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WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

British to Adopt U.S. Arms; U.S. Agrees to Disarmament; Scotch World Food Proposal

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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.



Pickets at Allis-Chalmers plant at Milwaukee, Wis., tip over workers' car as deputy sheriffs attempt to check act. (See LABOR.)

BRITISH ARMS:

Adopt U. S. Pattern

Close U. S. and British relations, first fostered toward the turn of the last century with the recognition of British naval strength in the Atlantic as a defensive bulwark, have been knitted even more firmly with Britain's decision to adopt American patterns for land, air and naval weapons.

Back of the move was the growing political unanimity of the two countries, already intimately bound by close racial, social and economic ties. Together they stand for a way of life spread over the width of the globe by British enterprise and now supported by U. S. diplomatic and military might.

Practically, standardization of U. S. and British weapons will permit the British to purchase arms in this country in case of a future emergency without the need for redesigning American productive facilities. At the same time, it will allow for the manufacture of American type weapons in such British outposts as Australia and New Zealand, where the U. S. will have ready sources of supply for Pacific operations.

Ten years may be required to complete the conversion of British arms to American standards, with rifles, cartridges, mortars, artillery and naval guns undergoing change.

U. N.:

In Accord

The U. S. and Russia came off all even in their first swap at the United Nations assembly in New York.

If anything, the U. S. got the better of the exchange as Delegate Warren R. Austin of Vermont conducted himself with a gentlemanly reserve that contrasted with Foreign Minister Molotov's vitriol.

Molotov was the first to speak, calling for international disarmament, a report on the number of allied troops in non-enemy states, retention of the veto power of the Big Five in the security council. He bitterly attacked U. S. and British imperialists, headed by Winston Churchill, for seeking world domination.

Ignoring Molotov's political charges, Austin entered into a discussion of the proposals raised by the Russian:

If the Russians wanted international disarmament, the U. S. would gladly oblige, provided an adequate system of inspection and other safeguards would be established to guarantee fulfillment of the program. After the last war, Austin recalled, the U. S. accepted the principle of disarmament but remained alone in carrying it out.

If the Russians desired a report on the number of Allied troops in non-enemy states, the U. S. suggested that the check be extended to former enemy countries as well. (Such an all-conclusive report would provide the world with an adequate estimate of Russian troop strength behind the iron curtain, said by Churchill to total 200 divisions.)

If the Russians opposed a modification of the veto power at this time, the U. S. also was against revision of the U. N. charter. However, the U. S. hoped that the Big Five could get together in the future to modify the veto in the case of peaceful settlement of disputes, although retaining it on the question of applying force.

FAO:

U. S. Backs Down

Having heartily endorsed a plan of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization at Copenhagen, Denmark, for distribution of food to needy countries at bargain prices, the U. S. repudiated its position as an FAO commission met in Washington, D. C., to work out details of the project.

Under the plan, FAO would have purchased food from surplus producing countries out of a revolving fund contributed by member nations. When the world price for food would have gone above a predetermined level, then FAO would have sold its reserves to needy buyers at the lower figure.

In rejecting the plan, Undersecretary of Agriculture Norris E. Dodd expressed doubt that FAO could achieve its objective under present conditions. Instead, Dodd suggested that the problem of future farm surpluses and marketings could best be solved through a system of international commodity arrangements.

LABOR:

Militant

Police were hard put to maintain order at the Allis-Chalmers tractor plant at Milwaukee, Wis., as striking pickets of the CIO-United Automobile Workers bucked a back to work movement of over 3,000 employees. As violence mounted, the number of returning workers was cut in half.

As militant pickets turned over cars attempting to enter the plant, clashed with returning workers and hurled stones at company windows, county and suburban police were compelled to appeal to Milwaukee authorities for reinforcements. Over 200 of Milwaukee's finest were sent to the plant, but even so the enlarged police detail encountered difficulty holding the strikers in check.

Allis-Chalmers remained adamant against granting UAW a closed shop as the strike entered its seventh month. While agreeing to check off union dues with workers' permission, the company stood out against compromise on compelling employees to join the UAW.

WORLD TRADE:

Hit British Pact

The U. S. state and treasury departments joined in objecting to the recently concluded British-Argentine trade pact, with American officials feeling that provisions of the treaty violated promises Britain made in obtaining a 3.75 billion dollar loan from this country.

State department objections centered around Britain's agreement to purchase 83 per cent of Argentine beef the first year and 78 per cent annually thereafter. Officials declared that such provisions as incorporated in trade pacts with Canada, New Zealand and Australia as well as Argentina tended to restrict world trade as advocated by the U. S.

