

THE AMERICAN WAY--

SWORDS INTO PLOWSHARES

By George Peck

"... and they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruninghooks; nation shall not lift up swords against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." (Isaiah 2:4)

The American steel industry is fulfilling this Biblical prophecy—the industry we usually associate with production for war rather than with production for peace. Shipments of approximately \$190,000,000 worth of American steel to the 16 beneficiary nations included in the European Recovery Program will play a major role in the struggle to raise the economic standard of living, and to reduce the chances for political unrest.

The most important feature of these shipments of steel to Europe is that at least three-fourths of it, according to Congressman Christian A. Herter, Vice-Chairman of the House Select Committee on Foreign Aid, writing in the July issue of Steelways Magazine, "will cross the Atlantic in the form of steel mills, machines and machine tools able to produce more steel. As these facilities go into operation in Europe, our own mills gradually can turn back to the business of further advancing our standard of living."

Meanwhile, this means that our own shortages—houses, tractors, automobiles, and the like, will not be relieved, but it is a sacrifice that we can and must make if we are to halt the infiltration of "Red" communism into the E.R.P. nations.

According to Congressman Herter, in all of Europe before the war there was only one continuous steel rolling mill. That was located in Germany but it is there no more because as soon as the firing of World War II stopped, the Russians tore it down and carted it off. When the E.R.P. steel shipments are completed there will be continuous sheet and strip mills in France, Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg, Austria and probably in England. Sweden and Italy will also be able to make more steel than they do today. Even Turkey and Greece will have up-to-date blast furnaces.

This is a common sense program. It will go far toward taking Europe off the American dole. Most certainly we must help the war-torn, impoverished nations, but the greatest aid we can extend them is to equip them to aid themselves. These steel shipments will go far toward that goal and the economic reconstruction of Europe, and toward effecting a rise in that continent's standard of living, thus removing all excuses for political and unrest and frustrating Communist conquest.

And this casting of our bread upon the waters will pay dividends. The 16 E.R.P. countries eventually will be producing 27 million tons of steel annually to add to the 88 million we produce in America. It is estimated that the steel production of Russia and her satellites is not in excess of 20 million tons annually. Uncle Joe optimistically hopes that this can be increased to 25 million tons by 1950.

This will still leave us and our friends with a decided "edge" over Russia in steel production. Thus at one and the same time we protect ourselves from possible aggression and we alleviate poverty in Europe. Industry is "beating its swords into It is well that the American steel plowshares." As Congressman Herter sums it up: "Surely, insofar as steel is concerned, there is no cause for fear."

THE AMERICAN WAY



Uncle Sam Must Hit

More Cover Crop Seed Sought For European Farms

Oregon growers of cover crop seeds may be asked by the federal government to step up production of these seeds next year to provide supplies for export to Europe under the European Recovery program, states E. R. Jackman, O.S.C. specialist in farm crops.

Meetings of growers, seed dealers, county AAA committeemen, and county agents have been held in the Willamette valley during the past month. Present was a representative of the grain branch of the Commodity Credit corporation to obtain data on probable seed production this year. Estimates of what incentives would be required to obtain increased production next year were also requested.

The CCC representative, W. H. YoYungman, Washington, D. C., was told that the acreage of common and Willamette vetch and common ryegrass to be harvested in the Willamette valley this year will be considerably below last year's acreage. Much of the seed yield from the volunteer ryegrass may also be low. Youngman learned that the hairy vetch acreage is about normal, but much of this is volunteer and yields are uncertain.

To obtain increased production of hairy vetch next year, a government support price higher than the present 12-cent figure would be necessary, growers stated. Restoring a support price on both common and

Willamette vetch might bring some increase in acreage, Jackman believes. A higher support price on Austrian winter peas would bring increased acreage on that crop. At the meetings, it was recommended that the government make known by July 15 production goals and support prices for seed crops. Thus, farmers can plan their acreage for fall planting accordingly, Jackman states.

Youngman stated that the amount of seed which the United States will need to supply under the European Recovery program has not yet been determined. British and Danish farmers will furnish common and perennial ryegrass to meet German needs. Hungary has been the major

European source of vetch seed, but production there has been seriously disrupted. Jackman explains that vetch and peas are used on small European farms for green feed for livestock.

Hearings on O & C Lands to Be Held Soon

U.S. Senator Guy Cordon, Ore., has notified Western Forest Industries Association that a Sub-Committee of the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, of which he is a member, will hold hearings in Eugene September 7, 8, 9, 10 on the administration of O & C lands by the Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior. The hearing had been requested by many independent lumbermen, farm groups and commercial organizations who claimed that the Interior Department was discriminating against certain communities and smaller operators in the sale of public timber and in proposing to enter into long-term cooperative agreements with selected private timberland owners which would give them exclusive cutting rights on large areas of O & C timber. According to Senator Cordon interested parties who expect to appear as witnesses at the hearing will be asked to file written statements with the Committee in Washington, D.C. by August 15.

"We understand," said R. T. Titus, Executive Vice President of Western Forest Industries Association an organization of independent loggers, sawmill operators and allied interests, "that the Committee is going to investigate the adequacy of existing laws and will also go into the administration of the 2,500,000 acres of O & C forest land in Oregon. Individual operators who believe they have not been given a fair deal in connection with the handling of O & C timber should take this opportunity to present their cases. Our association

favors those sections of the law of 1937 directing The Interior Department to handle all O & C and Cows Bay Wagon Road grant lands in conformity with the principle of sustained yield, and authorizing payment to the counties in which these lands are located of 50 percent of the revenue derived from timber sales.

"We strongly object to The Secretary of The Interior entering into cooperative agreements with private owners so as to monopolize public timber in the hands of a few favored operators. We want sustained yield forestry on all forest lands with equal opportunity to participate in the harvesting of public timber, regardless of size of operation.

"It is fortunate," he continued "that our own Senator Cordon is a member of the investigating committee. He knows the history of these O & C lands and he is also acquainted with the problems of our industry while his partially dependent upon federal stumpage for continued operation."

Other members of The Sub-Committee are Senators Arthur Watkins (Utah) Chairman, Zales N. Ecton (Montana), Joseph C. O'Mahoney (Wyoming), Ernest C. McFarland (Arizona).

A gold nugget weighing 86 ounces, worth more than \$3,000, is part of the famous mining display at the First National Bank of Baker in eastern Oregon. Baker is the center of an area which has produced more than 150 million dollars in mineral wealth. Baker county holds 75 per cent of Oregon's mineral resources.

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