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LOOKING AT WASHINGTON

By Hugo S. Sims, Washington Correspondent

U. S. Aid To Red Army Outlined By Crowley

The United States has shipped to Russia, under lend-lease agreements, 9,600,000 tons of vital weapons, war supplies and food.

This is considerable assistance and thoroughly belies the insinuation formerly advanced in some radical circles that this country was not doing enough for Russia.

Leo T. Crowley, Foreign Economic Administrator, says that we have sent the Soviet Union 8,800 planes, 5,200 tanks and tank destroyers, 190,000 trucks, 36,000 jeeps and almost 30,000 "other military vehicles."

In the first two months of this year our shipments to Russia exceeded a million tons, compared with 670,000 tons in the same two months of 1943 and 200,000 tons in 1942.

We have shipped 2,600,000 tons of food to the soldiers of the Red Army and to Soviet industry we have sent 1,450,000 tons of steel, 420,000 tons of aluminum, nickel, copper, brass and zinc and 200,000 tons of explosives. To Soviet agriculture we have contributed 13,000 tons of seed, primarily for the Ukraine now being recaptured from the Germans.

This assistance, which has been rendered the Russians, like similar aid sent to Great Britain, represents the most unusual occurrence in the history of warfare. While generous to our allies it was, at the same time, highly advantageous to the United States. Every ton of lend-lease aid, shipped to the British or the Russians, has decreased the amount of American blood to be shed in the war.

Russia States Policy Upon Invading Rumania

The statement of purpose, issued by V. M. Colotoff, Soviet Foreign Commissar, concerning Russia's objectives in Rumania, has been received with considerable interest by his Anglo-American allies.

For some time, German propaganda has attempted to convince the people of occupied countries that Russia would attempt to communize all of Europe and that the menace of free peoples was not Hitlerism but Communism.

Mr. Molotoff's statement made it clear to the Rumanian people that Russia enters Rumania to pursue and rout her enemy in order to force his capitulation, without territorial designs, and that the Soviet does not seek to change the "social structure of Rumania as it exists at present."

Apparently, the Russian foreign policy is closely in line with the fundamentals of the Atlantic Charter. While Premier Stalin has insisted on the reacquisition of the Baltic states, Eastern Poland and Bessarabia, he seems to seek only territory that the Russians regard as belonging to their country.

A newspaper correspondent in London says that it is difficult to know just how far Russia has gone in developing her own foreign policy, but that every step taken in relation to Rumania and Finland has been taken after, not before, discussion with Great Britain and the United States. This statement is made by Raymond Daniell, in The New York Times. It should calm the fears of Americans who are easily excited lest Russia pursue a unilateral program.

Mr. Willkie Steps Out International Issue In Wisconsin Primary

The Republican primary election in Wisconsin, resulting in quite a victory for the delegates pledged to Governor Dewey, who won fifteen or more of the twenty-four elected, was accepted by Wendell Willkie as proof that he cannot be nominated.

Mr. Willkie made a strenuous campaign in Wisconsin to test, so he said, whether the Republican voters of that state would support him "in every sacrifice and cost necessary to winning and shortening the war" and in "effective economical and political cooperation among the nations of the world for the preservation of peace."

What Did Wisconsin Reject?

While Mr. Willkie links these two issues together there is little reason to doubt the willingness of Wisconsin Republicans to support the war to the extent that Mr. Willkie suggests and, consequently, his poor showing must

be attributed to the refusal of the Republicans of Wisconsin to support his advocacy of international cooperation.

This interpretation of the election is supported by the statement of Mr. Willkie that the delegate who led the poll "is known as one active in organizations such as America First." This conclusion, however, is not so clear when we recall that Governor Dewey, who won the major victory, has advocated a defensive and offensive alliance with Great Britain.

Will Supporters Drop Willkie? It remains to be seen whether Mr. Willkie's request to his friends not to present his name at the Convention proves more effective than repeated requests by Governor Dewey that his supporters should not seek to elect delegates pledged to him.

