WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Nazis Pour Troops Into Anzio Region As Battle for Italy Grows in Ferocity; Senate Studies 'White-Collar' Income; Aussie-U. S. Forces Join in New Guinea

(EDITOR'S NOTE: When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of Western Newspaper Union's news analysis and not necessarily of this newspaper.)

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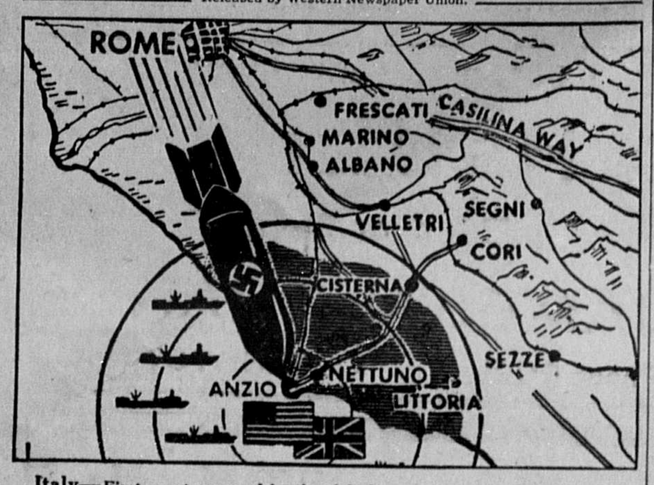


Italy—First great armored battle of Italy raged near Anzio, where Nazis strove to knock out Allied beachhead.

ITALY:
Major Battle

For the first time in the Italian campaign, major Allied and German armored forces met on level ground to slug it out, as the great battle for the Anzio beachhead below Rome raged.

To the southeast, bloody mountain fighting continued, with the entrenched Nazis stubbornly resisting advancing U. S. and French soldiers, crawling through fierce machine-gun and mortar fire to root enemy units out of deeply dug defenses.

Determined to fight a major battle in Italy far below the Po river valley in the north, the Nazis poured thousands of troops in the Anzio region, and action rose in tempo after the enemy carefully probed Allied lines for weak points.

Crowded into an area about 30 miles long and 12 miles inland, Allied forces swung into the attacking enemy at close quarters, while their air forces roamed over German positions and communication lines, blasting troop concentrations and supply deliveries.

MEAT PRODUCTION:
Record Levels

Keeping well in line with government predictions of record meat production for 1944, January slaughter of hogs, cattle and sheep set all-time marks for the month.

Partly because of liquidations due to concern over the overall feed situation for the year, 1,141,081 cattle were butchered in January, along with 7,839,352 hogs and 1,932,987 sheep.

Although the government estimated that meat production would rise 8 per cent in 1944 to a record 25,000,000,000 pounds, civilian allocations were set at the 1943 level of 131 pounds of meat per person for the year, with the services, lend-lease and other U. S. agencies obtaining the increased output. Only if the latters' needs were cut, could civilians expect more meat, it was said.

DEMOBILIZATION:
Congressional Plan

Adequate financing of industry to switch to civilian production, and orderly disposal of war material to prevent upsetting the markets, were proposed by the senate's economic policy and planning committee for postwar America.

The committee's recommendations were embodied in a bill sponsored by Senators George (Ga.) and Murray (Mont.), calling for government purchase of all raw materials or processed goods or extension of advances, partial payments or loans upon contract cancellations.

Regarding the nation's $15,000,000,000 investment in war plants, the committee proposed their sale to private interests, but not if their use should over-expand production. The number of aircraft, aluminum, rubber, magnesium, ship, steel and pipeline plants retained for postwar defense output should depend upon the scope of such a program, the committee declared.

Precaution should be taken against flooding the markets with war goods and depressing prices and production generally, the committee said, and opportunity should be sought to sell such material abroad. Organization of a demobilization board to carry out the program was recommended.

SUBSIDIES:
Opposed in Congress

Although facing an expected presidential veto, the senate moved to join the house in outlawing government subsidy payments to reduce retail food costs.

Sen. Bankhead

Senate approval of Sen. John Bankhead's anti-subsidy bill was scheduled after rejection of Sen. Francis Maloney's amendment calling for the expenditure of $1,500,000,000 for subsidies this year, and Sen. Robert Taft's compromise proposal that the program be limited to $950,000,000.

