

Newsprint Shortage Serious, Not Likely To Get Much Better

By MARTIN PACKMAN
Washington—Supplies of newsprint used to print advertising has zoomed some 150 per cent since 1941.

To ameliorate the problem of persistent shortages, efforts are being made to expand the output of American newsprint mills. Although there is no prospect that the United States will become self-sufficient at any early date, greater production at home is obviously desirable. Plans recently announced call for the addition of anywhere from 600,000 to 800,000 tons of capacity to the U.S. total by the end of 1958.

New Mills
Two new mills will be built in the South, one at Mobile, Ala., the other at Pine Bluff, Ark. New machines will be put into existing mills at Calhoun, Tenn.; Coosa Pines, Ala.; Lufkin, Tex.; and Woodland, Me. Construction of other mills in Colorado and Florida is reported to be under consideration.

Attempts are under way also to increase newsprint supplies by developing new raw material sources and processes. In recent years the use of hardwoods to make pulp has increased, and there are prospects that even larger quantities will be utilized in the future, thanks to the development of the so-called chemi-groundwood process.

The possibility of making newsprint from de-inked newspapers has been revived by the development of a process which, though still in the experimental stage, is considered promising. On the other hand, the increased production of newsprint from bagasse (sugar cane residue) does not appear likely "for the near future," according to the Commerce Department.

Inventories Down
Demand was so great last year that some 56,000 tons of newsprint had to be withdrawn from publishers' inventories. Toward the end of the year, newsprint manufacturers were receiving more orders than they could fill and had to cut deliveries from 5 to 13 1/2 per cent. On top of that, major producers hiked their prices about \$4 a ton. The New York delivered price now is \$130 and gray-market prices ranging as high as \$250 a ton have been reported. At \$130 a ton, the cost of newsprint is more than double what it was at the end of the war.

The United States now depends on Canada for about 80 per cent of the newsprint used by its daily and weekly newspapers. Most Canadian production is concentrated in Quebec and Ontario. Thus, little American pressure can be exerted on the biggest segment of the industry to hold prices at fair levels.

High Cost Business
Making newsprint is a high-cost, long-term affair. A single mill may require investment of \$30 million to \$48 million and may take as long as two to five years to get into production. The industry remembers the overproduction and ruinously low prices of the depression years; it is understandably reluctant to expand its facilities.

American newspapers, growing fatter every year, have been using more and more newsprint. Daily circulation has risen more than 17 million during the last

15 years. The amount of newsprint used to print advertising has zoomed some 150 per cent since 1941.

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Floods, Tornadoes Plague Southland; Snow in Carolina

By UNITED PRESS
Spring and winter weather waged a cross-country battle today, touching off floods, a tornado, and Southland snows.

The battle line stretched from the Rockies to North Carolina. Texas was hardest hit with a tornado which ripped through Hovey Monday night and flash floods which boiled up following five inches of rain.

Ground Turned White
A southeast New Mexico hail-storm turned the ground white, while heavy snow was reported near Williamston, N.C. Thunderstorms rumbled today from northern Texas eastward into Tennessee, North Carolina, and Virginia.

The Hovey tornado tore through the center of the small west Texas town. It ripped out all power and communications lines, but miraculously refrained from causing serious damage.

A deputy from Pecos made a tour of the area and reported there were no injuries.

Central Texas Drenched
Downpours drenched central Texas, causing floods around a crooked line in the area of Coleman, Brownwood, Comanche, Dublin, Valera and Stephenville.

The rain-swollen Bosque river spilled into 100 Stephenville homes and rescue workers set out in boats to take residents from house-tops in Valera. Most Coleman county roads were blocked and traffic was at a standstill.

Temperatures contrasted widely on either side of the cold front.

Eisenhower, Truman Lead Nation In Mourning Death of Barkley

Washington — (U.P.) — President Eisenhower and former President Truman today led the nation in mourning the death of Sen. Alben W. Barkley.

Mr. Eisenhower said in a statement issued shortly after he learned of Barkley's death that he was "shocked" by Barkley's "sudden" passing.

"As vice-president of the United States, a member of Congress and senator from Kentucky, Mr. Barkley had a long and distinguished record of public service for the people of his state and country," the President said. "The nation is poorer by this tragic event."

"Mrs. Eisenhower and I join with all other Americans in extending our heart-felt sympathy to his family."

Personal Message
The President also sent a personal message of condolence to Mrs. Barkley.

At Huron, S.D., where he was scheduled to make a speech last night, Mr. Truman expressed his sadness. It was the Truman-Barkley team that carried the Democrats through their finest hour in the surprise 1948 presidential election victory.

"I'm just as sorry as I can be to hear of Sen. Barkley's passing," Mr. Truman said. "He was one of the finest men I ever knew."

