

The Washington MERRY-GO-ROUND

DREW PEARSON & ROBERT ALLEN

Washington, D. C. BIGGEST CROP BUYING PLAN YET

During debate on the lease-lend bill, Senator Murray of Montana came up to the vice president's dais and whispered in Henry Wallace's ear. The bill, he said, ought to contain a provision whereby Britain would buy or borrow farm products as well as armaments.

Vice President Wallace replied that he thought so, too, but had not felt it necessary to "spell it out" in the bill. However, he mentioned the matter to Senate Floor Leader Barkley, who offered an amendment to the lease-lend bill.

This was the simple mechanics whereby the biggest farm purchase plan since the last war was started. Most people don't realize it, but the lease-lend act makes the United States not only the arsenal for Great Britain, but also her granary, packing house and slaughter house.

A total of \$1,300,000,000 has been allocated out of the seven billions for British defense—all of which will bring sorely needed help to the farmer. So while industrial regions have prospered in this war, the farmer so far has not.

In the last war not only England, but France, Italy and the Scandinavian countries, even Russia needed wheat and cotton. Farm prices zoomed. But in this war all these areas except England have been cut off from American markets by the British blockade.

As a result, farm prices are low and surpluses mounting. We have a corn carry-over four times normal, or 700,000,000 bushels. The wheat carry-over is 400,000,000 bushels; while the government has 11,000,000 bales of cotton under loan or wholly owned, plus 372,000,000 pounds of tobacco, 2,735,000 pounds of surplus butter, 3,609,009 dozen surplus eggs, 37,000,000 pounds of surplus vegetables and 25,000,000 pounds of surplus fruit. In other words, the ever-normal granary is not normal at all. It is full and running over.

Sales—or loans—to England will be chiefly in live stock products such as canned pork, dried eggs, evaporated milk, lard and cheese, which England once got from Poland, Denmark and Holland, but doesn't any more.

Agriculture department experts who have been studying the question don't expect the British to ask for wheat or corn. England gets all its needs from the Dominions. But they figure that British purchases of live stock products, such as pork, will greatly help the price of corn and be a great boon to the corn belt.

Whether or not the British will pay for this later or make some kind of a swap, has not been decided yet. The matter is entirely up to the President, and he has kept completely mum on the subject.

Note—Man at the head of the farm-products-for-Britain program is Milo Perkins, a dynamic young Texan, who as administrator of surplus marketing already is an expert on getting rid of Uncle Sam's perpetual excess crops.

ANCHORS AWEIGH

Bottle-necks may be snarling some phases of defense construction, but not the two-ocean navy. Inside fact is that battleships, cruisers and destroyers—the "big three" of the ship-building program—are being turned out months ahead of the schedules laid down when congress approved the naval expansion last year.

Two new battleships, the North Carolina and the Washington, originally slated for commission late this year, will join the fleet in June, increasing the number of "battle-wagons" to 17. Fifteen others are under construction.

Naval chiefs estimated that the top number of destroyers to come off the ways this year would be 12. But actually 17 will be completed in the next nine months, bringing the destroyer fleet up to 176, a large part of them super-craft of the latest design.

Here's the present status of the whole fleet:

Ships on hand—15 battleships; 18 heavy cruisers; 19 light cruisers, 159 destroyers, including 74 over-age; 105 submarines, including 68 over-age; and 6 aircraft carriers. Total combat ships in commission—322.

Ships being built—17 battleships (including the North Carolina and the Washington); 14 heavy cruisers; 40 light cruisers; 204 destroyers; 80 submarines; and 12 aircraft carriers. Total ships being built—367.

The 204 destroyers will be completed by 1945; 17 this year, 45 in 1942, 86 in 1943, 52 in 1944, and four in 1945.

MERRY-GO-ROUND

There are many wags in the state department, but only one who wears the name—Alfred Wagg III. He handles refugees.