The treasury protested against the clause restricting Argentina's use of blocked sterling balances in world trade. Blocked sterling balances represent the credits owing Argentina for goods and services provided Britain during the war. Britain agreed to release some of Argentina's sterling balances for use in world trade only if she buys more from the United Kingdom and associated countries than she sells them.

SHOES:

Decontrolled

Following upon the decontrol of meat and livestock and rising cattle prices, Reconversion Director Steelman ordered the removal of ceilings on shoes, hides, skins and leathers in the interests of higher production.

The government's action reversed the position previously taken at the time of decontrol of meat and livestock that shoes and their component materials would remain under regulation because of their scarcity and importance in the cost of living. As a result of their decontrol, OPA said that shoe prices could be expected to rise 20 and 30 per cent. Under OPA, the annual shoe bill amounted to 2 billion dollars.

The decontrol order covered all types of domestic and imported skins and hides and processed leather, including calf and cattle, kid, goat and sheepskins, and all types of men's, women's and children's shoes, including dress and sportswear, play shoes and slippers.

FARM MACHINERY:

Huge Demand

Despite heavy production, farm machinery manufacturers will not be able to meet the big demand for equipment for at least another year, according to officials of the National Retail Farm Equipment association meeting in Chicago.

With demand high, dealers have been able to meet only 40 per cent of their orders and manufacturers have not promised great improvement in 1947, it was said. Farmers' increased interest in equipment was said to stem from wartime emphasis on more efficient operations and large accumulation of funds.

Indicative of the trend toward mechanization, farmers were reported to be seeking four-row, tractor-drawn corn planters, to replace the old two-row horse jobs; combines for binders in harvesting small grains; tractor-drawn corn pickers, and new types of haying equipment which reduce crews up to 50 per cent.

Extract Sewing Bobbin



With one yard of black thread hanging from his mouth, 1-year-old Kenneth Howell was rushed to Hollywood receiving hospital by his mother, who anxiously informed doctors that he had swallowed a needle. Placing the youngster on the operating table, the medics gently removed the thread. Instead of finding a needle, however, they extracted a sewing machine bobbin. Kenneth's mother is at left, Nurse Rebecca Land at right.

COTTON:

King Tumbles

Southern legislators called for decontrol of finished textiles and government purchases of the crop to stabilize the sagging cotton market. Within two weeks of spiraling selling, the commodity had dropped \$50 a bale and sunk below 30 cents a pound from a peak of nearly 40 cents.

Senator Maybank (Dem., S. C.) and Representative Sparkman (Dem., Ala.) joined Senator George (Dem., Ga.) in calling for decontrol of finished textiles. At a time when the new crop was coming in mills were forced to limit purchases to 120 days ahead to protect themselves in the fluctuating market and stay within their ceilings, George said.

As the South reverberated with charges that widespread speculation by farmers, merchants, doctors, etc., had brought about the crash, Rep. Rankin (Dem., Miss.) called for legislation to curb future operations on the exchanges. Meanwhile, officials of the New York market denied that the big break was caused by the liquidation of "long" interests, contradicting earlier reports that the slump had started with the clean-out of the account of Thomas Jordan, who had parlayed a \$300 loan into a million in cotton.

However, arrangements were made for the sale of Jordan's seat on the New York stock exchange for \$64,000.



Notes of a Not-So-Interested Bystander:

The Press Box: The pro-and-contrast of the diplomatic news: The same pages that recorded President Truman's optimistic speech before United Nations delegates (and his statement that fear of war is unjustified) also recorded Churchill's talk in which he accused Russia of violating the Yalta agreement. He also demanded to know why the So-and-Soviets were massing 200 divisions in Eastern Yurrop. . . . U. N. headline: "Confusion Reigns on First Day." . . . Here we go again! It was diplomatic and polite for them all at Flushing to say they would get along this time. The next day they began slugging again. Just like fighters do in the ring (shake hands) before they start throwing uppercuts.

New York's official greeter (Groven Whalen) was instructed to get 90 tickets for every hit show in town for the UN'ers. . . . H. Hoover (ex-President of the U. S.) sold his Washington, D. C., home. Guess the old boy gave up. . . . At Manhattanville college's 100 ann'y when he took his seat (between Republican Dewey and Democratic party chief Robert Hannegan) Cardinal Spellman got a howl from the distinguished audience by ad-libbing: "Here I am—in the middle again!" . . . Amos 'n' Andy don't consider \$2 bills unlucky any more. That's what you need today to buy \$1 worth of anything.

