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WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Increase Conservation as Wheat Supplies Shrink; Conservatives Top Free Japanese Elections

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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.)



Casting their ballots in Tokyo, these two women were among the unexpectedly large number of their sex who voted in first free election in Japan in decade.

FOOD:

Wheat Stocks Shrink

With heavy domestic and export demands being made on the nation's shrinking wheat supply, the government mapped additional conservation measures for grain but rejected a British proposal for bread rationing by the two countries.

Current figures point up the pinch developing in wheat. Against an estimated supply of 332 million bushels, U. S. commitments for export before July 1 total 125 million bushels, the present domestic rate of consumption will take another 125 million bushels, at least 35 million bushels will be used for feed and 13 million bushels may be used for spring seed.

Use of 298 million bushels of wheat by July 1 thus would leave the U. S. with a visible supply of 35 million bushels at the beginning of the new crop year. In arriving at the current figure of 332 million bushels, agronomists added the department of agriculture's estimate of 203 million bushels on farms on April 1 with projections that elevator holdings matched last year's high mark of 129 million bushels.

In turning down Britain's bid for mutual bread rationing, Secretary of Agriculture Anderson declared that the extensive widespread production of grain in the U. S. would make control difficult. Small nations like Britain depending chiefly upon imports for their wheat can exercise more efficient check on their supplies, he said.

Relax Building Order

Farmers and workers engaged in output of essential products were made eligible for building material priorities through government relaxation of emergency housing regulations. It was also determined to provide priority assistance for the repair or alteration of existing dwellings either to maintain them or restore them to a habitable state. Builders who undertook construction of non-vet residences before March 26 may apply for priorities to complete their work.

JAPAN:

Big Vote

Following the general postwar trend, Japanese voters swung to the right in the first free elections in Nippon in a decade, with the nation's conservative parties winning sufficient representation in the 466-member parliament to assure a temperate tone of legislation.

Between 60 and 68 per cent of the 40 million eligible voters turned out for the balloting, with the women appearing in unexpectedly large numbers. With nearly half the ballots in the Tokyo district cast by women, 66-year-old Mrs. Shigeyo Takeuchi and American-educated Mrs. Shizue Kato piled up big leads.

Though running far behind the conservative parties, the Communists showed surprising strength to win a number of seats. Lacking the veteran, smoothly oiled machines of the conservative forces, the Reds succeeded in commanding prominent last-minute notice with public demonstrations against Premier Shidehara and the existing regime. The Reds accused Shidehara of being reactionary and blamed him for the food shortage.

POLES:

Shun Homeland

Apprehensive over Russian domination of their homeland, the majority of members of the British-backed Polish army in exile are unwilling to accept an offer of repatriation, a sounding sentiment among troops in Italy revealed.

The apathy of many toward returning to their native soil arises from their imprisonment in Russia after the Red occupation of eastern Poland in 1939. Prior to being released upon the formation of the Polish liberation forces after the German attack on Russia, some served two years of sentences ranging up to 15 years.

With Russian insistence upon their return to their homeland constituting a thorny diplomatic issue, many of the Poles interviewed expressed a desire to settle in Canada or Chicago, Ill., where a million Americans of Polish descent reside.

CO-OPS:

Called Beneficial

Declaring there was substantial evidence to show that the co-operative movement has proven an effective instrument for combating monopolistic control, the house select committee on small business reported that co-ops were a healthy addition to the American economy and did not endanger other forms of business operation.

Discussing agricultural co-ops, the committee said they were originally organized to help farmers offset disadvantageous bargaining conditions which still exist. Though tax-exempt farm co-ops possess an edge over competitive business in that stock dividends and reserves are not subject to levy, the actual amounts involved are relatively small, the committee said.

In considering the imposition of a receipts tax on co-ops, the committee asserted such a levy would probably raise constitutional issues and adversely affect schools, churches, scientific organizations and many social clubs with a comparable advantage of tax exemption.

Under increased pay schedules considered by the solons, privates and apprentice seamen would receive \$75 monthly instead of \$50; private first class and seaman second class \$81 instead of \$54; corporal and seaman first class \$92 instead of \$66; sergeant or petty officer first class \$115 instead of \$96; staff sergeant or petty officer second class \$115 instead of \$96; technical sergeant or petty officer first class \$135 instead of \$114, and first sergeant, master sergeant or chief petty officer \$165 instead of \$138.

In addition, commissioned officers would receive substantial pay raises, with top ranking generals and admirals being hiked from \$666 to \$732.

UN:

Double-Trouble

Already pressed with the Russian demand for dropping the Iranian question entirely, the United Nations' security council was confronted with the equally ticklish Polish proposal that the international organization recommend severance of diplomatic relations with Spain.

Poland's Russian-backed complaint to the security council that the Franco regime constituted a threat to world peace came at a time when both the U. S. and Britain preferred to move slowly against the Spanish government despite their repugnance of it. Supported by France, the two English-speaking Allies desire the development of an orderly opposition movement in Spain to prevent the outbreak of another civil war if Franco is dislodged.