Countering administration arguments that abolition of subsidies would threaten the whole anti-inflation program by leading to demands for wage raises to meet higher retail food costs, Senator Bankhead (Ala.) said that such subsidies would only save each family an average of 11 cents a day, and this at a time when incomes and savings are at record levels.

Sen. Taft

OLD TOPIC:
White-Collar Wages

Popular as a topic ever since the days of Charles Dickens' stringy Bob Cratchit, low wages for white-collar workers now have come under the consideration of a senate labor committee.

Regardless of general salary increases of 15 to 30 per cent for clerical workers and salesmen since 1941, current earnings of many groups of non-manufacturing employees remain relatively low, A. F. Hinrichs of the U. S. department of labor said.

Although a survey in small towns showed store clerks have received boosts of 15 and 25 per cent and bank tellers increases of 5 to 10 per cent since 1941, straight time earnings of many groups remain less than 50 cents an hour, Hinrichs said. This averages less than $24 for a 48-hour week, and earnings are even lower in some other occupations, Hinrichs asserted.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC:
Gain in New Guinea

Joining hands near Saidor after more than a month of fighting through rugged jungle, Australian and American forces prepared to lunge northward toward remaining Japanese positions on New Guinea's eastern coast.

First Allied objective was the base of Madang, feeder point for the Japs' inland positions, then Wewak, oft-pounded air base from which the enemy has sent up planes to harass Aussie and U. S. forces operating on New Guinea.

On New Britain island to the east of New Guinea, U. S. air forces continued to smack at the major Jap air and supply base of Rabaul, and at the port of Kavieng on New Ireland to the northeast, also a center of feeder operations for barges stocking enemy strongholds in the surrounding area.

CIVILIAN TIRES:
More Later

Because requirements for military, bus and truck tires are expected to lessen later in the year, Rubber Director Bradley Dewey predicted an increase in supply for civilians after July 1.

Because of the restrictions on driving through gas rationing and the greater care being given to tires, the expected total supply of 18 or 24 million tires for 1944 should be sufficient to meet essential needs, Dewey said. Overall production for the year, however, is 6,000,000 below earlier estimates.

Although the synthetic rubber program utilizing alcohol and petroleum should hit peak production at a rate of 1,000,000 tons annually by August, the shortages of manufacturing equipment and high tenacity rayon cord for heavy duty tires is slowing up the whole tire program, Dewey said.

Up to July 1, there will be monthly production of 1,000,000 tires, with 750,000 available for rationing and 250,000 kept in reserve, Dewey reported.

RUSSIA:
Reduce Threat

Russian forces whittled down the Germans' toehold in the lower Ukraine and sought to remove the threat of an enemy encirclement drive in that sector in major action along the 800-mile eastern front.

Stiffening German defenses slowed the Reds' push in the Baltic, with the enemy bitterly holding the threshold into Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. Chewing deeply into Nazi lines before these states, however, the Russ forced the Germans to withdraw in many places to prevent entrapment from the rear.

Down at the southern end of the long front, strong Russian forces were beating the Germans back from the lower Ukraine, where they have been holding a long lick of territory at the back of the Red armies surging into prewar Poland. By rolling up the Nazi lines here, the Russ were removing the threat of a possible German thrust at the rear of General Vatutin's armies.

RECONSTRUCTION:
Lumber Needed

Some idea of the tremendous demand for lumber for postwar reconstruction can be obtained from Great Britain's inquiries for 5,000,000,000 board feet in the first year after the war for rebuilding damaged towns, Dr. Wilson Compton of the National Lumber Manufacturers association told the fifty-fourth annual convention of the Illinois Lumber and Material Dealers association. Normally, Britain buys 250,000,000 board feet yearly.

Although only 7,000,000,000 board feet of lumber are to be allocated for civilian use in 1944 for farm construction, war housing and repair and maintenance work, the supply may be cut still further by increased demands for boxing, crating and dunnage.

Each soldier requires 300 feet of lumber for packaging and other similar uses when shipped overseas, Dr. Compton said, and an additional 50 feet a month for supplies.

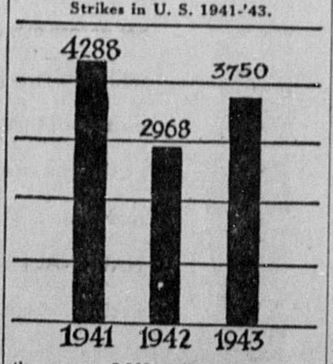
Exploiting war conditions by unscrupulously upgrading lumber is injurious to the whole trade in the long run, Dr. Compton said.

