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MOLASSES FOR DEFENSE

By Charles V. Stanton

Don't be surprised if some day in the not too distant future you see a pile of steel dumped at a good industrial site, followed by erection of queer appearing structures.

It will be material for a defense plant. We have heard rumors that the army, worried about production of alcohol as a vital material in another lurch-scale war, is again giving serious thought to utilization of wood waste.

Experts propose to build a number of plants throughout the country to produce molasses from wood pulp. Rather than erect an equal number of distilleries, the plan proposes a few centrally-located stills to which molasses can be shipped for conversion to alcohol. The distilling plants then could be located where stream pollution would be a negligible factor.

Of course, we know nothing for sure. It is only a rumor. But it makes sense.

Springfield Plant Inspected

Inspections recently have been made at the alcohol-from-wood-waste plant at Springfield, we have been informed. This plant was built during the last war but never got beyond the experimental stage. Tests indicated necessity for alterations in plant design and investment of from \$350,000 to \$500,000. The RFC, doubtless influenced by alcohol, sugar and grain pressure groups, withheld money needed to get the plant into full-scale production, and it was turned over to the War Surplus corporation for disposal. Private interests have since leased the plant and have been conducting various experiments. A new process was developed for making wax from Douglas fir bark. Tests now are being conducted in making molasses. The plant, however, still hasn't been reconstructed to produce alcohol.

In our opinion, failure of federal agencies to follow up and complete wartime experiments in making alcohol from wood waste borders on criminal neglect.

Explosives, plastics, rubber, fuels, etc., require huge quantities of industrial alcohol. Alcohol now is produced principally from grain or sugar, both critically needed for human food during time of war. Yet alcohol can be manufactured at much lower cost from wood waste — waste now being consumed in mill burners.

Naturally, mid-west grain growers, who exert considerable political pressure in the national capital, don't look with favor upon loss of their market to distilleries. Nor do Hawaiian and Cuban sugar interests like the idea of making alcohol from waste materials, when they can sell their product at a good price for use in alcohol production.

So, for political reasons, the country's timber industry has been sold short and our defense program still is without facilities for producing vitally needed industrial alcohol without using commodities essential to feeding the nation's populace.

Molasses Plants Are Considered

Facing possibility of prolonged war and police activity, considerable thought now is being given to reviving the alcohol-from-wood-waste experiments. It is to be hoped that the welfare of the country, rather than the party, will guide the project from here on out.

If molasses plants were built throughout wood growing centers of the Pacific Northwest, the product to be shipped to distilleries located along the coast, where effluent could be spilled into the ocean, thus relieving fresh water streams from danger of pollution, also making it convenient to load alcohol into ocean-going tankers, the country's defense needs for industrial alcohol could be supplied in abundance.

We imagine the wood being wasted in Lane and Douglas counties alone could supply most of the alcohol the country would need for a major war, given facilities for complete utilization.

The same plants could be used to produce molasses, yeast and proteins for livestock and poultry feed, thus serving a useful purpose in either war or peace.

We hope it won't be too long until we see those loads of fabricated steel moving into Douglas county.

If This Was A Test, We Have An Answer



Russian Menace Demands That Western Europe Bear Its Full Share Of Defense

By DEWITT MACKENZIE
AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

The council of deputies for the 12-nation Atlantic pact is up against the urgency for quick Western European rearmament.

Moreover this rearmament demands the full participation of all member nations, some of whom have been pursuing a course of watchful waiting. There has been considerable disposition to depend on Uncle Sam for the wherewithal, both economic and military.

Now American chairman Charles M. Spofford is understood to have made fresh and pungent representations to the council in urging all-out cooperation in preparing for mutual defense against possible Red action. Everybody must pull his full weight.

One naturally has a sympathetic understanding of the feeling of the European nations which were on the firing line in the late world war and now are struggling to restore the amenities of peacetime. They are reluctant to reassume the disabilities of wartime.

However, they must realize that there is a flaw in their reasoning. They haven't got peace. The world war has been succeeded by a cold war, hot in spots, which might precipitate a conflagration that would make the last "world war" look puny.

Red Power Dominant

It will take every ounce of effort that peace-seeking nations can give to prevent another global hot-war.

The essential fact of the moment is that while the western powers hold the balance of economic power, and the potential balance of military power, Russia at this moment has the preponderance of actual military power in Europe and Asia.

Russia could overrun the European continent now with her legions. And in a couple of years, the experts tell us, she probably will have created enough strength to wage world war if she should want to.

