

Food and Labor Are Nation's Topics

Passage of Housing Bill Spurs Building Program; Hoover Asks World to Join in Famine Fight

(EDITOR'S NOTE: When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of Western Newspaper Union's news analysts and not necessarily of this newspaper.)

FAMINE:

Hoover Reports

Back from his globe-girdling famine survey, former Pres. Herbert Hoover called for additional voluntary food conservation on the part of Americans and also declared that the co-operation of Russia and South American states would greatly assist in tiding hungry areas over the critical pre-harvest period.

Though stating that he saw no instances of actual starvation on his global whirl, Hoover was quick to add that available food supplies were at a dangerous low in many countries and famine would result if supplies were not replenished.

Even after trimming requests of some countries, Hoover declared that over 14 million tons of food were needed until the next harvest, with the United Kingdom requiring 2,000,000 tons; France, 1,750,000 tons; Germany, 1,370,000 tons; Italy, 775,000 tons; Poland, 340,000 tons; Czechoslovakia, 290,000 tons; Belgium, 300,000 tons; Greece, 275,000 tons; Yugoslavia, 250,000 tons; Spain, 240,000 tons; Austria, 225,000 tons; the Indian ocean area, 2,880,000 tons and China and Japan, 870,000 tons each.

In asking Russia to share some of its surplus grain and calling upon South American countries to step up deliveries, Hoover said the U. S. shipment of 450 million bushels of wheat during this crop year is an unparalleled achievement. In all, the U. S. is expected to provide 4,220,000 tons of cereals; Canada, 2,300,000; Australia, 992,000; Argentina, 2,375,000; Russia, 300,000, plus lesser amounts from the United Kingdom, Brazil, Burma and Siam.

Hoover's announcement of world food needs followed close upon the department of agriculture's prediction that continuing drought in the Great Plains states would cut winter wheat production by 88 million bushels under the April 1 estimate. The crop now is set at 742,887,000 bushels.

INDIA:

Seek Compromise

As a result of the collapse in negotiations for Indian independence because of Moslem demands for a separate state, the British delegation's statement on further steps to be taken for resolving the deadlock was expected to provide a basis for continuing discussions.

In originally making its offer for Indian independence, the British government had declared that Moslem demands for a separate state should not block plans for free-

HOUSING:

Get Going

Welcoming final passage of the veterans' housing measure designed to push construction of 2,700,000 new homes by 1947, Housing Expediter Wilson Wyatt cheerfully exclaimed: "The . . . program now can be thrown into full gear."

Worked out by house and senate conferees, who labored to draw up a common bill from two different pieces of legislation, the measure represented a victory for the administration forces in that it provides subsidies of 400 million dollars to increase the production of building materials. Earlier opposed by the house, the subsidies later were approved on the strength of administration arguments that such payments would boost the flow of construction supplies without increasing the cost of new homes.

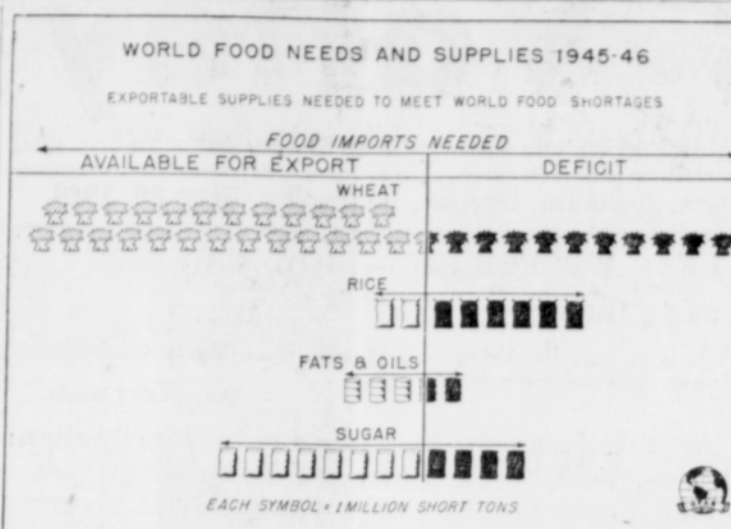
In addition to the subsidy provision, the new housing bill authorizes the government to increase home mortgage lending by one billion dollars; extends priorities and allocation power to channel materials into low-cost and medium-priced residences to December 31, 1947; establishes preference for vets in purchasing or renting new structures; gives the housing expediter broad authority to order changes in material pricing regulations, and empowers him to limit the export of lumber as long as scarcities exist in this country.

