

LOOKING AT WASHINGTON

By Hugo S. Sims, Washington Correspondent

Food Shipments To Martinique Withheld By U. S. Since November

The small island of Martinique is back in the news with the revelation that since November shipments of foodstuffs from the United States have been withheld.

Admiral Georges Roberts, who is in power in Martinique, has never disavowed his connection with the worst elements of Vichy France. He has refused to cooperate with the United Nations, especially in regards to the ships of the French navy now in the island.

While it is his right, as an individual, to do as he pleases, he forfeits all claims to favorite treatment from the United States. So long as he observes the Franco-German armistice terms, which Hitler has repudiated, he is not entitled to any consideration from this country.

If the people of his island suffer the pangs of hunger they must effect the change that will again enable them to receive food from the United States. In the meantime, we have not overlooked the presence of a French aircraft carrier, two cruisers and some smaller warships in Martinique. They have been watched and until there is a change in the regime in the island they must continue to be watched.

Some time ago it was understood that an agreement had been concluded between the United States and the Admiral in regards to these ships. They have been rendered more or less harmless but, nevertheless, so long as they are in the possession of a hostile Admiral they possess power to injure the cause of the Allied nations.

U. S. Banks Stronger Than Ever. \$90,000,000,000 Deposits New High.

The banking structure of the nation is stronger than ever before, according to a report submitted to the President by Leo T. Crowley, chairman of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

With deposit at \$90,000,000,000, a new high, and with adequate earnings in prospect, the banks are in a position to serve the needs of the nation at war.

Incidentally, the FDIC has saved 1,250,000 depositors from loss in the closing of 390 banks in the past ten years, assuming a loss of \$50,000,000 to help depositors but, nevertheless, accumulating a surplus of \$325,000,000 for future emergencies.

Eden's Visit Stirs Speculation. Post-War Matters To Be Discussed.

The visit of Anthony Eden to the nation's capital stirs up much speculation as to what will result from his conferences with Secretary Hull and the President, although little is definitely revealed except that the British Foreign Secretary is in the United States.

The general assumption is that there will be considerable discussion of post-war matters but when the official communique of the parley is studied there will be few definite answers to those who have raised many issues for settlement.

Mr. Eden warns that the Allied nations will suffer reverses before the war ends and insists that the main business of the United Nations is to get on with the winning of the war.

In this the distinguished Englishman is eminently correct. The Allied Nations have more important work ahead than to waste energy trying to fathom the mysteries that will present themselves when the Axis has been defeated.

TVA Serves War Needs. Development Is Profitable.

The people of the United States do not hear much about the Tennessee Valley Authority but it is today producing vitally needed electric power for war purposes at the rate of 10,000,000 kilowatt hours annually, or about half as much electricity as the total amount used in the first World War.

When Germany invaded Poland, the TVA system had a capacity of about 750,000 kilowatts. It had moved up one-fourth when Pearl Harbor occurred and has reached 1,500,000 kilowatts today. In less than a year, an additional 600,000 will be added to its capacity.

In the Valley, where the Authority operates in a region of 41,016 square miles, embracing a part of seven states, there is hard driving to complete eight new dams which are being rushed as war emergency projects.

TVA seems to be getting along very well financially. In the 1942 fiscal year it paid a total of \$1,859,416 to State and local tax collectors to make up for their loss on taxable property taken over by the Authority. This exceeds the ad valorem taxes formerly paid on private power property together with taxes paid on all reservoir lands of the Authority.

Under the original act, passed in 1933, the power program was expected to be self-supporting and self-liquidating. Consequently, figures from the annual report are interesting. From June 11, 1933, to December 31, 1942, gross power revenues totaled \$89,393,000.

After provision for all power expenses, there remained \$44,000,000,

which was paid back into the Federal Treasury and reappropriated. This included \$21,683,000 for depreciation and amortization of acquisition adjustments and \$22,319,000 in net income.

The Authority estimates that slightly more than \$300,000,000 has been invested in the power facilities. Even if we include total appropriations of \$454,000,000 by the end of the 1942 fiscal year, which includes some re-appropriations, it is evident that the Authority is making a fair return. Moreover, it should be borne in mind that most of the revenues required to make this return to the Treasury has been received in the last four years.

TVA is not only producing electricity, holding back flood waters and providing a navigation system on the Tennessee River, it is producing one-fourth of the nation's munitions-grade phosphorous, an ingredient for synthetic rubber and fertilizer.

The activity of the Authority has greatly improved living conditions in the Valley. Today, one farmer in four has electricity, compared to one in twenty-eight ten years ago. Manufacturing plants have increased, with more wage earners, larger manufacturing volume and generally improved economic conditions.

Harvest Pulpwood By Selective Cutting

Uncle Sam has asked all North Carolina farmers to join in a program which would step up the production of pulpwood to fifteen million tons in 1943. R. W. Graeber, extension forester at N. C. State College, says that those who take a part in this national program should practice selective cutting because it is desirable under most conditions and because this method of handling the woodland provides more frequent cutting of larger cash returns over a period of years than does clear cutting.