In protesting to the security council against Spain, Poland cited the UN general assembly's action of last February, condemning the Franco regime as having been established with axis aid and lacking qualification for membership in the international organization.

Meanwhile, the security council sweated over Russia's formal demand that the Iranian question be considered closed and neither of the two disputants be obliged to report back May 6 on the fulfillment of the Soviet pledge to withdraw from the little country without exercising pressure for petroleum and oil concessions.

With Iran opposed to the Russian demand, diplomatic circles felt that Moscow's action was inspired by its desire to avert a security council probe of the recent oil agreement reached between the two countries, in which the Reds obtained a 51 per cent stock control of a joint Russo-Iranian company for exploiting petroleum deposits in northern Iran.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS:

Old Gives Way

As the League of Nations was officially bowing out in the shimmering marble palace in Geneva, Switzerland, French Delegate Paul-Boncour sounded a warning to the youthful United Nations that unless they agreed upon disarmament the peace machinery established in UN might come to naught.

Pointing up the collapse of the old League following the refusal of governments to abandon military forces as a potential instrument of policy, Paul-Boncour said that while UN contemplated an international organization of two million troops, a major power could raise four million unless disarmament were adopted.

The scene of intensive wrangling throughout its existence, the League breathed hard to the end, the Argentine delegation walking out upon its failure to obtain one of the last vice presidencies. Following consultations with other delegations and its own government, however, the Argentine returned.



The Big City:

Free Warning to Cafegoers: Those stirrers you get with your highball are not sanitary. . . . Nearly everyone sticks the things into their kissers or runs them over their teeth—and the bartenders have no way of sterilizing them before passing them on to the next patron. . . . Suggestion: Carry your own—they come in silver and gold. . . . The jewelry stores can send my commissions to the Catholic, Jewish and Protestant Charities.

Oops! In Movietown there is a "charm" school that teaches pet animals various stunts and manners. The school also coaches the masters of the pets.

Columbia Pictures' boss Harry Cohn enrolled his dog in the course. After ten days Mr. Cohn wanted to quit because: "We're not getting anywhere!"

"I'm sorry, Mr. Cohn," said the instructor, "but you will have to learn that you cannot talk to your dog—as though he were an actor or a writer."

In Other Words: After reading the papers about the way some society upstarts are behaving, Bill Schiller memo'd: "They call them thorough-breeds. I call them thorough-brats!"

Heheheh: Larry Storch, the Copa comic, overheard a man and woman as they came out after witnessing "The Lost Weekend."

"I'm through!" said the man. "With drinking?" she asked. "No, movies!"

You've Met Him: One of those bores spoiled a party with a series of spineless stories and loud gab. Finally, he got up to leave.

"What I need," he said, "is a little shut-eye."

"What you need," said Phil Brito, "is a little shut-up!"

It Happened: Hollywood actors report that it happened on the Super-Chief the other week-end. A man nobody knew kept buying drinks for all in the crowded club car. He displayed a wallet packed with \$1,000 bills.

A film magnate was concerned when he passed out. He helped him to his compartment. Then the producer worried that he would be robbed—since the limp one wouldn't think to lock himself in. The producer took the stranger's wallet for safe-keeping.

At noon the producer joined the drunk in the diner and said: "You were pretty tight last night, so I put you to bed. Here's your wallet."

The stranger brought a wallet from his own hip and said: "Thanks—and here's yours."

Merciless Truth: H. L. Mencken says there are two times in every man's life when he is thoroughly happy.

Just after he has met his first love and just after he has parted from his last one.

The Morning Mail: "Dear Walter," writes a reader, "I spent the week-end in the country. I heard two army horses (which are to be cared for—the rest of their lives) congratulating each other—on not being mere G.I.s."

Saddest Story of the Week: Les Brown, the bandleader, brought it in. . . . It's the saga of the high-wire artist. . . . Poor chap. . . . He jumped 50 feet straight up into the air—grabbed a trapeze—did 25 fast flips—and caught the trapeze between his teeth—with no hands! . . . Imagine! . . . Then he tried it a second time—missed—and fell to the stage with a crash that rocked the theater. . . . The producer helped the battered performer to his feet, put him in a chair and said: "You did fine—and then you had to louse it up by getting slapsticky!"

Broadway Glossary: Bartender: The one guy at the bar who knows what he's doing. . . . Marquee: Any actor's heaven. . . . Chanteuse: Not a singer. . . . Maestro: Corniest member of the band. . . . Ingenue: Chorus girl who is "Going Places"—with the producer. . . . Romance: When he picks up the check. . . . Love: When she does. . . . Manager: An unsuccessful booking agent. . . . Critic: District attorney invited to the crime. . . . Stagehand: Off-stage prima donna. . . . Fals: The penalty of success. . . . Loyalty: Being true to someone on top. . . . By-Line: What has ruined more writers than hooch. . . . Luck: The other fellow's formula. . .



