

Hon. J. Whitten Speaks To Farm Bureau Members

(Continued from page 7)
not be growing wheat in this nation, but would have to import it, for periodically disease has struck down the wheat which we plant and it is only by the development of resistant varieties that we have been enabled to keep up our production of this important food.

"We must wage the battle against diseases being brought in from other areas."
Declaring that it was a relief to get away from all the talk about communism in Washington, the speaker commended the Farm Bureau for its work, explaining that it had gone into the industrial areas and cities and got help to support farm programs. He praised the work of the 4-H club boys and girls and the Future Farmers of America, and all other groups that were working for the good of agriculture.

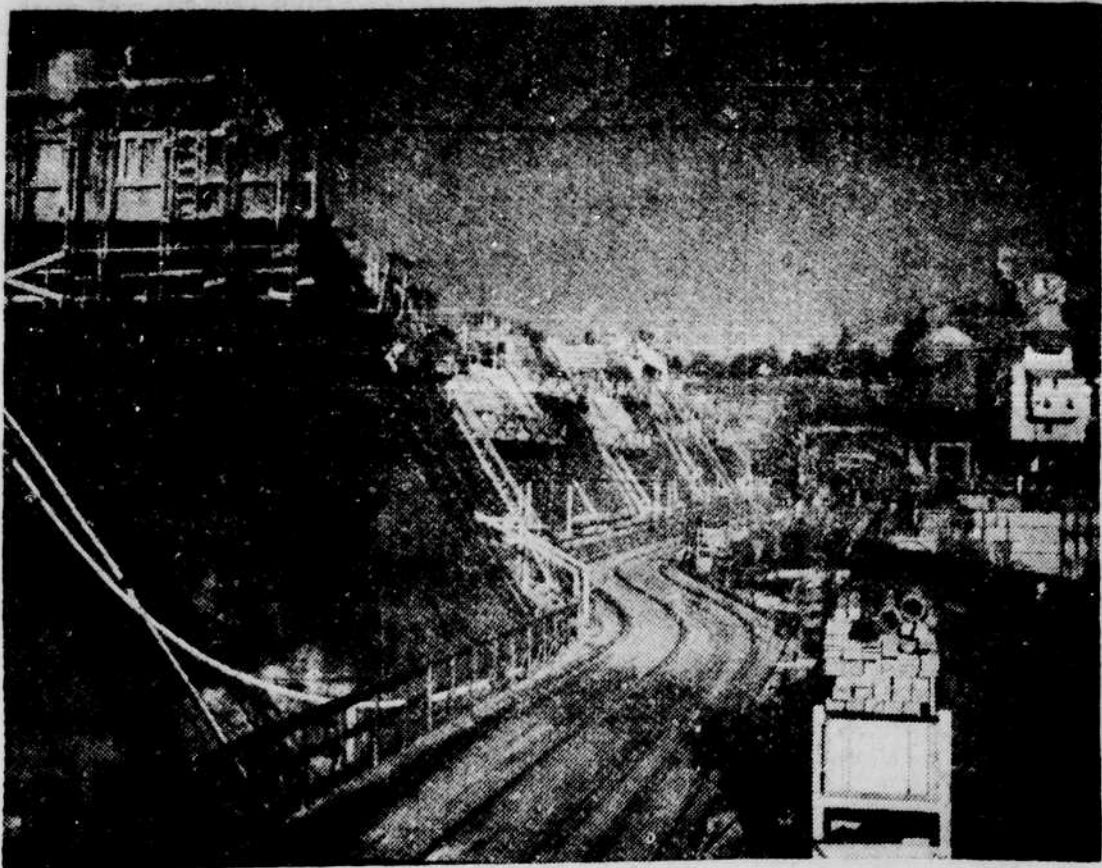
Apparently impressed by the fine stock exhibited at the show last Friday, Congressman Whitten said, "If today all the cattle we have in this country were the types which our early forefathers had, we would not have half enough meat. The same is true of corn, wheat, hogs, cotton, fruit, and of practically everything connected with agriculture. In our country we take such progress for granted, but behind it is the continual study, research and experiment led by our splendid Department of Agriculture."

Congressman Whitten's talk was well received. Following the barbecue, he left with Congressman Winston, also of Mississippi, Congressman Bonner and a party for a short fishing trip at Nags Head. President Chas. L. Daniel of the county Farm Bureau, presided over the meeting.

U. S. GOLD

The gold holdings of the U. S. Government have declined more months since the foreign currency revaluations last September. The chief cause for the withdrawal has been improvement in the balance of international accounts which is taking the pressure off foreign countries to send gold here to pay for goods and enabling them to rebuild reserves with gold from this country. Treasury records show that U. S. holdings — still about three-fifths of the whole world's stock of monetary gold — are down to \$24,320,000,000, about the same as a year ago.

Massive Concrete Piers Rising High



The Buggs Island Dam construction is progressing at a rapid rate as may be seen by the above photograph showing the massive concrete piers rising high in the air above the construction trestle. In the background may be seen the concrete mixing plant and one of the huge Gantry construction cranes used for handling all of the material used in the construction activities.

Reviews History Of Formosa and Current Problem

Everything Considered In Recent Weeks Except the Formosans

Landrum Bolling, New York newspaperman, interestingly reviewed the history of and discussed current problems in Formosa in the following story, released a short time ago:

In all the hullabaloo over Formosa, one factor seems to have been overlooked entirely — the Formosans. On the record, there is not the slightest evidence that the 6,000,000 residents of that island want to be ruled by either the Chinese Nationalists or the Chinese Communists. In fact, they don't.

