

Victory on the Farm Front



Above map indicates business conditions throughout the country as analyzed in the article appearing herewith.

By L. G. ELLIOTT
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American farmers have met the challenge and have won a major victory on the important food production front. They are harvesting the largest crops they have ever produced, as well as turning out the largest amounts of dairy, livestock and poultry products. They have achieved these results in spite of labor shortages, some unfavorable weather in some parts of the country, and other difficulties.

Much of the credit for the splendid showing of the American farmer in meeting emergency demands, belongs to the wives, daughters, and young sons of farmers who work side by side with the men in the fields. The sight of farm wives, teen-age girls, and schoolboys driving tractors, planting, cultivating and harvesting the vital crops has been no novelty on the farms of America during the past season. An important contributing factor, of course, is the high degree of mechanization which farms have attained this year. Every farmer made a special effort the early part of the year to put his farm machinery in top-notch condition, and every piece of farm machinery saw double duty this year.

High Goals Reached. Even the very high production goals which were set this year have been surpassed in many lines. In those places where the goals were not quite reached output has been much higher than it was a year ago and, in most cases, higher than ever before. Farmers can justly be proud of what they have accomplished in the face of handicaps. Total production of food will be

9 per cent more than it was in 1941 and 25 per cent greater than the average during the period from 1934 through 1939. This large output was produced without a corresponding increase in the number of acres used. Yields per acre have been 6 per cent higher than in any previous year, and about 23 per cent higher than the average. They indicate not only favorable growing conditions, but also better farm engineering and management, greater attention to soil building and conservation, more intensive farming and superior methods of cultivation, as well as better selection of seed.

Many Striking Gains. Farm products of which the production goals are being reached or surpassed, include cattle, hogs, milk, eggs, and many of the important vegetable-oil crops. Most striking gains have been made in fruits, soybeans, peanuts, flaxseed, barley, rice, sugar beets, and canning vegetables. Some of these crops are 50 per cent larger than last year.

More cattle are on farms and ranches than ever before, with much of the increase in feeder cattle throughout the great central plains of the West and Middle West. Pastures have been in excellent condition in most of the country. The hay crop has been far above average, even though some of it has been damaged by rains and by delays in harvesting because labor was scarce.

The feed situation is the least encouraging side of the farm picture. As a consequence of larger herds of cattle and an increase of

nearly 25 per cent in the number of hogs this year, corn has been used at a faster rate than it is being produced. Unless substitute feeds are found, next year will see a shortage of corn for feeding purposes. If the transportation problem of moving some 25,000,000 bushels of wheat from the producing areas to the stock-raising regions can be solved, this would go a long way toward relieving the feed outlook.

Output of meat, milk, and eggs is sure to remain high. Farmers are raising 20,000,000 more hogs than they did last year. The increase is close to 25 per cent. The number of laying hens has increased 14 per cent, and egg production during the first seven months was at a new peak, with 100 eggs per layer. Milk production has also established a new record due to the number of milk cows as well as unusually good pastures and ample feed.

Farm Income Up. While farmers have been doing their part in the war effort by producing these larger quantities of foods and other products that are urgently needed, they have also increased their incomes. Monthly cash income received by farmers has averaged about 40 per cent higher than it was last year. Income from livestock and livestock products has increased slightly more than income from crops. A substantial part of this additional income must be paid out in increased cost of labor and materials, but the net income remains higher than it has been for many years.

Production goals for next year are being set even higher than they were this year, and farmers are preparing to meet them. Farmers are determined to do their best in supplying the much larger food requirements of civilian consumption and the military forces both here and abroad, as well as the growing needs of other countries which depend on us.

Retail trade in rural areas remains high, but the volume has been reduced by curtailment of production of certain consumer articles. This is a condition which will be aggravated with the passing of the months as more and more items go off the market. However, serious shortages of essential consumer articles are not expected, and the small town and rural retailer can anticipate a steady volume of business on these items.

Manufacturing continues to turn more and more to war production with 50 per cent of all output consisting of materials and munitions of war. The national industrial payroll index has risen to 194 and indications are that wages will continue to rise gradually as the tempo of war production is increased.



JAIL possibilities

For anyone who is interested in spreading the winter in a warm jail there are an infinite number of new methods for arranging such a sojourn. regulations from Washington, which, if violated involve jail sentences and sizable fines, have been issued so thick and fast lately that a person needs the constant companionship of a good lawyer to avoid becoming an alleged criminal, or a traitor to his country.

