

WASHINGTON

Hint of Shipping Scandal Should Be Investigated

The United States controls more than fifty per cent of the world's shipping, owning 5,000 vessels with an aggregate deadweight tonnage of 57,000,000. Many of these ships, however, are slow, inefficient and costly to operate, but there are enough good ships on hand to encourage American shipowners to anticipate carrying fifty per cent of our exports abroad.

Cargo and passenger vessels are returning slowly from Government control to private industry but shipping experts feel that their reentry into world trade will not be long delayed. They are, at present, somewhat concerned over a strike call for June 15th, issued by the newly-united union that operates along the nation's waterfront.

There is another matter that is beginning to attract some attention in Congress and elsewhere. It is the possibility of an investigation into the manner in which the War Shipping Administration and the Maritime Commission have handled affairs with various shipping interests.

The U. S. Controller-General, who checks funds spent by the Government agencies, has listed sixty "errors" in the records of the two agencies which involve a considerable amount of the taxpayers' money. Whether there has been wrongdoing remains to be established, but, apparently, some of the funds, spent under the hectic days of the war rush, were paid out to the financial advantage of shipowners.

We think the charges should be thoroughly investigated because, after the first World War, the United States Government sold shipping lines to private investors at what amounted to give-away prices. Cer-

tainly, it favored shipowners received exorbitant sums for construction or through purchase and resale of ships to the Government, there should be no hesitation whatever in exposing the facts to the light.

Court Rules Flying Planes Can Damage Land Owner

The Supreme Court of the United States has taken cognizance of the suit of a North Carolina farmer, who asked for damages from the Government because low-flying planes destroyed his chicken business.

The farmer said that the location of an airport close to his farm compelled him to abandon his business. He alleged that low-flying planes, noise and night-flying, coupled with the fear of accidents, caused fright, nervousness and loss of sleep to himself and his wife. In addition, he said, sometimes as many as ten chickens a day were killed by flying against walls because of fright at the planes. Moreover, his hens stopped laying.

Justice Douglas, of the Supreme Court, took cognizance of the \$2,000 award given the farmer in the U. S. Court of Claims, but pointed out that if the man could not use his property because of the flights over his land, it would be the same as "if the United States had entered upon the surface of the land and taken exclusive possession of it." Consequently, the Court called for additional information as to the damage suffered by the individual.

The case seems to set something of a precedent for landowners who claim that the use of their property is interfered with by the frequent flight of airplanes. We imagine it will result in some other cases of the same nature.

Pearl Harbor Inquiry A Deplorable Exhibition

The Congressional investigation of what happened at Pearl Harbor and the effort to assign blame for the disaster has been frontally closed and protests that the record is "full of gaps."

It has been plain, since the investigation began, that the prime purpose in the minds of some of the members of the investigating committee was to silence American leaders. In fact, some of the questions asked witnesses indicated a plain effort to relieve Japan of the onus of her treacherous attack and to put it on the shoulders of American leaders.

One of the matters about which many questions were directed related to a possible agreement between the United States and Great Britain to adopt "parallel action" in warning Japan against a move into Southeast Asia.

In view of the world situation, such an arrangement, whether official or unofficial, would appear to have been warranted in the interest of this country, but nothing has been brought to light to indicate that responsible officials of the United States entered into any agreement binding the nation to any specific action.

Another phase of the investigation that should be denounced related to the effort of some members of the committee to brand the note that Secretary of State Hull delivered to the Japanese, on November 26, 1941, as an "ultimatum."

In this note, the Secretary merely restated the fundamental principles that the United States advocated in relation to the Far East. Any other course would have constituted an abandonment of historic principles and would have been hailed by the Japanese as a victory for the Co-Prosperity Sphere.

Byrnes Recounts Differences With Russia About Italy

Secretary of State James F. Byrnes, in public addresses since returning from the council of Foreign Ministers at Paris, admits that the progress made was "disappointingly small in light of the expectations we had" at Moscow in December, but "infinitely greater" than he expected when he suggested the meeting in Paris preparatory to the peace conference.

Mr. Byrnes reports three basic issues in regard to Italy:

(a) Reparations—the Soviet insists on \$100,000,000 and upon being paid out of "current production." This the United States refuses to agree to because we have advanced \$90,000,000 to enable the Italians to live and are unwilling to advance additional millions of dollars to enable Italy to produce goods "to be paid as reparations to any of our Allies."

In addition, the Soviet Government refuses to consider certain naval ships as reparations, declaring them to be "war booty." Mr. Byrnes points out, however, that the ships were surrendered to the navies of the United States and Great Britain and that war booty "belongs to the nation capturing it."

Moreover, he pointedly remarked that "the Soviet Union has never shared with Allied nations war booty captured by her." While willing to give the Soviet some of the naval ships, the English-speaking countries insist that their value should be counted as payment on the reparation sum.

(b) Colonies—differences have been narrowed but "not dissolved." The Soviet Government has receded from its claim for the trusteeship of Tripolitania and now favors an Italian trusteeship, as proposed by the French.

The United States has preferred a United Nations trusteeship, with independence provided at the earliest practicable date. In addition, it is questionable whether Italy is in an economic condition to assume the responsibility and there are also the wishes of the inhabitants to be considered.