DRAFT:

O. K. Extension

Allowed only hours in which to act to prevent the extinction of the selective service act, the senate accepted stiff house amendments to the draft calling for cessation of inductions of fathers and teenagers.

Passage of the measure extending selective service until July 1 resulted from rapid-fire congressional action in the midst of senate deliberations over approval of the multi-billion dollar British loan and restrictive labor legislation. With the senate pausing in its discussion of these issues to o.k. existing draft legislation until July 1 to beat the expiration deadline, the house took advantage of the time element to dilute the draft and force its remittance to the upper chamber for reconsideration.



DIPLOMACY:

On Dollar Basis

Having used its great material resources to balance the scales for allied military victory over the axis, the U. S. now is acting to employ its tremendous wealth for the stabilization of political conditions abroad to promote free exchange between nations.

Popularly known as "dollar diplomacy," the administration's first open application of the policy in the postwar period was to Poland and China, where Communist influence has been strong and shaped to serve Russia's political and economic interests.

In the case of Poland, the U. S. suspended a 90 million dollar credit to the Soviet-sponsored Warsaw government on charges that it had violated its pledge to increase freedom of movement within the country. First, the U. S. said that the government had censored an American reporter's dispatch regarding a critical speech made by a Peasant party leader, and second, it had failed to publish terms of the U. S. credit providing for political freedom in Poland.

Taken back by the U. S. action, the Polish embassy in Washington declared that it could categorically deny that any censorship existed in Poland, and explained that the terms of the loan had not arrived in Warsaw in time to permit their publication up to the time of the U. S. credit cancellation.

Meanwhile, Gen. George C. Marshall was given full control over a proposed half billion dollar loan to China in his efforts to weld the Nationalist and Communist forces together into a central government and create a unified country.



FOOD MISSION . . . Herbert Morrison, Lord President of the British Council, who visited Washington on a food mission, is shown with Acting Secretary of State Dean Acheson.

UNRRA:

Seeking to prevent death-dealing rider among surviving cattle and water buffalo herds of China, one million doses of a new type vaccine were flown by the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration to Shanghai as a gift of the U. S. and Canada.

Emphasizing the significance of the gift, UNRRA Director LaGuardia declared every water buffalo or bullock saved for the plow means the assurance of that much more food for the needy.

WASHINGTON DIGEST

Taft Looms as 1948 GOP Hope

By BAUKHAGE

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Along about June of any election year, when a lot of simple souls are thinking about moonlight and roses, electric fans, and where to go for a summer vacation, a lot of longer-range planners are wondering about next winter's coal supply, harvest time, and many other things a lot further away than the fly on your nose. Among these are the politicians.

It's a great time to lean back in a chair in the Senate office building or thereabouts, open another bottle of White Rock, light another seegar, and burble on about what's going to happen come November, and still more intriguing, to prognosticate on presidential possibilities.

It's fun for the newcomers because it's so easy for them to predict, in the light of what's happen-

ing right now, just what will happen then. It's still more fun for the old timers because they know that the voters who may not love you in the autumn often seem very palsy in the spring—and vice versa.

Since there isn't much use in speculating on who the Democratic presidential nominee will be, it's more interesting to talk about Republican possibilities.

Perhaps that is why, along about the middle of May, the heavy backers of Bob Taft began to be heard from. Up until then, most of the talk in the corridors was how Bricker was the No. 1 boy, and how Stassen mustn't even be mentioned above a whisper. Even Stassen's own men decided it was better for the young man from Minnesota to keep his head down so he wouldn't attract any lightning until he had found out whether his forums were more potent than the against-em's.

