

Washington Digest

American 'Know How' Aids In Development of Nations

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WASHINGTON—When the various departments of the government began to gather data for the President to be used as the basis for preliminary legislation for his "bold new program" of establishing the machinery of world cooperation for the development of undeveloped countries, it was a surprise to many to learn that many of these agencies are by no means starting from scratch.

The department of agriculture, of course, has had the longest and most successful record in this line—a good 10 years. In 1939 it had become all too evident that in a world where the free flow of trade was threatened by rising anti-democratic hegemonies, we had to look to our nearer neighbors for many things which we did not produce at home, and which they could, but did not, produce themselves.

Congress was quite willing to authorize the department of agriculture to lend some of its technicians to other countries and to help such countries as were willing to cooperate to set up agricultural stations for the purpose of putting American techniques into action.

For those who may have questioned the expenditure in this connection, there is some satisfaction in noting that the experiment paid, from the standpoint of all concerned including the peoples of the countries involved. On the average the United States puts out one dollar for each three dollars spent by the other countries. In 1943 Latin American countries were expending \$500,000. In 1948 they invested \$1,178,000.

The countries in which the stations are located, an official of the department explained, supplies "land, buildings, associate technicians, office and service personnel, equipment and supplies available within the country, and funds for operating expenses." The United States supplies the "know-how" and the specialized equipment necessary.

The plan pays out, the department explains, this way. Assistance in raising crops such as cocoa, coffee, certain fibres, medical plants, tea and rubber, has increased the revenue from them. They are products in demand in this country, we don't or can't raise. The dollars they earn are turned into many manufactured products which these countries purchase from us.

In the last special report issued by the American military government on the Licensed Press of Germany, we have an example of another type of experience which the United States has had in attempting to provide the "know-how" for a foreign nation.

Some of the seeds which have been planted and which it is hoped will grow, thanks to the application of American techniques, are those which should produce a free and democratic press in Germany.

It would be somewhat rash to try to teach the Germans all about the publishing business. After all Gutenberg, who invented printing, was a German, and ever since his time the Germans have taken the lead in many of the mechanical processes connected with the publishing business. But when the American occupation forces moved in, there was nothing that resembled a free press in Germany, and if there had been it hardly could have flourished under the conditions which then existed. Even today the best we can expect is a "nearly free press" and that is what it admittedly is.

In the United States zone and in Berlin there are now 56 newspapers licensed by the United States. These papers own a cooperatively-operated news agency. These publications are not, and never have been, "pre-censored." They are carefully read by the military government officials, and some have been suspended, after warning. But these occasions have been few.

The mission of the military government in the field of the press, as planned and applied to date, has for its first point:

"To help democratically-minded and trustworthy German publishers and editors to build an objective, free, democratic press in the U. S. Zone in Germany and to prevent the resurgence of Nazism, militarism, racism, pan-Germanism, or nationalism in the newspaper and news agency field."

The special report explains that controls which were imposed when the papers were first established in order to conserve scarce materials, supplies, and equipment and in order to train editors, publishers, and journalists in the tradition of a democratic, free press have been progressively lifted so that for two years at least the U. S. zone has had a "nearly" free press. The eventual goal has been from the start an absolutely free press to the extent that this condition obtains

In the United States and Great Britain or other democratic countries. What have been the results? In the view of the military government:

"Democratically-minded and trustworthy German editors and publishers have established a solid core of independent and democratic newspapers in the U. S. area of occupation. They have been encouraged to maintain their independence and objectivity against all attacks and to resist the encroachment of government or of other special interest groups and protect their right to bring the news of Germany and the world to the people of Germany and to comment upon it."

The question that remains, however, is this: when the controls and the existing regulations are removed, will the Germans graduate from a "nearly free press" which the Americans have encouraged to a genuinely free press which Americans consider an essential of democracy? Will the Germans, who for centuries have accepted control and regimentation from above, be able to start out afresh and make use of the democratic techniques to which we have attempted to expose them?

That is one kind of "know-how" it is hard to pass on.

Haylift Whips Winter Blizzards

The winter storms which attacked the range country and presented what looked for awhile like a major tragedy to the cattle industry didn't turn out to be as bad as some people feared, but it might have been considerably worse if it hadn't been for what happened in the Pacific islands in World War II. The Japs used to say that the American's most terrible weapon was the bulldozer and, of course, the Sea-Bees wrote epic history on a clean slate. The same might be said of the air force, so far as the snowbound ranchers, especially those in Nevada were concerned. There the haylift took them over the first, worst hump of the storms.

The Great Plains always have furnished hazards unknown to other parts of the North American continent.