It has been obvious for some years that the majority of the Republican Party does not accept the leadership of Mr. Willkie in connection with international affairs. It may be presumed that his own supporters will accede to his request and, if they do, Mr. Willkie will be eliminated from the present political picture in the United States.

An appraisal of Mr. Willkie's qualities, as political leader, should recognize his fervor and frankness in making clear his opinions. After his whirlwind pre-convention drive secured the Republican nomination for him in 1940, Mr. Willkie made a vigorous campaign but practically endorsed the general trend of the President's foreign and domestic policies.

Shift Of People May Have Great Influence Upon Elections Of 1944 During the five-year period, between 1935 and 1940, one out of every eight Americans "migrated" with about sixty per cent. of the 15,734,798 persons involved moving within their own states.

The Census Bureau has no figures on the vastly increased migration since the war but politicians have attempted to estimate what has occurred by comparing ration book registrations with the 1940 census population figures.

The politicians are very much interested in the ten million or more men in the armed services. Their election forecasts and handicapped by inability to determine how many of the servicemen will vote. Naturally, there is no certainty as to how they will vote.

The political leaders are also concerned with the war migration which may affect the vote in many states. Despite the absence of the servicemen, eleven states show a population gain of 1,968,220 persons and thirty-seven states have net losses of 6,277,186. The difference between these figures reflects the men in service but, of course, some of the migration is cancelled by swapping between various states.

The eleven states that have gained in population between 1940 and the ration book registration date include Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Maryland, Michigan, Nevada, Utah, Virginia, and Washington.

The comparisons between 1940 population and ration book registration do not show the full shift of population because many soldiers and sailors do not need ration books. The presence of armed forces in large numbers in certain states increased the potential number of voters depending upon various laws affecting the franchise.

The states which have gained in population are: California, 1,013,629; Washington, 186,098; Maryland, 176,460; Virginia, 127,099; and Michigan, 126,693. Aside from Florida, with a 120,961 shift, no other state gained as much as 100,000.

Eight states have lost more than 250,000 in population. They include: New York, 1,001,238; Pennsylvania, 622,445; Oklahoma, 341,581; Illinois, 318,284; Kentucky, 286,733; Minnesota, 263,398; Iowa, 260,132; and Missouri, 258,876.

The population change, reflected in these figures, includes the men in the armed services. Some states, which show a loss in the population change, have contributed more men to the armed forces than they have lost. Their resident population, therefore, has increased.

Twelve states have lost more persons than can be accounted for in their quota of fighting men. These states and their apparent population loss are: Arkansas, 49,000; Idaho, 6,000; Iowa, 42,000; Kentucky, 42,000; Minnesota, 23,000; Montana, 40,000; Nebraska, 24,000; North Dakota, 49,000; Oklahoma, 140,000; South Dakota, 42,000; Vermont, 10,000; and West Virginia, 6,000.

In the other thirty-six states, the population shows an actual increase despite the absence of men in the service or the decrease recorded is less than the number of men that the state has contributed to the armed forces.

The political significance of the shifts is illustrated by (a) California, with 1,500,000 new residents, where the losing presidential candidate in 1940 received fewer than 1,500,000 votes; (b) Washington, with a gain of 838,000, or more than the number who voted for Mr. Willkie in 1940; (c) New Jersey, with 220,000 new residents, some 70,000 fewer than its

men and women in the armed forces, but the Democrats carried the State in 1940 by less than 100,000 in a total of almost 2,000,000 votes.

This figure shows how the vote of the men and women in the services and that of the newcomers in the states may prove decisive in a presidential election.

In connection with the increases and decreases in the population of the states, one should bear in mind the normal increase in the number of people in this country. Some of the population gain represents this normal growth rather than migration between the states. Children receive ration books but only adults vote.

More Town And City Gardens Are Needed

Commercial vegetable growers and canning plants will not be able to produce and conserve as much food this year as last because of the labor shortage. The situation will become more critical as additional men are drafted.

Reports are reaching the State College Extension Service that many town and city people are thinking of not growing a garden this year because of the dry weather last summer and the fact that they were able to get all the vegetables they needed.

