtually accomplished, Doenitz was taken into custody along with other members of the German general staff, said to be facing from 10 to 15 years of imprisonment.

With Germany lacking any central government, the U. S., British and Russians assumed general control in their respective occupation zones. At the present, the best the Germans could look forward to was local communal self-rule, with possibilities it might be raised to a county level.

Meanwhile, General Eisenhower ordered the release of German war prisoners whose services were needed in agriculture and Allied supporting activities in the defeated country.

Scheduled for trial as the No. 1 war criminal, Gestapo Chief Heinrich Himmler cheated the Allies of vengeance by swallowing potassium cyanide even as a medical officer was searching him for poison in the parlor of a residence in Luebeck.

Once head of the dread Nazi police that kept both Germany and occupied countries under thumb, Himmler staggered to his end, personally slipping on his glasses to identify himself when first detained, then shaking loose the poison vial attached to a gum to gulp the contents while being examined.

Even before his seizure, Himmler's wife had believed him a suicide. "He's better off dead," she said then. "They're all better off dead."

FREIGHT RATES:

Equal Break

The South's long struggle for parity in freight rates was partially won with the Interstate Commerce commission's order equalizing rail charges for manufactured and high grade goods in all sections from the Atlantic seaboard to the Rocky mountains.

As a result of the ICC's order calling for an increase in so-called class freight rates in the East and a reduction in the South and West, industrial products in the latter two regions will be able to enter markets on a more equal footing with eastern manufacturers.

At the same time, however, both the South and West were allowed to enjoy lower rates on such bulk commodities as coal, livestock, lumber, grain, cotton and sand. As previously worked out, the freight rates favored eastern industries and southern and western prime producers, establishing an economic pattern which the South recently has been fighting in order to attain more balanced economy for full utilization of her material and labor resources.

FOOD OUTLOOK:

Below Expectations

Hope for marked improvement in the meat situation by next fall and through 1946 was dampened by the Agricultural Adjustment administration's report that this year's estimated pig crops of 87,200,000 head would fall about 5,300,000 below War Food administration goals and result in a loss of eight pounds of pork per person.

At the same time, the AAA declared recent surveys showed that plantings of such important food and feed crops as corn, potatoes, dry beans, sweet potatoes, sugar beets and cane, peanuts and flaxseed also would drop below WFA goals.

If 2,500,000 head short of the 55-500,000 goal as estimated, the spring pig crop would affect fall and winter supplies of pork, while a 2,750,000 shortage in the 37,000,000 goal of fall production would be felt in the summer of 1946. To increase pig breeding, both congressional committees and the AAA recommended a boost in the present support price from the \$13.00 per hundredweight level.

GREAT BRITAIN:

To Vote

Cunning as an international politician, pugnacious Winston Churchill again proved himself no amateur on the home front, literally forcing Great Britain's first general election in 10 years at a time when he and his conservative party are riding the crest of favor as a result of Germany's defeat.

Not only did Churchill force the election, but he also resigned as prime minister, thus letting the door open for a thumping re-indorsement of his position when he himself runs for commons in the July elections. Until determination of a new government then, Churchill agreed to head a temporary regime.

In British politics, the prime minister customarily is the leader of the majority party in commons, with its 615 members. Thus should the conservatives ride to power again, Churchill again could be looked for to lead the government, or turn the job over to a fellow-partisan like Anthony Eden. Because the Labor party failed in its attempt to postpone the election to autumn when conservative luster might have worn because of opposition to some of the liberal postwar proposals, it resigned from Churchill's wartime cabinet to resume the function of a critical minority.

MORE DRIVING:

Up Gas Rations

Lessened demands following Germany's capitulation plus the tremendous production of the industry made possible an increase of from four to six gallons in the "A" card gas ration and the boost in the maximum "B" allotment to 650 miles a month for the whole country.

Because of the necessity of re-arranging manufacture, transportation and distribution facilities, the increased rations will not become effective before June 22 for the "A" and June 11 for the "B" cards.

With the bulk of U. S. shipping slated to haul supplies over greater distances to the Pacific theater, transport demands for fuel will be even larger than for the German Jap fronts combined, thus dimming any prospects for an increase in oil rations for home heating.