Colorado's Rep. Edward T. Taylor, 83, is the wordiest man in the Congressional Directory. His personally penned biography, over 650 words long, takes up almost an entire page. Unlike 84-year-old Sen. Carter Glass, who does not give the year of his birth, Taylor makes no secret of his.

MY WEEK

By Eleanor Roosevelt

United Features WNU Service

WAR GUILT

There is a column by Mr. Pegler which I think is particularly fine. He points out that the search for an individual or a group of people, on whom to pin possible war guilt, is really futile. Adolf Hitler has told us that he planned for this war and that he has thought out each move with care before making it.

Mr. Pegler tells us that even if we are drawn into the war, it will not be our doing, but the pre-arranged plan of Mr. Hitler. He expresses it, of course, much better than I can, but the thought seemed to me to be one that it is wise to bring home to all of us, because what happens during the next years does not lie entirely in our own hands.

Our statesmen, our congress and our people may strive in the sanest and most temperate way, to meet each situation as it arises. But we are dealing with people who lay their plans far ahead and we will have to try to be as far-sighted as they are.

For the time being, I think that far-sightedness lies in stepping up our production, in aiding those who believe in the things in which we believe and, at the same time, in preparing ourselves in every possible way for future defense. Part of this defense, it seems to me, is a mental defense, and is as important for the women and children as the men. It lies in building within us a kind of courage which is ready to meet whatever comes and which is willing to prepare to do so.

'SUNNY DAYS'

At Golden Beach, Fla., our days continued bright and sunny and so glorious at night that it seemed a pity not to be 18 again and subject to its influence. We had some showers, but they were over quickly and everything seemed to be greener afterwards.

One afternoon Ignace Paderewski drove down from Palm Beach to call on me. He had gone there to attend a concert and evidently had enjoyed his evening. It was very kind of him to come to see me, but I felt rather guilty that he should take so much trouble.

The last two years have not been happy ones for him, with the storm clouds gathering everywhere and the danger coming closer to his beloved Poland. I think when you have given as much of yourself as he has to his country, it must be bitter indeed to see all your world thrown away and apparently lost because of the cruel ambitions of one man.

I do not suppose, however, that any really good work is ever lost. Somewhere the seed remains and the influence is felt in the future. But for a time at least, all that Paderewski has done as a statesman must seem to him wiped out. One feels that these years have sapped his strength, but his eyes are as keen as ever and they look at you with an expression which is indicative of the same courage we have grown to expect from this gentleman.

We were interested too, in his young secretary, who told us a good deal about his travels in South America. I was happy to have this opportunity of seeing once again a very great man and shall take his message to the President when I return to Washington.

GIRL SCOUTS

The Girl Scouts have now celebrated their twenty-ninth birthday.

All over this country, groups of Girl Scouts are preparing through their various programs to meet the emergencies of the future. The points which they emphasize in their training, are all points which make for better citizens in any community.

Through their camps, they teach the building of health and the value of outdoor life. They develop habits of self-reliance and resourcefulness which are a safeguard in their everyday lives. They learn the value of conservation for the country and for the individual at home.

Recreation is emphasized as a part of healthy, normal living and, above everything else, they feel they are a necessary part of any community in which they live, because they give service. They have already offered many hours of work to the nation in the defense program and probably have learned the first and most important lesson, that defense begins at home. The better you make your community, the better the defense of the nation will be.

Their contribution to Pan-American friendship through the encampment held last summer, where 13 countries of the Western hemisphere were represented, was really a significant achievement.

WM. SHIRER IN BERLIN

The other day I read in the March Atlantic Monthly the war diary of William M. Shirer, entitled: "With the German Armies." You have doubtless heard him many a morning reporting by radio from Berlin.