STRIKES:
Up in '43

Although 3,750 strikes were staged in 1943 involving 1,900,000 workers, their short duration resulted in only a loss of .07 of working time, the U. S. labor department reported.

Nevertheless, strikers were out an average of 7.1 days in 1943, compared with 5 days in 1942, when

Strikes in U. S. 1941-'43.



there were 2,968 walkouts. In 1941, each striker lost 9.8 days, and 4,288 walkouts were staged. In the prewar year 1939, the average striker stayed out 15.2 days.

In 1943, four coal strikes involving 400,000 miners resulted in 8,500,000 idle man days, or an average of 20 days per worker.

About 20,000 industrial disputes were settled by U. S. agencies in 1943 without work stoppages, 16,000 by the department of labor, and 3,955 by the War Labor board.

SOLES

A new oil-treating process that makes leather soles last 25 to 50 per cent longer may soon be employed in manufacture of all civilian shoes. The army has required oil-treatment of its footgear since early in 1943.

Proponents of the process point out that treated shoes, by lasting longer, would ease the shortage in the new shoe supply. It is estimated that 180,000,000 pairs with oil-treated soles would give as much service as 250,000,000 untreated pairs.

HIGHLIGHTS . . . *in the week's news*

SLED: The Russian army is using an improved sledge driven by an airplane propeller for its mobile machine gun corps. A machine gun is mounted behind armor plating.

BASEBALL: The American league baseball clubs will play 78 exhibition games in their spring circuit, according to tentative schedules. Traveling difficulties may curtail the program.

TOKENS: More ration tokens will be needed than was at first thought, OPA officials indicate. About 2,000,000,000 tokens should be ready for release February 27, and the OPA is having another 200,000,000 made as a reserve. This supply may be increased to 800,000,000, it was said. A larger token, about the size of a quarter, with a value of five points, is being considered.

Washington Digest

Status of Commonwealth Worry to Mother Country

England Wants Closer Cohesion of Domain; Lord Halifax's Statement Opens Controversial Subject in Canada.

By BAUKHAGE
News Analyst and Commentator.

WNU Service, Union Trust Building, Washington, D. C.

One of the most beautiful buildings in Washington is the Pan-American Union with palm-and-parakeeted patio, its great lily pond with an ancient Inca idol idly dreaming beside its waters.

But there is one valuable object d'art in the cellar, swathed in protecting burlap and excelsior which is not displayed. It is a chair which matches a suite of 21 others which stand around a great table in the hall of the Americas, each of which bears the seal of a Latin-American republic.

The chair in the cellar has the genial beaver, Canada's national pet, carved upon it.

The news is that that chair is threatening to burst out of its cerements and walk on its four legs up the cellar steps to its place at the table.

Two men, more than any others, are responsible for the restlessness of this piece of furniture. One is tall, gray, dynamic Leighton McCarthy, Canadian ambassador to the United States. The other is Prime Minister Mackenzie King.

There probably never has been a time in history when the United States and Great Britain have been closer in thought and action, despite their multifold points of difference in peace time, than they are today. But, paradoxically, it is some of the points of difference that have brought Canada nearer to the United States than Our Lady of the Snows has ever been before. The United States very nearly occupies the position of an interpreter between the mother country and the domain on some points, but the great bond between the Yanks and the Canucks is probably the simple, common sense fact that we look upon Canada as Rudyard Kipling (who once almost became an American citizen) wrote, (making Canada the speaker):

"Daughter am I in my mother's house, but mistress in my own."

The 'Tentative'

That is why so many people in Canada or the States were NOT surprised when the government in Ottawa and the Canadian press rejected politely but firmly what the diplomats call a "tentative" put forth by Lord Halifax, British ambassador to the United States a week or so ago.

That is why so many people in the United States and Canada who ponder such matters WERE surprised that Lord Halifax, undoubtedly with the advice and consent of that frequent visitor at the White House, Winston Churchill, broached the suggestion at all. (The fact that Mr. Churchill said emphatically that Lord Halifax was speaking for himself, not the British government, merely proves—well, you know how diplomacy works.)

Lord Halifax had said:

"But what is, I believe, both desirable and necessary is that in all the field of interests, common to every part of the Commonwealth—in foreign policy, in defense, in economic affairs, in colonial questions and in communications—we should leave nothing undone to bring our people into closer unity of thought and action. It may be that we shall find it desirable to maintain and extend our present wartime procedure of planning and consultation, which itself adapted and extended the methods we practiced in time of peace. The question admits of no easy answer."