REDEPLOYMENT:

1st to Pacific

One of the spearheads of the Allied drive across France and Germany, and the initial western force to join up with the Russians at the Elbe river, the U. S. 1st army was the first whose transfer to the Pacific theater from Europe was announced by the war department.

In revealing the shift, the war department said that many of the divisions of the original 1st will have to be reconstituted because of the release of vets under the point system. Personnel retained will be given 30-day furloughs in the U. S. before resuming duties.

Commanded by Lt. Gen. Courtney Hodges, the 1st was foremost among the Allied armies that stormed the Normandy beaches and pushed the Germans back into the Reich. Recovering from Von Rundstedt's surprise Belgian offensive, the 1st cracked the Siegfried Line, established the Remagen bridgehead east of the Rhine and raced Lt. Gen. George Patton's U. S. 3rd army across the waist of Germany.



Notes of a New Yorker:

Dept. of Accurate Reporting: A certain newsmag reports Molotov acted as host at a dinner for Stettinius and Eden—during which Molly gave some of the details concerning the pinch of the 16 Poles. . . . The news-weekly's sister (a picture mag) on the same date reports that the dinner was given by Stettinius in his (Stetty's) apartment! Cum, cum, fellers, who's right?

James Gordon Bennett, who founded the N. Y. Herald, made it the most popular newspaper of its time. . . . "I make it a rule," he declared, "never to be more than a day ahead of the people and never an hour behind!"

Franco was discussing the breaking off of relations with Germany with one of his henchmen. . . . "I believe," stated the latter, "that we should take further steps to show that we are now in the United Nations camp."

"What do you suggest?" queried the ace bull-throver of Spain.

"I think," continued the henchman, "we should set our flags at half mast for Roosevelt and pay tribute to him in the press and on the radio. We should also play Allied music on the air, including even some of the Russian composers."

"That's going a little too far," warned Franco. "If we get too democratic we may not be invited to the San Francisco conference."

Believe it or don't, so what? . . . Fat, paunchy Hermann Goering, nazishtunk No. 2, who was sooo brave and fearless when his luft-waffe was blasting Coventry to bits, showed his true colors when caught. To the American soldiers assigned to watch him, he tremulously pleaded: "Guard me well."

"Oh, we will," responded one of the G.I.s. "I come from a farm, and a long time ago my father taught me how to take care of pigs."

A group of senators were discussing the work of the security conference. Said an anti-Soviet politico: "I'm disappointed in the work of our delegation. They should have seen to it that the Russians were put in their place."

"I agree," thundered a second Sovvy-bogeyman, "and if the Reds don't know their place, we've got to show 'em—by force of arms, if necessary!"

"Wait a moment," interrupted a liberal senator. "All you fellows talk about is hemming the Soviets in and fighting them. I thought it was the Axis we were fighting."

"Fight the Axis, fight the Axis!" snapped the hate-Russia gent. "That's all you ever think of!"

When Norwegian police threw Nazi-puppet Quisling into the jug, he raised vigorous objections. The cops relieved him of a satchel containing chocolate and cognac.

"Give me back my satchel!" Quisling ranted. "I have done nothing but good for Norway, and a statesman like me should not be placed in an ordinary cell!"

"Don't worry," soothed one of his guards. "You will soon be placed in an underground vault."

A wealthy couple had taken in a little boy of Swiss parentage at the start of the war. His family sent the youngster on here because of fear of bombings, and he was cared for by his foster-parents.

The other day the youngster was playing with the offspring of the family cook. The cook's kid asked the other: "Was your dad a soldier, and did he have to fight in the war?"

"No," answered the little fellow. "My father didn't fight because we are Swiss, and we are neutral."

"Yes, I know," replied the first. "My mother's family are Swedish, and they are neutral, too, but which side was your country neutral for?"

By Way of Report: Recent photos showing a soldier on his knees with his eyes blindfolded and a Jap samurai sword-juggler ready to behead him are 2 1/2 years old. . . . The Allied soldier was not an American. He was Australian. And the King of England awarded the Victoria Cross posthumously to his family.

The other day the Will Hays office announced that it could not permit national release of a full length documentary film recording many of the Nazi atrocities.