Now it's getting to be more serious fun to talk about Taft. Taft wants to be President. He has wanted to be President before. He is pretty much master of the Republican organization, but even if he weren't, Bricker, his present friend and rival, is more "beatable," de-

spite the good impression he made on his speaking tour before the last convention . . . what with the leftist look in so many veterans' eyes.

Bricker has a staunch and solid conservative following. But it is a little too solidly conservative. Taft could hardly be called a radical. In fact, his political garden has never produced even a pale and lonely pink. On the other hand, his supporters prudently can point to many a constructively liberal measure which has had his blessing.

Only the other day, I was talking with an ardent administration official who has been battling for a measure badly battered by conservatives of both political stripes. I asked him if he could expect to retrieve in the senate a certain provision in his legislation, lost in the house.

"Oh, yes," he answered, "Bob Taft will go along on that."

And Taft has a good liberal record on such mass-appeal measures as housing.

The Republicans don't have to deal with the old-line bosses to the extent that the Democrats do and in two of the larger cities where the Republican machine is vital—Philadelphia and Cincinnati—everything would be jake so far as Taft is concerned. He, himself, is kingpin in his home state organization . . . and Mr. Pew, who makes the Republican wheels go round in Pennsylvania, wanted Taft in '40 and '44. It is to be presumed he'll feel the same in '48.

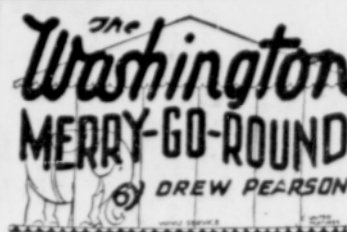
This doesn't eliminate other brilliant possibilities, including Messrs. Stassen and Vandenberg.

Mr. Vandenberg has done a lot of the molding himself. This could work both ways. On the one hand the energy and devotion with which Mr. Vandenberg has applied himself to foreign affairs, and the powerful influence he has exerted, have greatly increased his silhouette on the international horizon. On the other hand, these activities, both in quantity and quality, have taken him far afield from the usual political approach to a Republican presidential nomination.

It may be there is a niche in the making that would need a man of his proportion to fill but one Democrat said to me the other day: "Sometimes it looks as if Van would rather be right than President."



HOOVER AND TRUMAN . . . President Truman devoted attention to the report of Herbert Hoover, on his findings in a globe-circling investigation of famine conditions. Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson is shown with them.



THE NAVY'S BUREAU

WASHINGTON.—If Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal wants to head off the army-navy merger, he might do some merging in his own department. As it is, some of his reserve officers are about ready to believe the army is right.

Perhaps because the navy is suffering from admiralitis (too many admirals), Forrestal has set up a special duplicating public relations co-ordinator. This bureau does exactly what another bureau also does. Chief difference between them is that one is on the first floor (deck in the navy), the other on the third floor. One is commanded by a vice admiral, the other by a rear admiral; finally, the rear admiral takes a few hours to do a job while the vice admiral sometimes takes a few days.

Hitherto, navy public relations have been handled by efficient young Rear Adm. "Min" Miller, one of the up-and-coming youngsters in the navy. If you need a speaker for a naval rally, want to stage an air show, or have a ship visit your city, Miller usually has been able to arrange it in a few hours.

But now, Vice Adm. Arthur S. Carpenter, newly appointed co-ordinator of public relations, sits in naval splendor with a staff of five senior officers, a large force of junior officers, and a small army of WAVES and enlisted men.

THE BALKY SWISS

Insiders say that Switzerland, the little nation which posed as the benign and friendly neutral, is now displaying the same tactics as the Capone gang in hanging on to Nazi loot.

The secret negotiations now going on in Washington to recover Nazi gold from Switzerland have been carefully guarded, but it has leaked out that Switzerland's policy is to keep all the gold which the Germans stole from France, Denmark, Belgium and other occupied countries and sent to Switzerland for safe keeping.

