

U. S. Aids Foreign Countries to Up Food Production

U. S. farmers are being asked to take a large part in supplying food to the world. At the same time the U. S. government is helping many countries to increase production of their own food as quickly as possible. The broad outlines of food production in different parts of the world in the pre-war period were published recently by the Food and Agriculture organization. In Canada and the United States, there are about 4 acres of cultivated land per person. Each of those acres produces about 2,500 original calories per acre, or about 10,000 calories per person. In South America there are 11 acres per person, producing 4,700 calories per acre or about 7,000 for each person.

In Western Europe there are 7 1/10th of an acre of cultivated land for each person. But this land has the highest calorie production in the world—7,500 calories per acre. Pre-war production divided by the population, however, amounts to only 3,250 calories per person.

In the Soviet Republics, there are 2 acres of cultivated land per person, which produce 2,300 calories per acre. That makes 4,600 calories for each person.

Eastern Asia has only a half acre of cultivated land per person, but this produces at the rate of 5,500 original calories per acre. But this provides only 2,750 calories per person.

Southern Asia with 8 1/10th of an acre of cultivated land for each inhabitant provides each person with 2,900 calories.

Television Poses Major Hurdle For Office Seekers

By HAL BOYLE
NEW YORK (AP)—The life of an American politician is getting harder than an army mattress.

His present plight reminds us of the story about the down-at-the-heels vaudeville artist who applied to a booking agent for a job and was asked what he could do.

"I can fly," he said, and flapping both arms he took off from the stage. He zoomed up over the orchestra pit, landed gracefully on one foot on the top gallery rail. Then for five minutes he dive-bombed, soared, did loop the loops, Immelman rolls and other aerial acrobatics, and finally glided gracefully back to the stage.

The unimpressed agent looked coldly at the perspiring man.

"What else can you do beside bird imitations?" he asked.

The present day politician is in about the same predicament as the hopeful vaudeville trouper. He doesn't have to fly yet to remain in public office—but that day may be coming, too.

Enter Television
The latest complication in the once simple art of getting elected is television.

David Sarnoff, president of the Radio Corporation of America, warns that with the spread of this new form of visual radio political candidates will have to pay new attention to their manner of dress, their personal appearance, their way of smiling and their gestures.

Television, he said, may do "more to revolutionize politics than sound broadcasting did."

The latest hurdle—forcing political candidates to learn how to become radio actors—makes public life so burdensome that it is

hard to see why anybody now would run for an elective post unless ordered to by his draft board.

Old Days Recalled

In the old days all a man needed to do to become a statesman was to arrange to be born in a log cabin, take a correspondence course in states' rights, kiss a few hundred babies, make a few long speeches in favor of religion and family life and he was in.

Armed with a well-thumbed copy of the constitution, he then went to Washington. There he periodically denounced or praised the tariff, voted for the pork barrel projects affecting his constituents, and just before the next election mailed a few thoughtful packages of turnip seeds to the right people. That assured him a lifetime job and maybe a marble statue in the capitol.

But look what happens today if plain citizen Josiah Elmo Bellow decides he wants to become a senator. He has to become an authority on international finance, taxation, social security, labor and industry. He has to know about parity payments for home potato growers and how to get more coal out of the Ruhr.

The high school civics teachers ask him to explain the atom bomb to their students. The owner of the neighborhood Greek restaurant where lunchers want to know how dangerous is Markos Vafiades, and poor old Mr. Bellow has to stall him until he checks and finds out that Markos Vafiades isn't the Latin name for trench mouth, but only a Greek guerrilla somewhere north of Athens.

The voters still expect him to kiss all the babies, but they also count on him to protect them against all foreign "isms" and furthermore, to strike a firm blow against the boll weevil.

And now comes the terror of television and the chance he will be snowed under by women who decide, "I'm not going to vote for a man whose wife lets him wear a necktie like that."

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