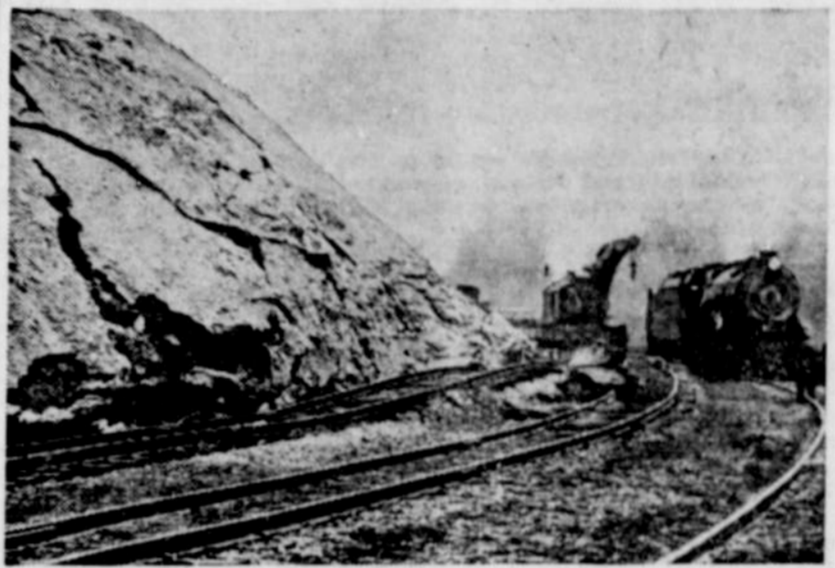
As he enters Paris, he remarks: "I have a feeling that what we are seeing here in Paris is the complete breakdown of French society. A collapse of the army, of the government, of the morale of the people. It is almost too tremendous to believe."

Near Fight in Harvill Strike



When President H. L. Harvill and 50 employees tried to enter the Harvill Aircraft Die Casting corporation at Ingewood, Calif., their way was blocked by a barricade of timbers and an auto. Police arrived (above) and started to tow away the auto, but one striking employee shown with his hand on officer objected. Violence was in the air, but the police departed with the car.

Landslide Halts Rail Traffic



A landslide on the Conemaugh division of the Pennsylvania railroad along Pittsburgh's Allegheny River boulevard. An estimated million tons of dirt and rock slid down to disrupt rail traffic, and temporarily blocked the boulevard, one of Pittsburgh's main traffic arteries. Wheels of the freight engine were derailed.

U. S. Troops on Duty in Newfoundland



U. S. troops recently sent to Newfoundland on the U. S. transport Edmund B. Alexander, are getting used to winter warfare conditions. At top the transport is shown, docked at St. John's. It serves as headquarters and barracks for the soldiers. Below: Ski troops dressed in white to blend with the snow leave for the training grounds.

To Investigate Defense Contracts



A senate investigation of strikes, bottlenecks, etc., was outlined by Senator Truman (D.) of Missouri, chairman of special committee to probe defense contracts. The committee, is L. to R., (standing) Senator Ball (Minn.), Senator Wallgren (Wash.), Senator Connally (Texas), Senator Mead (N. M.), Senator Brewster (Maine), Senator Truman (seated).

Torpedoed!



P. S. Schlaflin, second assistant engineer of the torpedoed Standard Oil tanker Charles Pratt, standing by the mast of the lifeboat which he commanded for five days. The gun strapped to his waist is his badge of authority. Schlaflin, with some of his shipmates, returned to Bayonne, N. J., aboard a tanker.

Seized by Nazis



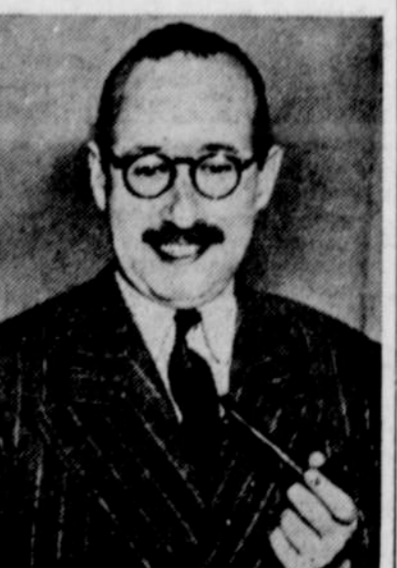
Jay Allen, American correspondent, arrested by Nazis for crossing from Vichy to occupied France without permit. He is the second U. S. newsman recently seized.