Director I. O. Schaub warns against such false reasoning and states that it is not only patriotic but also a matter of vital necessity to grow a garden. "Last year more than one-half of our fresh vegetables were grown in home gardens and the need this year is for 10 percent more

gardens and not fewer gardens," the Director says.

He points out that last year all records were broken in the number of gardens grown and the amount of the food produced. In North Carolina alone it is estimated that there were at least 544,948 gardens, producing approximately \$68,118,500.00 worth of food.

Schaub recommends that everyone in the towns and cities make an effort to produce some food, even if on only a very small plot, and that farm gardens be enlarged where the

need exists. He also recommends that a succession of crops be planted in the garden so as to give a continuous supply of food through the summer and into the fall. He suggests that farmers can supply a large amount of extra food by planting gardens in their tobacco plant beds after the plants have been pulled.

BUY WAR BONDS!

THE SUPPORT OF FAITH: And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?—Matt. 14:31.

Says Victory Gardens Necessary

Two million additional Victory Gardens are needed this year, according to Chester A. Bowles, Director of the OPA, who intimates that the present low point values on food can hardly continue without them.

Mr. Bowles says that we were facing a vegetable crisis last year, with the Government taking thirty per cent. of the supply for its armed forces, Lend-Lease, the Red Cross and other shipments. This year, he adds, the armed forces will get forty per cent. of the commercial pack of canned fruits and vegetables and that the additional Victory Gardens are necessary if we are to meet war food needs.

Warning against any assumption that the food battle is won, the head of the OPA declares that we must grow more food and can more food from home-front gardens this year. Higher point values for canned vegetables, he adds, appear inevitable for next year.

We call attention to this matter in order that Perquimans County residents will understand the seriousness of the food situation. Many of us can grow some of our food requirements at home. The knowledge that this is not only expedient but necessary as a war measure should persuade everyone to do his, or her, best to successfully operate a Victory Garden.

Hull Explains

Secretary of State Cordell Hull has issued a formal statement, outlining the foreign policy of this country which has been assailed in various quarters as uncertain and inexplicable.

Mr. Hull will have a hard time convincing some critics. They will not accept his statement that it is "comprehensive, stable and known of all men."

The fact is, as Mr. Hull states, the Atlantic policy, to which his critics frequently refer, as "an expression of fundamental objectives" but not "a code of law from which detailed answers to every question can be distilled."

The Secretary of State emphasizes that "essential understanding and unity of action" among Britain, Russia, China and the United States is "basic to all organized international actions."

Some Invasion Geography

In view of the approaching invasion of western Europe it might be a good idea for Americans to get out their maps and look at the area that will soon become the center of their interest and the scene of heroic fighting on the part of their soldiers.

The southern coast of England on the north side of the English Channel, is from 20 to 140 miles from the coast of France. Across this strip of historic water will move the bulk of the invasion forces.

The English coastline is 390 miles, from Land's End, on the Atlantic Ocean, to Dover, opposite Calais. The French coast stretches 590 miles from Calais to Ushant, in Brittany, not far from Brest, our port in the first World War.

The Channel, which has an area of about 30,000 square miles, has tides from both the Atlantic Ocean and the North Sea, with the result that it is difficult of navigation at times. The water is usually rough and fog and thick weather occur throughout the year.

Rounding Dover the English coast borders the North Sea, being opposite the 42-mile coastline of Belgium and the coast of the Netherlands, which has, northeast of the mouth of the Rhine, good beaches, only eighty miles from the German border.

The coast of Belgium rises gently to Flanders Field, with excellent beaches. The same can be said of

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 Sunday, April 23—
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 Donald O'Connor and Peggy Ryan in "CHIP OFF THE OLD BLOCK"
 Monday-Tuesday, April 24-25—
 Robert Walker, Donna Reed in "SEE HERE PRIVATE HARGROVE"
 Wednesday, April 26—Bargain Day
 Bob Haynes and Lynn Merrick in "SWING OUT THE BLUES"
 Also "Adventures of the Flying Cadets" No. 2
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 Robert Taylor and Susan Peters in "SONG OF RUSSIA"

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