As C. Warren Thornwaite, soil conservation expert of the department of agriculture says of the Great Plains: "In a desert, you know what to expect of the climate and plan accordingly. The same is true of humid regions. Men have been badly fooled by the semi-arid regions because they are sometimes humid, sometimes arid, and sometimes a cross between the two. Yet it is possible to make allowances for this, too, once the climate is understood."

One of the worst blows in the winter storms was struck in the southwestern part of the area affected, southern Nevada and northern Arizona, where ordinarily there is all-winter feeding. There are low altitude ranges there which make it unnecessary, under normal conditions, to provide winter feed. When these were cut off there just wasn't any feed available.

The early settlers who struck west were suspicious of the plains. They didn't realize that the game and the buffalo grass which covered those plains and provided plenty of sustenance for the millions of buffalo which roamed them unmolested, could resist drought as efficiently as it does. For miles there would be no water in sight to the men in the prairie schooners, so they took for granted the land was not liveable and pushed on to the coast. The grass, as long as it was there—and the buffalo were good conservationists and didn't overgraze it—reduced the run-off after rains and prevented erosion.

But the first adventurers had westward-ho written in their hats anyhow, and they headed toward the coast.

Then came the farmers. The cattlemen were driven further west, the plow broke the plains and dug the dust bowl.

But agriculture is a closer-knit industry now and it had many means of assistance besides the army upon which to draw to help combat the recent blizzards—help which the early plainsmen didn't have; the department of agriculture had its organization; the foresters had equipment easily pressed into service.

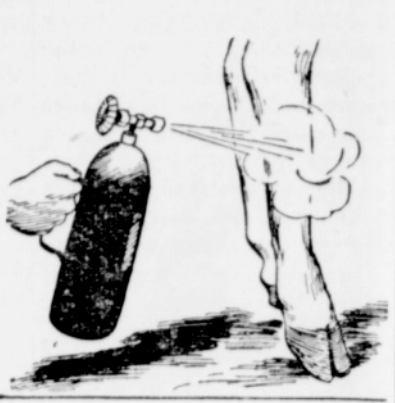


New 'Cow Bomb' Used In Spraying Animals

Dry DDT Crystals Now Practical for Spray

A new animal disinfectant device, called the "isomist cow bomb", is now available for use on livestock.

The cow bomb is used to apply a deposit of dry DDT crystals to the hair and hide of livestock for protection against the horn fly, house fly, stable fly, cattle lice, ticks, mosquitoes and certain other insects.



Dry DDT goes into suspension in water less readily than any other form and withstands rain more desirably. It contains no oil to cause burning or to help DDT penetrate the hide. The DDT particles are microscopic in size and thus a given amount covers a greater area than other forms. It is said one isomist cow bomb will treat approximately 100 cattle with the recommended 30 second treatment. It provides protection for cattle on pasture for about three weeks under average conditions. To help prevent lice infestation, prophylactic treatment of all additions to the herd is recommended.

The isomist cow bomb can be used on dairy and beef cattle, hogs, horses and sheep.

The procedure recommended for cows is to cover the body of the animal with paint sprayer motions at from 12 to 18-inch distances; for legs only 6-8 inches. Total time per cow is about 30 seconds.

Advantages of the bomb include microscopic coating of each hair and the hide of the animal with the DDT particles; less wash-off as compared with wettable powder and dusts, more equal results; saves chore time, and can be done with no mixing, cleaning or fuss.

Heat Hurts Cows



American dairy farmers have learned that some discontented cows, like some discontented women, can be expensive as well as unpleasant.

Most of the cow's troubles can be traced to heat and humidity. A cow, unlike a human being, can perspire only through the mouth. So when the temperature and humidity inside a barn get high, the animal becomes uncomfortable and stubborn—particularly at milking time.

The U. S. department of agriculture says an average cow gives off almost a pint of water every hour through breathing. In addition to the high humidity caused by this breathing, a cow has an extremely high body temperature.

During the winter months when the cows are in the barn most of the time, this combination results in the generation of an enormous amount of warm vapor and heat. When the warm, moisture-laden heat comes into contact with the cold walls, condensation and frost is formed.

The net result to the farmers is rotting beams, joist and siding; a loss of hay because of the mold created by moisture and frost; milk contamination, disease, particularly among the young stock; reduction of milk production because of the discomfort to cows, and farmers are forced to work under unpleasant conditions.

Superphosphate Held Best For Sugar Beet Fertility

Ordinary superphosphate is the best source of phosphate when used as a fertilizer for sugar beets, wheat and barley, according to Dr. Sterling R. Olsen, USDA soil scientist and Robert Gardner, agronomist at the Colorado A&M college experiment station.