If the United Nations had only been able to get beyond the debating society stage by now, this explosive issue could be taken in hand and a solution found which would serve both the interests of the people and the interests of peace. Such a solution would al-

most surely provide for substantial Formosan independence under perhaps some form of international trusteeship. But that, of course, would be too simple and too reasonable, and this is an age of unreason when we like to do things in as complicated a way as possible.

The complicated thing is to have the Chinese Communists and Nationalists move their war from the Asiatic mainland to that tropical island, and have the U. S. and the Soviet Union hover about in the background making warlike gestures at each other. A lot more people, naturally, will be killed before a settlement to the conflict is reached along this road.

But go back and consider the Formosans for a moment. Most of them, to be sure, are of Chinese origin, and the mainland coast is only 90 miles away. But on mainland officials have ruled over them in more than 50 years — or hadn't until Chiang Kai-shek's troops arrived in 1945. What has happened since then has not made the Formosans love their big brothers from China proper.

The garrison troops, as so often happens with garrison troops, behaved abominably. They looted and raped and kicked the civilian

population around. The new administrative officials brought along the customary Kuomintang traditions of shameless graft and clumsy inefficiency. It did not take the Formosans long — so many observers have reported — to decide that the Japanese hadn't been so bad, after all.

As a matter of fact, it is the long period of Japanese rule which makes Formosa a very spe-

cial case in the postwar China story. Japan acquired Formosa in 1895 at the end of the Sino-Japanese war, and after a short-lived Formosan republic had been put out of business. The Japanese promptly set out to develop the island as a long-term proposition. In deference to local custom, they made the Chinese term Taiwan the official name.

And they did a lot of other things that pleased the natives. They built schools and hospitals, railroads and highways. They modernized the agriculture and set up sugar refineries. The Japanese were, of course, primarily in business for themselves and they found this to be a rich possession. They developed coal, copper and gold mining; they found oil; they undertook vast lumbering operations in the extensive camphor, pine and hard-wood forests.

In 50 years the Japanese took an enormous amount of wealth out of Formosa, but they also raised the economic standards of the people.

And, strangely enough, under the Japanese they had acquired more and more local self-government, so that when the Chinese "liberators" arrived the Formosans actually received, in a sense, a comparative set-back toward colonialism. During these past five years on Formosa there has been not one "independence" movement to throw out the Chiang Kai-shek authorities, but three. And not one of the three has been Communist. In fact, the Communist party as such seems to have made remarkably little headway on Formosa, though more and more Formosans have indicated they will join forces with the Communists if that is the only way to get rid of the Nationalist officials and troops.

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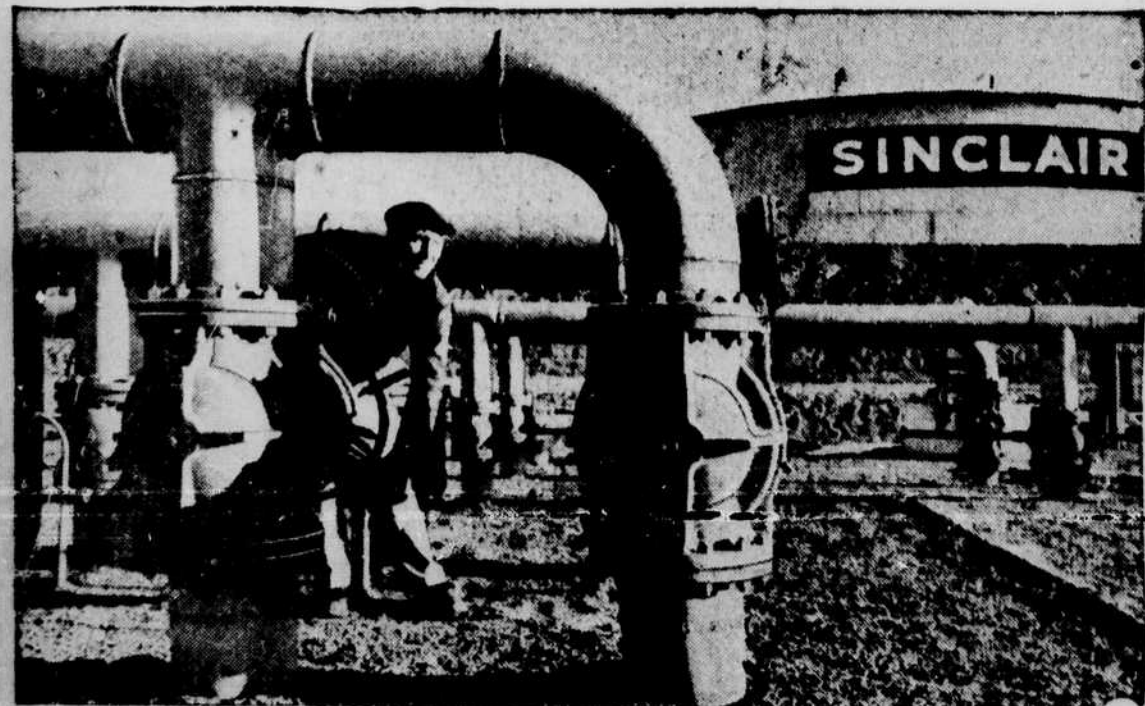
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