Ambassador



Anthony J. Drexel Biddle Jr., who is ambassador in England to the exiled governments (Holland, Norway, Poland, and others), is pictured at LaGuardia airport in New York city just before taking off on the Yankee Clipper for London, by way of Lisbon.

Arrest Nazi



Dr. M. Zapp, chief Nazi propagandist in the U. S., after arrest in New York by federal agents. He is charged with failure to register properly as foreign agent.

TIPS to Gardeners

GARDENING AS HOBBY

GARDENING as a hobby can be made to pay excellent dividends. As an example, a Missouri woman reports she made a net profit of \$300 from her two-thirds-acre garden in a single season. Figured at market prices, food used fresh was \$230; food canned, \$80; and food stored, \$71. Seed and sets cost her only \$20.

There are two major requisites to obtaining garden profits of this kind. They are, willingness to work and the use of quality seed. It is important also to devote considerable space to multiple purpose crops like beets, onions, and tomatoes—crops that can be used in a variety of ways.

Here, briefly, are the uses of principal multi-purpose crops: Onions—green, as relish; mature bulbs fried, stewed, or as seasoning; bulbs for pickle, and relish making; tops for seasoning; bulbs for storage. Tomatoes—fresh fruits for slicing or stewing, for immediate table use; for canning, or for making tomato juice, or tomato catsup; green tomatoes for frying, or for use in pickle relishes, or in pie filler (like mince meat); yellow fruits for preserves, juice, or immediate table use.

Cabbage—fresh in slaw, or salad; cooked for table use; canned as kraut, or stored. Beets—tops for greens; roots cooked fresh, canned, pickled, or stored.

HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONS



Mirrors should never be hung where the sun shines directly on them for any length of time.

Wire and iron bed-springs that become rusty should be given a coat of paint.

Put your white wash on the sunny side of the line and keep the colored clothing in the shade.

Put small cooked hamburger cakes between two hot biscuit halves and top them with a brown savory gravy or well seasoned white sauce. You'll like these.

Meat should not be seasoned until it is partially cooked.

Pillow slips iron easier lengthwise.

QUINTUPLETS use MUSTEROLE for CHEST COLDS

Mother! Give YOUR Child The Same Expert Care

At the first sign of a chest cold—the Dione Quintuplets' chests and throats are rubbed with Children's Mild Musterole—a product made especially to promptly relieve the DISTRESS of children's colds and resulting bronchial and croupy coughs. Relief usually comes quickly because Musterole is MORE than an ordinary "salve." It helps break up lung congestion. As Musterole is used on the Quints you may be sure you are using just about the BEST product made. Also in Regular and Extra Strength for those preferring a stronger product.

Cropping Time

There is a cropping-time in the races of men, as in the fruits of the field; and sometimes, if the stock be good, there springs up for a time a succession of splendid men; and then comes a period of barrenness.—Aristotle.

DON'T BE BOSSED

BY YOUR LAXATIVE-RELIEVE

CONSTIPATION THIS MODERN WAY

When you feel gassy, headachy, lopy due to clogged-up bowels, do as millions do—take Feen-A-Mint at bedtime. Next morning—thorough, comfortable relief, helping you start the day full of your normal energy and pep, feeling like a million! Feen-A-Mint doesn't disturb your night's rest or interfere with work the next day. Try Feen-A-Mint, the chewing gum laxative, yourself! It tastes good, it's handy and economical... a family supply costs only

FEEN-A-MINT 10¢

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WATCH the Specials

You can depend on the special sales the merchants of our town announce in the columns of this paper. They mean money saving to our readers. It always pays to patronize the merchants who advertise. They are not afraid of their merchandise or their prices.