In many ways it resembles the New York city parking regulations, whereby a driver, if he parks at all, stands a 95 per cent chance of ending up with a parking ticket. On many streets there are no signs to warn the perplexed motorist, and the best advice he can get from people on the street is, "You can probably get away with it if you park near a wallie." There may be a couple of old time taxi drivers who know what's what about parking, but to the great majority, parking anywhere at all is an inviting time.

Similarly, the new regulations from Washington, published on the inside pages of some of the newspapers, have not been digested by most of us and anyone may unwittingly be committing some heinous crime even without venturing out from the security of his own fireside.

VIOLATIONS willful There have been many arrests and convictions for violating new government regulations, but so far, as far as I can determine, those who have been jailed or fined were well aware of the fact that they were "trying to get away with something."

Industrial concerns which have violated priority regulations were undoubtedly aware of the regulations which applied to their industries. Women who have been arrested for making false reports on the amount of sugar they had hidden away in their attics, knew they were making false reports.

Tire dealers who have sold tires to people who had no right to have them knew that they were carrying on a form of bootlegging which was both against the law and unpatriotic.

Gasoline dealers in the East who sold gasoline without collecting rationing tickets were well aware of the possible consequences. There may be a lot of regulations which we don't know about, but so far it seems necessary to commit a willful violation in order to be assured of quarters in the winter resort with the iron bars.

USO NOTES

Companies A and D of the 351st engineers, located on 9th and C avenue at Camp White, are badly in need of equipment of all kinds for their day rooms, such equipment as books, games, tables, chairs bridge lamps, ping-pong table, old radio or phonograph, etc. Contact Sgt. Herman T. Niehaus, Coast A 351st engineers.

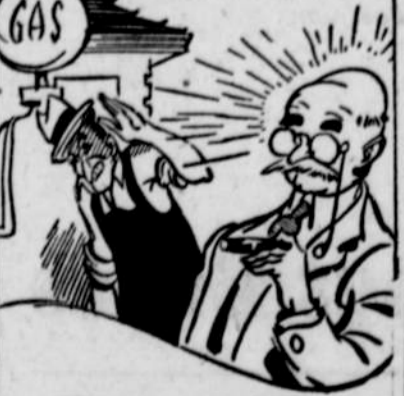
Camp White gardner wants seeds, bulbs or anything green. Potted plants, trees in January. Please leave trees at north side of the Ashland USO house; leave seeds, bulbs and potted plants inside.

A piano for the music room at the USO center in Ashland is needed. If you have one that you will lend to the center for the use of singing groups phone 7391, Ashland USO.

To take one's self too seriously is a great mistake. Complacency is the unpardonable sin, and the man who says, "Now I'm sure of it" has at that moment lost it.—Hubbard.

Love is like a poker game: It takes a pair to open, she gets a flush, he shows diamonds and it ends with a full house.

JOE GISH



OLD BALDY BOGGS
ALLUS SAYS IT DON'T MATTER MUCH WOT'S ON A HEAD... IT'S WOT IS IN IT THAT COUNTS....

Hunting Jap Snipers in Solomons



When this picture was taken, the position of the U. S. marines in the Solomon Islands had become so strong that only "mopping up" operations were in progress, along with further strengthening operations of vantage points in the six islands which had already been wrested from the Japs by the U. S. fighting forces. Here you see the marines under the palm trees with guns ready as they look for hidden Japs in these tropical islands.

HERMITS crime

I suppose there are a few hermits, who don't read newspapers or listen to the radio, who know nothing about the regulations. There is a story about a motorist who stopped at a gasoline station in a rural section of Maine. While waiting for gasoline, the motorist commented, "The war news looks kind of bad, doesn't it."

"What war" queried the gasoline dealer. The motorist patiently told him about our fighting the Germans and the Japs and then said, "Can you sell me four tires?" "Sure," said the dealer.

But there are few cases of ignorance of the law so far as the major regulations on rationing are concerned.

Those with whom government enforcement agents will deal most severely are the criminal element who will deliberately violate the regulations in order to make a big profit out of beating the law.

Recently a gang of tire bootleggers, who had a group of salesmen out to sell tires at fancy prices, was jailed. Some of the salesmen were said to have made as much as \$140 a day by bootlegging tires. But it was a short-lived enterprise—as will be all such enterprises when an aroused public aids the police in running down those

who are working against the best interests of the country in time of war.

IGNORANCE caution But on the grounds that "ignorance of the law is no excuse," we must expect some arrests which result from people not bothering to keep in touch with the latest regulations.

As with the New York parking annoyance, which is caused by the difficulty of handling the parking problem in a large city and the unwillingness of the people to learn the rules, many difficulties with new federal regulations could be avoided if all of us would make an effort to learn as much about them as we can.