"He was a great congressman, a great senator and one of the greatest vice-presidents of this nation, and a citizen that the United States can always be proud of."

Vice-President Richard M. Nixon, who insisted three years ago that only Barkley be known as "the Veep," joined other Republicans and Democrats in laying aside all party differences to mourn the death of one of the best-liked men in the capital.

Respected by All
"Sen. Barkley was loved and respected by all those who were privileged to know him, regardless of their political affiliation," Nixon said. "He was, and will always remain, in the hearts of the American people, the one and only Veep."

Former Vice-President John Nance Garner called him "one of the great statesmen of our generation."

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, widow of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt, said Barkley's death "will be felt greatly by the country . . . he was a fine man."

Adlai E. Stevenson, who won the 1952 Democratic nomination that Barkley had sought, said "no American of his time has been more respected and more beloved." Stevenson's statement was sent here from Oregon, where he is campaigning for the 1956 nomination.

Sen. Estes Kefauver (D-Tenn.) said Barkley's death will be "deeply felt in a very personal way by millions of Americans who saw in him a personification of the best of the qualities we seek in our national leaders." Kefauver telephoned his statement from Florida where he is campaigning for the 1956 Democratic nomination.

'Deep Personal Shock'
Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson (Tex.), who like the President is a heart attack victim, called Barkley's

death "a deep personal shock." He said Barkley "carved out a place for himself in American history not only as a great leader but a man who occupied a warm spot in the hearts of his countrymen."

Speaker Sam Rayburn (D-Tex.) said he and Barkley en-

tered Congress the same day in 1913 and served on the same committee 14 years before Barkley went to the Senate.

"He was a great legislator, fundamental statesman and a great American. With his friends and loved ones I shall miss him always," Rayburn said.



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Barkley Ranked High As Teller of Stories

spot with Eisenhower—3 col hed
Washington — (U.P.) — Alben Barkley ranked close to Abraham Lincoln as a master storyteller and political wit.

He used his homespun yarns and quips not only to entertain his friends, but also to win over—and sometimes to wither—his opposition.

Some of his best: Perhaps his classic tale was one Barkley called "The true story of the ungrateful constituent." It involved a farmer for whom Barkley had done many favors in Washington.

During a crucial campaign, Barkley suddenly heard that the farmer was going to vote against him. Amazed, he approached the farmer and recited all the things he had done in the farmer's behalf over numerous years.

"Yeah," the farmer sneered, "but what have you done for me lately?"

When the wedding reception was over after his marriage to the present Mrs. Barkley in 1949, the bride ruefully observed that she hated to leave and go out "and face that mess again"—meaning a mob of well-wishers.

"That's no mess," Barkeley told her. "That's the American people."

Barkley was fond of quoting a letter supposedly addressed to Dorothy Dix. "Dear Miss Dix," it said. "I am in love with a beautiful girl of fine character and I want to marry her. But there are some things I am ashamed of. She knows about my sister who is a prostitute, my brother who is in the penitentiary and my uncle who is in an insane asylum. But she doesn't know about my two cousins who are Republicans."

"Should I tell her?"

When Barkeley was Senate majority leader, there was an occasion when former President Truman forgot to keep in touch with him about legislative strategy on a suddenly proposed change in the tax laws.

"I feel like a catcher in a night ball game," Barkley told a White House aide. "They not only fail to give me signals from the bench but sometimes they switch off the lights just as the pitcher throws the ball."

Tax Assessor Has Reply at Fingertips

Grand Rapids, Mich.—(U.P.)—City Assessor Harold A. Linn is all set for complaining taxpayers who say, "I'll bet the valuation on your house is pretty low."

Lynn just opens a record book which shows the valuation on his own home has been raised from \$5,100 to \$6,900 during the past two years.

"You're a darn fool to raise your own tax bill," one taxpayer told him. "It does cost me a little money, but it answers questions like yours," Linn replied.

Blind Youth Works Toward Ministry

Alliance, O.—(U.P.)—Lyle DePuy, 21, totally blind for eight years, has begun his second semester at Mount Union College here with a purpose.

DePuy says he got his call to enter the ministry while serving as organist for a Texas church in 1952 during one of his annual jaunts that have taken him for thousands of miles around the country as a hitch-hiker.

"I had been playing there about three weeks when I realized my call to serve Christianity," DePuy said. He left Texas at once for Cleveland to complete his high school work so he could train for the ministry.

ROMANCE WINS

Tampa, Fla.—(U.P.)—The draft board here agreed to delay Heinz Bachmann's induction into the service for 22 days in order to let him marry his German sweetheart, who was en route here by boat when Heinz was called.



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