With Food Supply Expected to Be Tighter Than Ever, Women's Land Army Faces Its Greatest Challenge

City Girls and Women Are Urgently Needed for Every Sort of Farm Job

Women have done an outstanding job in this war, and nowhere have their efforts been more important than in helping with the farm harvest.

Until complete victory is won, there must be no letup on the home front. In this critical year of the war, the high rate of food production must be continued. At the same time, the farm labor shortage will be even more serious in many areas.

The answer is for town and city people—especially women and youth—to step into the breach, as they have done for the past three years. Farm people themselves are working harder and longer hours than ever before. But they need extra helpers, especially during the harvest season. That group of women doing emergency wartime farm work comprise the Women's Land Army. Their patriotic efforts have saved farm crops in thousands of cases.

The Women's Land Army is a movement rather than an organization. It is mainly a seasonal army. In each state, it is under the direction of the state extension service, with headquarters at the state agricultural college. Most states have a Women's Land Army supervisor who works closely with the county agricultural agents and their farm labor assistants. In most localities, the county agent administers the emergency farm labor program . . . recruiting and placing workers on farms. Last year, these local placement offices . . . 12,000 over the country . . . placed about 350,000 women in farm work, and about as many other women were recruited directly by farmers or found their



Her husband is fighting on some Pacific island, and she is doing her bit on the home front by working on a Connecticut dairy farm. Her duties include milking, cleaning the barn, and caring for the calves.

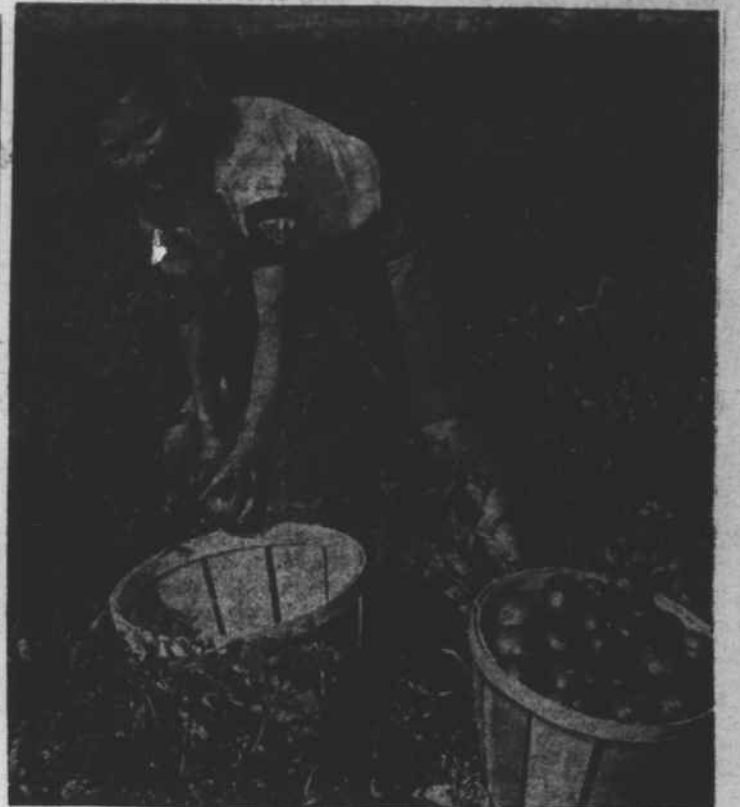
own jobs. These women received prevailing farm wages for the amount and type of work done. Besides these a great many farm women worked on their own and neighboring farms.

Who Are WLA Workers?

All women who help in the wartime production of food, feed, or fiber are a part of the Women's Land Army. Women from farms, cities and towns . . . farm women who work longer hours than ever before . . . women from offices, factories and stores . . . women whose husbands are overseas . . . housewives, college girls and teachers. . . . They are women of all ages who spend all summer, all year, or only a few hours, a week end or a vacation period—helping bring through the farm crops our country must have.

North, south, east and west, women do all kinds of farm work. Singly and in groups, they pick beans, tomatoes and other vegetables. They detassel corn, shock grain, pick potatoes, pick and pack berries, apples, peaches, grapes, other fruits and nuts. They work in cotton, grain, tobacco and flax; drive tractors, farm trucks and combines; milk the cows and care for poultry flocks. In brief, as and where needed, women help plant, cultivate, and harvest the food and fiber crops and care for the livestock—all so necessary in the war effort.