The answer of the Western Democracies must be to match, and surpass, any such Soviet preparedness. That can only be achieved if every nation, small and big, throws everything it can into the sacrifice. This is particularly necessary because it will safeguard America's military striking power which could be dangerously weakened by constant calls for more U.S. troops in various parts of the world. I refer particularly to the recent urgings that we greatly increase our permanent military force in Europe.

Soviet Strategy Seen

That shouldn't be necessary, if all the western European countries contribute everything they can to the military defense. America should be enabled to keep her military machine in running order, to take care of such emergencies as the invasion of Korea.

Those emergencies are likely to increase, especially in the Asiatic theater. It is part of the Soviet long-range strategy to create just such situations, which will divide American strength in particular.

New Type Lamp Detects Sloppy Dishwashing

PASADENA, Calif.—(AP)—Greasy spoon restaurants and hen-pecked husbands may soon be at the mercy of a new type lamp.

The lamp—using "black light" mercury—can detect sloppy dishwashing.

It was explained in an illuminating talk to lighting engineers by Alston Rogers, who helped design the lamp for use by Cleveland health department inspectors.

"A dish may look perfectly clean," said Rogers, "but unless dish washers have been careful, the lamp's ultra-violet rays will show it to be dotted with particles that shine in the dark."

If the little woman starts using it—husbands, beware!

Food Prices Soar To Higher Level

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Soaring food prices have shot the government's official cost-of-living index to its highest level in almost two years.

Under at least partial influence of pressures built up by the Korean war, the bureau of labor statistics' index climbed 1.4 percent between June 15 and July 15. The Korean fighting started June 25.

The month's rise brought the total rise between April 15 and July 15 to 3 percent.

The spurt, announced by the bureau last night, brings a five-cent an hour pay boost to 335,000 General Motors corporation wage earners, effective Sept. 1. Their wages are tied to the agency's figures on living costs under contract with the CIO United Auto Workers.

Taking note of the rumors that the price of General Motors cars and trucks also might go up, G. M. President C. E. Wilson announced that "no price changes are contemplated by General Motors at this time."

The bureau of labor statistics attributed much of the sharp June 15 to July 15 rise to higher meat, fruit and vegetable prices.

It added that a special study showed sharp seasonal declines in the retail prices of fresh vegetables and lower prices of fresh pork more than offset increases in most other food costs between July 15 and July 31.

The agency said it believes food prices on July 31 were slightly under the average level of July 15.

Most Of 'Ins' Are Primary Winners

By The Associated Press

In primary elections in three states Tuesday, most of the "ins" stayed in, or with the vote still being counted, looked likely to win their races for renomination.

In all, candidates were picked for 54 house seats in New York, Mississippi, Wyoming and Delaware.

Party conventions Sept. 6 and 7 will name New York's candidates for governor and U. S. senator.

Only five out of New York's 45 congressmen faced opposition in yesterday's balloting.

Winning renomination were veteran upstate Republicans Edwin A. Hall of the 37th district, W. Sterling Cole of the 39th, and Clarence E. Kilburn of the 34th; and Democrat Louis B. Heller of the 7th in Brooklyn. Hall's victory was decided today.

Democrat Joseph L. Pfeiffer, who has represented Brooklyn's 8th for 16 years was defeated by a political newcomer, attorney Victor L. Anuso.

In the scramble for a house seat (Wyoming's only one), State Rep. William H. Harrison led Homer Oxley for the Republican vote and John B. Clark was comfortably ahead of other Democratic candidates.

Delaware Democrats picked Henry Winchestr of Brandywine Hill as the party's candidate against Republican Rep. J. Caleb Boggs. Like Wyoming, Delaware has only one house seat.

CHICAGO—(AP)—The owl isn't so smart. Austin L. Rand, curator of birds at the Chicago Natural History museum, grants that they make quite an impressive appearance.

"But owls don't seem to have much behind the front they put up," he says. "People who have studied them find that the young are very slow to learn to feed themselves. One saw-whet owl that was kept captive refused to eat liver put into its cage, apparently not recognizing the meat as food. But when the liver was crammed into an empty mouse skin the owl ate it at once."

The crows and their relatives, the jays, are the birds that are really intelligent.

Scissors from the MENDING BASKET

By Viahnnett S. Martin

Anybody driving along highway 35 is likely to notice the name "Weatherly" on a number of mailboxes. From one of those boxes to mine came today a cordial invitation to be among those present next Sunday (Aug. 27) at the Scottsburg celebration—the Centennial. "Scottsburg is the second oldest city in Oregon, you know," says Mrs. Dorothy Weatherly. I didn't know, but I realized it was a hundred years old because I have read so much about it, and each drive through refreshes my memory.