"It is important to know what types of trees to take out in cutting pulpwood," Graeber said. "It is also important to cut the timber stand properly. The key to a productive forest is to maintain a good growing stock. Always leave a good stand of trees."

All trees which are to be taken out should be carefully marked and especially so where the job of harvesting is to be turned over to others. If a grower is not familiar with timber marketing he should see his county agent or consult with the regional forester. Sometimes it is best to remove several timber products, such as saw logs, poles and pulpwood at one operation.

Before marketing pulpwood, Graeber suggests that the owner go over his woods and estimate the number of cords to be removed. Definite contracts on the amount of wood to be taken out should be made in advance of any cutting. The sales contract should specify the trees to be cut, the period of cutting, payment for the timber, damages to unmarked trees and other points, he pointed out.

LOWLY MUSKRAT COMES INTO ITS OWN

The war has brought on a trappers' boom down Louisiana way with 6,000,000 "marsh hares" providing for the ladies musk glands for perfumery and tons of meat for everybody. Don't miss this informative article in the April 4th issue of

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April 1 Closing Date For Cotton Insurance

Closing date for making application for insurance on the 1943 cotton crop has been set for April 1, and no applications will be accepted after that date, according to Tom M. Cornwell, Cleveland County farmer and a member of the State AAA Committee.

The insurance program, Cornwell said, is being offered to North Carolina growers for the second time this year by the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation. Insurance contracts offer growers a guarantee of either 50 to 75 per cent of the farm's average yield against losses from unavoidable hazards, such as droughts, floods, insect damage, hail, windstorm, frost, fire and other acts of God or the public enemy.

A new clause in the contracts this year protects growers against losses by wartime shortages of labor, materials or machinery, provided it is determined that full use was made of the amounts available and every possible effort was made to secure additional supplies.

"This year probably is the most important agricultural year North Carolina farmers will ever experience," the AAA official said, "and it is up to us to give as much protection as possible to any crop to which we devote land, labor, and materials. Loss of a crop from unavoidable causes means loss of income, and we must maintain a balanced farm economy if we are to continue to produce maximum amounts of war crops."

He said yields which may be insured and premium rates are available in County AAA Offices in all cotton counties. Applications may be made at county offices or may be filed with county and community AAA committeemen.

Protect Fruit Trees By Using Repellent

A new repellent to protect fruit trees from rabbits has been announced by L. C. Whitehead, district agent for the Division of Wildlife Research with headquarters at N. C. State College. He said that the repellent is used as a paint and is effective, durable and safe.

It should be applied with a brush, and one gallon will treat from 200 to 800 seedlings over all for a season. Larger trees will, of course, require more paint to give complete trunk protection.

The repellent is prepared at the U. S. Pocatello Supply Depot of Pocatello, Idaho. If local dealers do not carry it, requests for a supply may be referred to the county agent or the U. S. Wildlife Service at N. C. State College, Raleigh.

Since many growers will need only relatively small amounts of the repellent, farmers are urged to pool their requests, so that shipping charges may be reduced to a minimum.

The paint is composed of rezyll ethylene, dichloride, asphalt emulsion, copper sulphate, copper carbonate, and dry lime sulphur. When painted on the trunks of fruit trees with a brush, the repellent will effectively protect the trees from rabbits.

Catholic Services Next Sunday 11 A. M., 8 P. M.

Holy Mass starts every Sunday at 11 a. m., and Stations of the Cross every Lenten Friday at 8 p. m., in St. Ann's Catholic Church, corner of N. Broad and Albemarle Streets, Edenton, announced the Reverend Father F. J. McCourt, Pastor, who invites everybody to attend every Service. A sermon is preached at every Sunday Mass, during which Holy Communion may be received by Catholics eligible, also during this week at 7:30 a. m., or during Mass at 8 a. m. Confessions are heard for half hour before every Sunday Service.

Guest—This steak is so thin that I can read through it
Waiter—Yes, sir. What do you wish to read?

Black Walnut Timber Needed For War Effort

Black walnut timber is needed for war purposes—gunstocks, aircraft lumber and veneer. There is a good demand at prices somewhat above normal. Prices of walnut will vary according to size and quality of the individual tree. Many farmers and other landowners have a few scattered walnut trees which they want to sell, especially if they know that these trees will aid in the war effort.

The Extension Service at State College is in touch with walnut buyers having war contracts for gunstocks and other products. County Agent L. W. Anderson is asking all farmers and other timber owners in Perquimans County to report at his office the number and size of walnut trees which they have for sale. Trees to be suitable must be 14 inches or larger in diameter at breast height (4.5 feet above the ground). Either see, phone, or write the county agent and list the number of walnut trees you have for sale, giving the average diameter in inches, and average length of log (body of tree) in feet.

When a sufficient number of trees are listed to justify shipping, an effort will be made to bring a buyer to the county, who will contact the individual owner and purchase the trees.

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