Farm wives and daughters—hundreds of thousands of them—do a magnificent job, helping with haying, milking, feeding livestock. They handle just about every farm task,



Probably the greatest need for seasonal help is in harvesting perishable vegetables and fruits. It is particularly important that all of the tomato crop be brought to market, as this vegetable is a cheap and abundant source of vitamin C.

many of which they have never done before, putting in long hours at the double job of housework and farm work.

Typical is one midwestern farm woman who, during corn planting time, drove a tractor from 4 to 8 a. m. each day, and then did the farm chores before starting her regular housework, which she does without benefit of electricity and running water.

Town Women Prove Capable.

Even though town women were at first accepted reluctantly by many farmers, they have now proved themselves in farm work. Their help is especially valuable at harvest time, for crops like apples, peaches and other fruit; for beans, tomatoes, potatoes, peanuts and cotton. Teachers and college girls often spend two or three summer months in farm work. Business women work part of their vacation time, evenings and week ends harvesting tomatoes, beans and carrots, detasseling corn and picking apples, peaches and grapes.

Homemakers also answer the local call for peak-season harvesting. For example, in an Oregon county last year, 500 homemakers helped save the bean crop. Each day they boarded the "Housewives Special"—buses leaving for the field at 8:30 a. m. and returning at 3 p. m. This gave them time to do the family breakfast before leaving and to market for supper in the late afternoon.

In Washington, as in other states, women joined groups of "twilight pickers" . . . working evenings in the big berry crop. And in a California county, women working 7 to 11 p. m. as peach cutters to help save 20,000 tons of peaches by drying were known as the "Victory Shift."

Women's underlying motive for doing farm work is, for the most part, patriotism—a deep desire to help . . . to have a part in feeding our soldiers and our allies—and an intense conviction that no food should go to waste. As a 60-year-old woman said, after picking 3 tons of beans, "I'm glad to do it . . . you see, I have a son in the air corps."

Of women who do farm work, by far the greatest number live at home and work by the day, or part-time, on farms nearby.

Spend Vacations on Farms.

Some women, especially college girls, teachers and business women, spend part of their vacation time in labor supply camps, working on surrounding farms. For one week, two weeks, or the entire summer, they cultivate and pick vegetables or harvest fruit. Many Smith college students, as a part of their college's summer plan of "work or study" formed groups which lived as one household in the farming area where they worked.

Camps for women workers are operated in many states. Last year, New York state's WLA camps included about 3,000 New York City women and girls on their vacation time. Life in camp is not all work. Women find it interesting and broadening, with the companionship of women from many different places. As one worker said, after an eve-

ning of recreation in camp, "We're all friends, and that's what we're fighting for, isn't it?"

Even more interesting than picking cherries was the "contact with different people," wrote another camp worker on returning home. Her fellow campers included an Italian teacher, a woman who had fled from Germany, college students, a librarian, a magazine writer, a governess, and a mother of 12 children.

In some cases, women live right on the farm for the summer. They do such work as taking care of the garden, planting, hoeing and harvesting onions, carrots or other vegetables, or helping do a hired man's job. Typical of such workers are a serviceman's wife who has full care of the poultry flock on a large general farm, and a woman who has charge of the milk room on a dairy farm.

Some women serve as "hired hands." They milk, take care of the poultry flock, feed livestock, and work in the field. Of the approximately 9,000 women placed for year-round work in 1944, many of them were wives of men employed on the same farm.

How to Get a Farm Job.

A woman who can work for the entire summer or for several weeks, should consult her county extension agent or local farm employment office immediately. These offices usu-



A student from William and Mary college spends part of her summer vacation picking, grading and packing peaches in a Virginia orchard.

ally are located in the county courthouse or federal (post office) building. If she cannot find this local office, she may write to the Women's Land Army supervisor at her state agricultural college, or to Women's Land Army, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

A woman who can work for only short periods of time should stand by for the call in her community. It will come through her local newspapers and over the radio. She will then be told when and where to apply.