"There will be a fine parade at 10 o'clock in the morning. Everyone is to bring a basket dinner and we shall have an old fashioned picnic. The local Grange is to serve free coffee. There will be a pioneer exhibit which promises to be both fascinating and educational, showing the relics and remembrances of bygone days.

"In the afternoon there will be a program with interesting speakers and snappy music; then the dedication of an historical marker by the Oregon State Highway department. Square dancing and just visiting will follow. A big crowd is expected. After all, this is really an historical event worth remembering."

Yes, indeed, Mrs. Weatherly. I'm sure there will be a big crowd. Mrs. Ruth Perkins of Drain, whose mother is a Scottsburg resident of early days, told me about the Centennial the day before your letter came. She plans to go, and write all about it to her mother who is, I think, in California now.

I'll do my best to be there, and thanks for the invitation. But I have promised to be somewhere else Sunday morning, the 27th, and it might be late afternoon before we could make it to Scottsburg. But if I can get there I'll certainly have a look around for a little lady who will be wearing her "husband's grandmother's dress and bonnet in black satin."

Don't I wish I had an old-time costume to wear! With all the funny things we women now wear on our heads no one would give a second look to a hundred-year-old lace cap that once belonged to my

great-grandmother, if I should wear that on my braids. Then I have a heavy silver belt made of links—trouble is, there are not enough links! And I'm not going to risk "keeling over" by buckling myself inside a belt I once wore with links to spare.

A happy day to everybody, and many happy memories and meetings!



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In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued from page One)

Large military establishment FOR MANY YEARS TO COME.

A large military establishment will be immensely costly. But that isn't all. We can't eat guns and planes and tanks and warships. We can't wear them. We can't shelter ourselves with them. We can't use them, as we do automobiles, to have a good time with.

That part of our wealth (wealth, remember, is created by the application of human labor to raw materials) which we put into guns and planes and tanks and warships can not be used in peace-time living. That is to say, it must BE SUBTRACTED FROM OUR STANDARD OF LIVING.

So this follows:
If we are to maintain for many years to come a large and permanent military establishment we must either PRODUCE FAR MORE THAN WE HAVE PRODUCED IN THE PAST or our standards of living must decline steadily.

We may not like that statement, but we can't get away from the truth of it. If we're going to have more guns we must do with less butter. OR WE MUST WORK ENOUGH HARDER TO PRODUCE ENOUGH OF BOTH.

For many, many years, our minds have been filled with the vision of easier, softer, more pleasant living. We've been moving toward the happy goal of shorter centuries.

working hours and longer play hours.

NOW, if we are to protect our liberties against the encroachment of Russian communism, we shall have to accept the fact that if we are to PROTECT our liberties and maintain our standards of living we shall have to work harder and more efficiently than we have ever worked before.

Alleged House Looting Gang Members Arrested

PORTLAND—(AP)—City detectives and a California deputy sheriff arrested a man and his wife and seized \$4,000 worth of stolen luxuries last night.

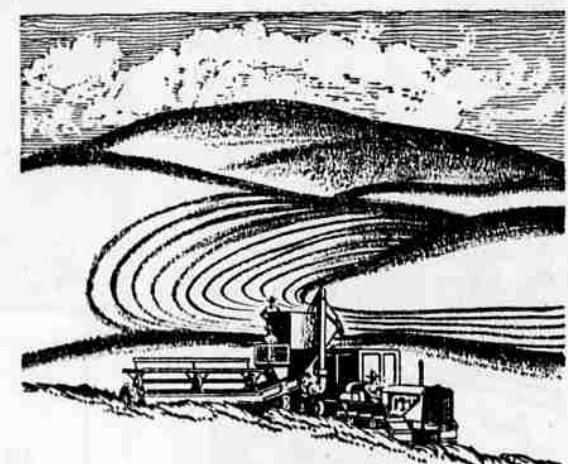
The deputy said they were connected with a California gang of 19 now under arrest.

Most of the loot was recovered in a house near Vernonia.

Held under \$10,000 cash bond on a charge of possessing stolen goods are Mr. and Mrs. Ralph L. Mayer, who fled California in July at the time of police raids in which the others were arrested.

The woman was arrested first and her husband taken into custody at the E. Burnside street site of a home he was building. The recovered goods included a \$2,000 fur coat, expensive guns, rings and camera equipment.

The export of mahogany has been the principal industry of British Honduras for more than two centuries.



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