Finding out about new regulations is bound to be a hit-or-miss proposition. But if we move cautiously and check the rules before entering into any transaction which involves materials on which there are shortages, a lot of trouble may be avoided.

We are all glad to make sacrifices which seem necessary to aid in winning the war, but too many of us want a personal letter from the President or at least dozens of newspaper stories waved under our eyes, before we are willing to read and digest a new regulation.

FOR VICTORY: BUY BONDS

HOME FROM HOSPITAL

Charles Rugg of Siskiyou returned Friday from Roseburg where he spent a month in the veterans' hospital. He stated that he was greatly improved and returned home feeling fine.

VISIT PORTLAND

Miss Florence Allen and Miss Alta Norcross left Monday night for Portland where they will stay a couple of days and return to Ashland with Miss Edith Bork who has spent her vacation at her brother's farm near Monmouth.

VACATIONS AT HOME

Don Hinthorne is spending his annual vacation from bank duties at home this week.

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GO TO GRANDE RONDE

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Kerns left early this week for Grande Ronde, Yamhill county, where Mr. Kerns has been employed to teach in the grade school. Their son John took them in his car, expecting to return to Ashland after helping them to get settled in their new home.

RETURNS FROM VACATION

Mrs. Ivor Erwin and daughter Marilee, were Portland visitors the past week. Mrs. Erwin returned home Monday but Marilee did not have her visit out so remained for another week.

The average motorist puts 8,000 miles on his car in a peacetime year.

First vending machine without plungers to sell penny gum was made in Rochester, N. Y., in 1897.

Born in Jap Camp



Mrs. Regina Owens is shown with her four-month-old daughter, Regina Madeline Jeanette, aboard the SS Gripsholm, "diplomat ship." The baby was born in a Japanese internment camp in Hong Kong. Mrs. Owens' home is in Elizabethown, Pa.

'Must Whip Japs'



Joseph C. Grew, former ambassador to Japan, is pictured upon arrival from his post in Tokyo on the diplomatic ship Gripsholm. He said that a crushing defeat for the Japanese militarists is our only assurance of peace in the Pacific.

WOMEN IN THE NEWS

BY JANET CUPLER

WOMAN OF THE WEEK: By the time you read this, June Sprau may again be on the high seas, bound this time for duty as a Red Cross ambulance driver. Only a few weeks ago she was enroute here from Hawaii as a U. S. army matron in charge of 11 alien prisoners, all women. There were six Japanese and five Germans, and it was June's duty to see that no one jumped overboard. Before that she was a governess on the islands and watched the attack on Pearl Harbor from her employer's house while the bullets whizzed past her head. Now 27, June is a native of Muskegon, Mich. When she was little she wanted to be a boy so she could travel. Since then her adventures have included traveling around the world several times, hitchhiking all over this country and flying to South America in a plane of questionable age and safety.

Commissioned: A general felt like applauding, their director was "proud," as all but eight of the original group of 444 WAAC officer candidates received their commissions at Fort Des Moines. . . . But no one was more pleased than Representative Edith Nourse Rogers, who delivered the commencement address and whose earlier insistence on the need for such a corps was based on her own experiences in World War I.

"BUT HEROES": An Illinois girl with the Army Nurses corps in the Southwest Pacific recently told, in a letter to her mother, of the heroism of the boys wounded in the Solomon islands battle. . . . The question most of them asked first was how to send a letter home. . . . They were just "kids," she said, "but what heroes!"

WAVES LAUNCHED: Revellie for the WAVES now attending the indoctrination school at Northampton, Mass., will be sounded by a gong instead of a bugle. . . . Asked why women who will do shore duty must know about boats, the commandant of the school, Capt. Herbert W. Underwood, explained that the navy's women must be able to "hold their own conversationally." . . . When the present officer candidates finish their training (their commissions are provisional, you know,) they will be accorded a very special privilege. They will be permitted to write a letter of criticism to the navy department.

Your BRAIN BUDGET

- 1—What is the name of the canvas bag slung diagonally over a soldier's shoulder and used for carrying toilet articles, etc., in the field?
- 2—When were chevrons for non-commissioned officers first worn?
- 3—Chlorine is (1) a chorus girl, (2) a chemical element, (3) a choir of seven people, (4) a sub-detector?
- 4—What is a new recruit called in the marines?
- 5—Would you say women have been known to paint their nails at least (1) 100 years ago, (2) 6 years ago, (3) 3,000 years ago, (4) 200 years ago?

ANSWERS
1—Musette bag. 2—After 1812 W. 3—(2). 4—"A" "Joe." 5—3,000 (Egypt).

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