Experiments on various fertilizers containing radioactive phosphorus, indicate that calcium metaphosphate was a close second.



The Joe Louis Angels

AFTER ALL the hullabaloo, back and forth, a number of noncombatants are wondering just what Joe Louis plans to do about his title and his return to action.

Here are some of the angles they are discussing here on the West coast:

1. LOUIS has no intention of returning to the prize fight ring. He is using this talk to help his exhibition trip where he has been knocking over from \$10,000 to \$15,000 for each show. This is the easiest money anyone can make, using 14 and 16-ounce gloves.

2. LOUIS has no one to fight except Ezzard Charles who doesn't want to fight Louis. Besides, the 175-pound Charles would make Louis look like an elephant chasing a rabbit or a whippet. It wouldn't be a contest. It wouldn't draw \$300,000.

3. HERE is the situation as it is today—Louis is through and there is no challenger to meet him. The heavyweight division today is at its lowest ebb in ring history.

4. (MINORITY OPINION) Louis is a professional fighter. That's his trade. Why shouldn't he pick up from \$200,000 to \$300,000 meeting some pushover?

These are a few of the angles I've gathered recently, from such boxing men as Jack Dempsey and Abe Roth, the referee, on down the line.

Louis is in a spot where he can get no credit for beating any of the heavyweights now gumming up the scenery. On the other hand, to be beaten by one of these alleged prize fighters would leave a large blot on his so-called escutcheon. The theme song with thousands is: "It isn't what you used to be—it's what you are today."

Any outsider advising Louis what to do is wasting his time. Louis will either do what he wants or what Mike Jacobs wants. Louis hates to pass up what looks to be the softest touch any champion ever faced. Mike can always use more money, no matter how much he has stuffed away through the years.

As things look now, the Bomber probably would be the slowest-moving champion that ever defended a heavyweight title if he went to post again in June. His opponent will have to be a fairly sour specimen to lose.

Jim Jeffries

The old boy with the scythe can travel in a hurry. It hardly seems possible that 50 years have passed since young Jim Jeffries knocked out Bob Fitzsimmons.

This was Big Jim's 11th fight. He had been Jim Corbett's sparring partner before Corbett's fight with Fitzsimmons at Carson City. And there are still vague rumors that Jeffries gave Corbett a heavy beating before Jim lost to Fitz, via the famous solar plexus route.

Sullivan, Corbett, Fitz and Jack Johnson have put on their traveler's cloaks and moved on beyond. But Big Jim is still here with us, hale and a trifle hearty after a bad paralysis jolt a year or two ago.

Fifty years after he knocked out Fitzsimmons, Jeffries, now in his 70's, is as bald as two doorknobs, but still a powerful looking citizen.

When I first met Jeffries, back around 1902 or 1903, he could high jump six feet and run the 100 in about 10 seconds flat. He then weighed 212 pounds and he was as light on his feet as a featherweight.

"In some way," Jim Corbett told me later, "Jeff has become a better boxer than I ever was. And nobody can ever hurt him, not even with an axe."

Fitz broke almost every bone in both hands slugging Jeff in their second fight, without even jarring him. "I might as well have slugged a bloody hydrant," Fitz told friends after the fight.

Jim Jeffries, around 1902 and 1903, was a great fighter as the game has ever known. He could hit you and hurt you—and no one could hurt him.

I saw him in 1910 training for the coming Jack Johnson party. He weighed over 270 and he was bald, fat and slow. He had been out of action for seven or eight years. The Jeffries of 1902 or 1903 would have murdered Johnson. The Jeffries of 1910 was a pushover for anyone who could breathe and move around.

They still talk about Dempsey and Louis. I often wonder how either would have looked against the Jeffries that used to be. You wonder what shape their fists would have been in after a few rounds.

There has been a long gap since the days Jim Jeffries was so good he had to retire. It was a joke to mention anyone having a ghost of a chance against him. He dominated his field more than Dempsey ever did—more than Joe Louis ever did.



Ginger and Mustard
She—Why don't these troops show more ginger?
He—Well, you see, they were just recently mustered.

Shady Deal
Mary—My cousin is engaged in some pretty shady undertakings.
Harry—Really?
Mary—Yeah, he hangs awnings.

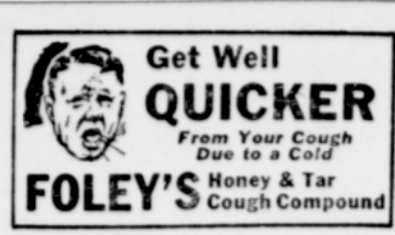
Case Study
First Doctor—I had an unusual case today.
Second Doctor—What was it?
First Doctor—I attended a grass widow with hay fever.



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