The British recite promises given the Senussi tribes during the war which bar assent to an Italian trusteeship and also want a British trusteeship for Cyrenacia for security reasons.

Finally, the United States agreed to the Italian trusteeship, with a definite date for the independence of Libya and Eritrea fixed, but the French Government disagreed on this point.

(c) The Italian-Yugoslav boundary—the facts in this region are agreed upon but the nations draw different conclusions. The Soviet insists that Venezia Giulia be treated as an inseparable whole, either in a plebiscite or in an award, and consequently, asserts that Yugoslavia has a superior claim.

The United States proposed a boundary line, along ethnic lines, leaving a minimum of people under alien rule, and Mr. Byrnes says that it was wrong to give Italy the whole territory after World War I and it would be "equally wrong to give Yugoslavia" the whole area now, which would transfer 500,000 Italians to Yugoslavia.

The French and British line was more favorable to Yugoslavia than that suggested by the Americans and in an effort to reach an agreement, this country accepted the British and French line. All of the nations are agreed that Yugoslavia and the countries of Central Europe, which have for years used the port of Trieste, shall have access to it as a free port under international control.

Concluding this phase of his report, Mr. Byrnes agreed to the

let Government and the Yugoslav Government not to press for a boundary line which will "breed trouble in the future."

We give something of a full review of the issues that stand in the way of an Italian treaty. In addition, the Balkan treaties are blocked by differences upon economic clauses and the Soviet Government has opposed any provision to give freedom of commerce to all nations on the Danube River, which would permit this gateway to Central Europe to serve peaceful development.

Cautioning the American people that "a people's peace cannot be won by flashing diplomatic triumphs," but requires "patience and firmness, tolerance and understanding," Mr. Byrnes declares that "we must not try to impose our way on others, but we must make sure that others do not get the impression they can impose their will on us."

Irrigation Is Boon To Spud Production

Farm irrigation is proving a boon to the production of Irish potatoes in Eastern Carolina and promises equally brighter things for all other cash crops in the future, it was reported by Assistant Martin County Farm Agent L. W. Cone of the State College Extension Service.

Martin County farmers recently inspected irrigation projects being operated by C. G. Crockett and his neighbor, C. T. Allen, of Aurora in Beaufort County, and came away sharing the operators' enthusiasm over the results obtained. Both descriptive of the Allen system:

Water source, 235-foot well dug in a field where it is more readily accessible to crops, cost \$960; power, Buick engine; capacity, 800 gallons per minute; acreage system can handle, 100; owner's estimate of increased yield, 50 bags per acre; cost of operation, \$16 per day; acreage irrigated in 10-hour day, 14; labor required, three men; number of times system used this year, three.

Crockett's system was described as "larger than would be practical for the average farmer but it is showing a decided profit this, the second year of operation."

Allen's system, a portable outfit.

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involved a total cash outlay of \$4,600. It was used on 40 acres of potatoes this year and increased yields by 2,000 bags, which at prevailing spud prices, pays for the outfit in one year. These figures, compiled this year when rainfall has been heavier than normal, would reflect even greater increases in yield during normal years when rainfall is considerably lower. Both Crockett and Allen say that a profit above total cost of the equipment will be shown in the second year of its use.

Here are some of the factors designed were used in Irish potato pro-

duction this year, but "will give comparable results on any cash crop," Cone said.

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"How did Jones get ahead so fast in politics?"
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If you have been discharged from the Army—if you held a grade and wish to retain it—if you have dependents—then act now. June 30, 1946, is the last day on which you can enlist in the Regular Army and still take advantage of two important benefits... retention of your old grade and family allowances.

Family allowances for your dependents will be continued throughout your enlistment only if you enter the Regular Army before July 1, 1946.

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PERQUIMANS HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR 1945-46

RECEIPTS

Balance from 1944-45	\$ 339.67
Booster sales, gifts, guarantees	368.50
Gate	1,600.95
Football	\$987.30
Basketball	167.40
Baseball	445.35
Student and local equipment	162.00
Sign rent	60.00
Basketball tournament	46.62
Park rent	30.00
Refunds	110.00
Total	\$2,717.74

EXPENDITURES

Equipment	\$1,310.09
Amplifier	\$190.00
Local team	80.65
Student equipment	82.25
Excess on uniforms	50.00
Actual High School	907.19
Football uniforms	281.20
Baseball uniforms	120.27
Football pads, shoes, braces, helmets	297.42
Other sports playing equipment	208.30
Refund on park use	10.52
Gasoline and travel	153.34
Guarantees and fees	198.00
Coach	200.00
U. S. tax	250.22
Advertising and telephone	19.70
Cleaning suits	34.00
Medical service	70.40
Lights	162.00
Total	\$2,408.27
Balance on hand	\$ 309.47

Accounts outstanding:
Cleaning baseball uniforms.
Basketball and baseball letters.
Football park for next term.

NOTICE

BY ORDER OF THE PERQUIMANS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

I will advertise for sale, during July, all real estate on which 1945 taxes have not been paid. I will hold the sale of the same on the first Monday in August. Please make settlement now and save this additional cost of advertising.

J. Emmett Winslow

Sheriff of Perquimans County