Like the Capone gang, the Swiss won't return this looted gold to France, Denmark, Belgium and other countries from which it was stolen.

Despite all this, some treasury officials urge a lenient policy toward the Swiss. It happens that they have \$1,500,000,000 of assets now frozen in this country including \$500,000,000 in gold, and the French are preparing to clap a lien on these assets. Some treasury officials, however, are opposed.

Not so, however, sage Secretary of the Treasury Fred Vinson, who remembers all the Swiss collaboration with the Nazis during the war.

"Down in my state," drawled the Kentuckian, "when you bet on the wrong horse, you pay off. The Swiss bet on the wrong horse."

VETERANS COME SECOND

Young GOP Rep. James G. Fulton of Pennsylvania, a Pacific war vet, did some vigorous protesting about the way veterans are being "stood up" on surplus war goods when he called at the White House.

"Veterans are just not getting an even break in the present setup," he told the President. The Pennsylvania congressman also gave Truman some inside slants on RFC purchases of abandoned property which would warrant congressional scrutiny. He reported that no effort is being made to sell army and navy equipment piled helter-skelter in and around a Pennsylvania glue factory purchased by the RFC in May, 1945, for use as a surplus property depot.

RED ARMY WITHDRAWS

The inscrutable Russians have a way of refusing to do something when asked, and then going ahead and doing it when not asked. For instance, Secretary of State James Byrnes has been hammering at the Russians to reduce their troops in the Balkans, Austria and Hungary. Among other things he has warned that the United States won't send food into these countries while tremendous Russian armies are living off the land, in effect taking away the food we send in.

Foreign Commissar Vyacheslav Molotov, however, has turned a deaf ear to Byrnes' plea. He has been just as stubborn on this as about most things.

But here is the payoff. U. S. representatives in Vienna have wired the state department that the Red army has started a large scale withdrawal from Austria. There is no explanation, and state department officials are mystified as to the reason.

UNDER THE DOME

Democratic National Committee Chairman Bob Hannegan tried to submit his resignation to President Truman last week-end, but was turned down cold. Hannegan's wife and doctor are both urging him to resign. However, the President told Hannegan he could not be spared, at least until after the November elections. . . . President Truman has asked Secretary of the Interior Cap Krug to set up an interdepartmental committee to handle oil problems.

Child Will Be Happy Over a Lawn Chair

A PINT size lawn chair is great fun for children. It adds interest to any group of outdoor furniture and you will find that it is often used by grown-ups instead of an ottoman or for a place to put books and magazines.



The small chair shown here matches the adult-size chair and is made with a pattern that gives a complete bill of materials. Large diagrams for cutting each piece and illustrated construction steps. The seat of the chair is about ten inches high and thirteen inches deep.

This lawn chair is made with pattern 253; and the adult-size lawn chair is pattern 269. Patterns are 15c each or both patterns to one address for 25c. Send pattern with name and address to:

MRS. RUTH WYTHE SPEARS
Bedford Hills, N. Y. Drawer 10
Enclose 15 cents for one pattern, or 25 cents for both.
Name _____
Address _____

Polar Explorations

Of the eight countries that have sponsored polar explorations, the United States and Great Britain combined have financed 21 of the 33 Arctic expeditions and 12 of the 13 Antarctic expeditions.

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WNU-13 22-46

That Nagging Backache

May Warn of Disordered Kidney Action

Modern life with its hurry and worry, irregular habits, improper eating and drinking—its risk of exposure and infection—throws heavy strain on the work of the kidneys. They are apt to become over-taxed and fail to filter excess acid and other impurities from the life-giving blood. You may suffer nagging backache, headache, dizziness, getting up nights, leg pains, swelling—feel constantly tired, nervous, off worn out. Other signs of kidney or bladder disorder are sometimes burning, scanty or too frequent urination. Try Doan's Pills. Doan's help the kidneys to pass off harmful waste. They have had more than half a century of public approval. Are recommended by grateful users everywhere. Ask your neighbor!