Broadway Ballad (By Don Wahn): There were two paths along the road of youth. . . . And so I chose the twisted one for mine. . . . And searched in vain for honor and for truth. . . . But searched and found the dreams that hide in wine. . . . And so illusion had its sunny day. . . . And banners waved above the castle wall. . . . And there were girls to laugh the years away. . . . And all my clan was arrogant and tall. . . . I did not know that castles were so frail. . . . That girls can fade like whispers in the night. . . . I did not know that wine could grow so stale. . . . That songs can lose their measure of delight. . . . Thus I have earned my heritage of wrath. . . . As ghostly dreams stream down a crooked path.

American Re-Action, Inc., letterhead says: "To defend Our Country Against Its Enemies at Home." . . . This is quite appropriate, since many of the big names (among its directors) were isolationists and Bund coddlers, who never did anything to defend our country against its enemies abroad!

Lou Schmolts revealed this New York Novelle. . . . He says it actually happened. . . . A lower East Sider — the brother-in-law of a gangster — was visited by the latter, who demanded \$10,000 in cash at once. . . . "I haven't 10,000 nickels!" said the chap. "Where will I get that kind of dough?" . . . "I don't care where," barked the gangster. "Dig it up. I'll give you 48 hours." . . . The frantic one went to many intimates, telling all he needed it to save his life; that he was to be killed if he didn't produce it. . . . The most he could get was \$500. . . . The next day he committed suicide. . . . Not knowing his brother-in-law, the gangster, died several hours before he did — from a rival hood's bullets.

They tell you not to be too amazed if Sec'y of State Byrnes quits and his post goes to the navy's Mr. Forrestal. That job carries with it the succession to the presidency. Good man. . . . Back to normalcy item: Four immense new signs along Times Square have sprouted, all featuring electric lights. . . . Everybody's economizing these days. So is sillionaire Frederick Prince, who has cut his household staff down to a mere 28.

Manhattan Murals: The 5th Avenue Flower shop located at Madison and 60th. . . . The shop at 131 W. 42nd street selling white shirts (all you want!) at beOPA fees. . . . The Bob Olin's doorman handing hot coffee (gratis) to parked hackmen on chilly evenings. . . . The LaSalle with the Connecticut license plate reading CBS in front of NBC. . . . The 70-year-old bootblack at 55th and 6th who works on his play between shins. . . . Sports promoter D. G. Hertz and a barber named Joe Gallo fattening a native Nazi for bothering patrons at a bar.



BANNER HARVEST

Record-shattering Crops Boost Farm Production to New Peak

WNU Features

While international crises and domestic difficulties have been dominating the news scene, American farmers have been rolling up one of the most impressive production records in history during the current year.

Crop production for 1946 is setting an all-time peak, 2½ per cent above the record output of 1942, best previous year, and 28 per cent above the average for the prewar years of 1935-39, a summary compiled by department of agriculture

discloses. Wheat and corn production soared to new high marks, followed by record-shattering harvests of tobacco, peaches, pears, plums, truck crops and potatoes. Other crops have come through in good measure, with exception of cotton, rye, broomcorn, dry beans and pecans.

Livestock production continued high, despite critical feed shortages in mid-year.

Taking agricultural production as a whole, 1946 may stand for a long time as the farmer's biggest year, the agriculture department concludes.

The story of the farmer's big year, as told in the pictures:

1. FARM RECORDS are being broken throughout the nation as farmers wind up the biggest year in agriculture's history. This scene of a farmer storing corn in temporary cribs is being repeated throughout the grain producing areas as farmers gather in the greatest feed crop ever grown in this country.

2. FOOD NEEDS exceeded even heavy wartime demands and farmers met the challenge with the largest harvested wheat acreage since 1938—940,000 acres over 1945. The combination of improved wheat varieties, good growing weather and national yield of 17.8 bushels per acre resulted in whopping 1,169,422,000 bushel crop. Production of all food grains set a new record—more than 37 million tons.

During the harvest season, farmers worked night and day, frequently with multiple crews and machines, as shown here, to save the precious grain. The new crop helped to relieve the bread shortage which resulted at mid-year when the nation shared its slender wheat stocks with hungry people overseas. Exports of wheat in this calendar year may reach 360 million bushels, highest since 1921.