The Lone Star State

Motto: Friendship

Flower: Bluebonnet

By EDWARD EMERINE

WNU Washington Correspondent

WNU Features

NO NATIVE has ever seen all of Texas—and no visitor ever will.

A huge, incredibly rich piece of real estate, with more cattle than human beings, and ranches described in square miles rather than acres!

Texas derives its name from "tejas," meaning friend or ally. Six great flags have flown over the state—Spanish, French, Mexican, Republic of Texas, Confederate and United States. But no one nation built Texas, or developed it. It was built by the Texans, a breed apart. They conquered it, and they made it over to suit their taste. They did it with rifles, six-shooters and bowie

knives; with corn, cotton, cattle and barbed-wire; with books and Bibles, schools and churches; with sugar mills, gin mills, sawmills; with oil drills and oil refineries.

The first settlers found an acreage that was unlimited, soil that was fertile, a climate that was caressing, a land abundant in natural resources. So they set to work and gave Texas its traditions, its culture, its costumes and customs, its manner of speech, its swagger, its reputation. They gave it big hats, handsome riding boots, sheriffs and Texas Rangers.

Texas is a mighty empire of the southwest, a land of superlatives. It sprawls huge across the map, sniffing breezes from the Gulf of Mexico and ozone-laden air from the Rocky mountains. It has its coastal plain, its central plains, and western high plains, ranging in altitude from sea level to 4,700 feet—and peaks pointing even higher. There are 800 long miles between the semi-tropical Rio Grande and the northern border, and the greatest distance east and west is 775 miles. Water covers 3,498 square miles of Texas with plenty of dry land left. Texas has 254 counties, some of them large enough to be states!

Along the Sabine river on the east, the annual rainfall is 55 inches; El Paso has only 9 inches. Snow seldom falls in most of the state; 3 feet of it has been known in the high altitudes of west Texas. Wheat grows in the temperate north, oranges and grapefruit in the subtropical south,

and corn and cotton in between. No one can predict when the "norther," a sharp cold wind, will strike any part of the state. Nearly a million acres are irrigated, and such cities as San Antonio, Houston, Galveston and El Paso get their water from artesian wells. There are 230 kinds of fish in lakes and streams, and 4,000 different wild flowers blossom within its borders.

Between the twisted salt cedars of the Gulf coast and the desert reaches of ocotillo and sotol in the west, there are 12 million acres of commercial forests, 550 kinds of grasses and 100 varieties of cactus. There are alligators on the coast, horned toads in the desert, and rattlesnakes wherever you find them. Once 80 million buffalo grazed in Texas, and it still knows the armadillo, chaparral bird and road-runner.

Here is a land of forest and desert, of fertile fields and jagged mountains, of rolling prairies, sleepy rivers and wide Gulf beaches. And here Texans created Houston with its 50-mile ship channel to the Gulf; San Antonio's ancient houses with yard-thick adobe walls—and skyscrapers; Dallas, the city of the north; Fort Worth, the cow town; Austin, the capital; Galveston, picturesque port and beach; El Paso, with American energy and Mexican color. It is suitable that there should be added such as Randolph field, "the West Point of the air corps," and Fort Sam Houston, the army's largest post. Oil wells have brought scores of El Dorados to the state, and Texas natural gas is piped to Colorado, Kansas, Wyoming, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Illinois. If the gas ever runs out, plenty of coal remains.

Quotations like these tell the story of Texas: "Who'll go with old Ben Milam into San Antonio?" "I'm going to Texas—to fight for my rights," a Tennessean on his way to join Texas' War for Independence. "The Americans were so stubborn that not one of them would surrender," Gen. Santa Anna. "Ride like Mexicans, shoot like Tennesseans, and fight like the devil," the Texas Rangers. "Thermoplas had its messenger of defeat; the Alamo had none," inscription. "Remember the Alamo! Remember Goliad! Sam Houston. 'The Republic of Texas is no more,'" Anson Jones.

The shrine of Texas is the Alamo where 182 men, including Travis, Crockett, Bowie and Bonham, refused to escape or surrender. At Goliad, a Texas force under Fannin surrendered and was massacred. At San Jacinto, the furious Texans, under Sam Houston, in 20 minutes shattered Santa Anna's army and won independence for Texas.

Texas, still in cowboy boots, has its great trading centers and seaports, its flying fields and oil derricks, its mines and fields, and cattle ranges. It retains its old flavor, but combines the glories of its past with new energies and new horizons. In agriculture, industry, culture and recreation, the Texas tradition of "biggest and best" is making new strides.

There is only one Texas—it is the expansive, friendly, hospitable and progressive Texas we all know.



GOVERNOR COKE STEVENSON
A freight wagon operator at age 16, Coke Stevenson has been banker, lawyer, county attorney, county judge, state legislator, and lieutenant governor and governor of Texas.

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"Grapefruit Bowl," Lower Rio Grande, near McAllen, Texas