3. READY FOR THE FUTURE. With the help of this big year, farmers are in better position to face conditions ahead. Good feed crops will help to maintain livestock production at high levels and savings of nearly 20 billion dollars provide a reserve for poor years or farm improvement.

This West Virginia farm, with its crops set in easy-to-work contoured strips, offers a pattern for the future. With his farm's soil enriched by lime and green manure, and slopes protected from costly erosion, the operator has the assurance of maximum efficiency and minimum production costs. As of July 1, 2,750,000 acres had been laid out in

contoured strip cropping, with plans ready for an additional 2,250,000 acres. Two-thirds of all U. S. farms are actively participating in 1,675 soil conservation districts.

4. GOOD WEATHER favored the farmer in his fight for big crops. An early spring sent crops off to a flying start. Ideal conditions, illustrated in this summer scene on a New England farm, often helped the farmer at critical times, such as haying and grain harvest.

Little wheat was lost because of wet weather during harvest or after, but sudden ripening of grain over large areas produced more grain at one time than elevators or railroads could handle. Drouth did strike some areas, notably New Mexico and Arizona, and prolonged rain interfered with planting of grain sorghums. The weather wasn't perfect, but it was generally better than 1945 and proved a big factor in a record crop.

5. BIG BUYERS. Record production and good prices have created the greatest farm purchasing power of all time. From total cash receipts of more than 23 billion dollars this year, farmers will realize a net income of more than 14½ billion dollars, or more than three times the net income of 1940.

Like city folks, farmers find goods scarce and prices above prewar levels. As he shops for new shoes, this farmer finds proof that the average price of farm work shoes rose from \$2.53 for the 1935-39 period to \$4.49 on June 15. Prices received by farmers for their goods had doubled meanwhile.

6. MORE HELP, provided by re-conversion veterans and war plant workers, made the job easier for the farmer, but everyone had to work hard, early and late, to handle the bumper output.

Typical of the veteran's return to the land, this ex-army sergeant and his wife, former army nurse, bought

an Alabama farm with the help of an FSA loan. By mid-year 1,045,000 veterans were working on farms, representing about three-fourths of the number of farm workers who entered military service before July 1, 1945.

7. TWO ON ONE means good corn and accounts for this North Carolina grower's pride in a promising crop resulting from use of hybrid seed corn and contoured field. In the nation as a whole, two out of every three acres this year were in high-yielding hybrids, accounting for 20 per cent increase in crop yields by department of agriculture estimates.

In some sections of the corn belt, hybrids were planted on 100 per cent of the acreage, boosting Iowa's corn yield to a phenomenal 61 bushels per acre. Better varieties of other crops, developed by agricultural scientists, helped push production to new records. Improved fertilizers and new cultural methods also boosted yields.

8. NEW TOOLS also helped to expand by REA co-operatives brought electricity to additional thousands of farms and made daily chores like milking (above) faster and easier. On July 1, nearly 53 per cent of all U. S. farms received central station electric service and new customers were being connected to REA lines at the rate of 250,000 per year. Farmers also found DDT and chemical weed killers potent weapons against old enemies.

Production of new farm machinery during the first half of the year fell below the war-limited production of a year earlier, forcing most farmers to get along with old machines. Tires, fuel and seed were in fair supply, but containers, steel products and lumber continued scarce. Farmers used more fertilizer in their drive for maximum production.

Man's 'Best Friend' Causes Most Farm Accidents

Old Dobbin may be man's best friend—but he doesn't act like it. In fact, horses are involved in more accidents on American farms than any other animal, including the bull. Dr. H. Herman Young of the Mayo clinic, Rochester, Minn., told delegates to the farm safety section of the National Safety council's 34th national safety congress in Chicago.

Life on farms is full of peril, Dr. Young asserted, pointing to a nine-year survey of farm accidents, made under joint auspices of Mayo clinic and the safety council, which disclosed that 38,700 farmers were killed at work during the period. About 133,200 farm residents were killed accidentally and 100,125,000 non-fatal farm home and work accidents also occurred in that time, he reported.

"The farmer usually is his own boss or employs only a few men, probably carries no accident insurance, and is not as conscious of the need for safety measures as those employed in other industries," Dr. Young said.

Accidents take an enormous toll every year, with victims not limited to farmers, delegates to the safety congress were told.

Statistics show that there's an accidental death every 5½ minutes, a traffic death every 18½ minutes, an occupational death every 33 minutes and a home death every 15½ minutes.

National Safety council is a non-profit, non-commercial corporation supported mainly by industrial concerns. It has 25 separate sections to deal with safety in every field.