Now let me say at this point, if there are any Fenians or their descendants in my audience, who think I am stirring up anti-British feeling or echoing the anglophobia of the Colonel McCosmics, let them take no comfort from me. I am reporting the attitude of a lot of good and loyal subjects of his Brittanic Majesty whose sons are dying for king and country.

As the years passed, Mother England voluntarily loosed the apron strings that bound her far-flung family to her. Willingly she bowed to Kipling's verdict and accepted the statute of Westminster, giving the dominions their autonomy. Now she wonders about that union which is necessary for her strength. She wants a closer cohesion of the Commonwealth. Lord Halifax made the suggestion, not officially, and with great restraint.

Earlier, Field Marshal Jan Smuts of the Union of South Africa had made a speech urging closer cooperation of the smaller European countries with the United Kingdom.

On the Monday following Lord Halifax's speech, Prime Minister Mackenzie King was questioned concerning its meaning in the Canadian house of commons.

King stated that he was sure the speech had been misinterpreted, that he had been assured that it was not the official attitude of the British government, but he also said it was "unfortunate." He said further:

"With what is implied in the argument employed by both these eminent public men (Halifax and Smuts), I am unable to agree."

Then he made this statement:

"In meeting world issues of security, employment and social standards, we must join not only with commonwealth countries but with all like-minded states, if our purposes and ideals are to prevail. Our commitments on these great issues must be part of a general scheme, whether they be on a world basis or regional in nature.

"We look forward, therefore, to close collaboration in the interests of peace not only inside the British commonwealth, but also with all friendly nations, small as well as great."

The Canadian press of all parties, I am told by Canadian officials here, showed a unanimity in supporting the prime minister seldom witnessed in Canada.

This means that since Canadian interests lie in this hemisphere to a great extent, where hemispheric solidarity is essential to the welfare of all of the nations concerned, it is sheer folly to keep a perfectly good piece of furniture in the basement of the Pan-American Union that belongs at its natural place at the table. "Won't you sit down, Mr. McCarthy?"

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Basis for Industrial Cooperation

Quite aside from any diplomatic considerations, plain business men and others interested in hemispheric solidarity are considering a basis for Canadian-American industrial cooperation.

The Institute of Pacific Relations says that Alaska, the Yukon, MacKenzie Valley, northern British Columbia and Alberta constitute a vast area of potential economic development:

"Air routes to Alaska and the nearest sources of supply for military supplies, such as oil, lie through or in the Canadian Northwest. As an air route, the future of the Northwest is assured. Over it lie the great circle or near great circle routes, and the economic routes between the densely populated regions of Asia and North America.

"There are mutual strategic and economic benefits in Canadian-American partnership for postwar development of the Pacific Northwest."

Exploitation of the natural resources in this zone can be developed, and is urged, through a close working partnership by the United States and Canada. This would require the pooling of information, technical facilities and the investment of private capital (not public funds). This is the type of industrial cooperation that has characterized the economic history of the two countries in the past. The comment continues:

"Already two great undertakings in joint defense and joint development are being carried out. Americans built the Alaskan highway; Canadians built the bases for the air route it parallels and serves. The highway was an assurance of the security of Alaska; the defense of Alaska was an assurance of the safety of Canada. The North Pacific Planning project is a striking example of international cooperation and of ordinary common sense. American and Canadian interests in the Pacific Northwest are joint and inseparable, they can be made to yield joint private profit."

BRIEFS . . . *by Baukhage*

The death rate for the first six months of 1943 was 11.0 per 1,000 population in the United States, about 3.8 per cent higher than for the corresponding period in 1942.

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With 450 million people to support, China has 210 million acres of cultivated land. The United States with 132 million people has 345 million acres of cultivated land.

The number of women hired by United States railroads increased 138.6 per cent for the year ending June 30, 1943.

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The latest poll of opinion by the Swedish Gallup institute said that 84 per cent of the people questioned wish Sweden to remain a monarchy, 6 per cent prefer a republic and 10 per cent are undecided.

Household Hints

Remove all stains from table linens before putting them into the wash. This prevents their becoming permanent.

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All new cooking utensils (if you find any) should be thoroughly greased and heated before using for the first time.

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Preserve your metal costume jewelry with a quilted folder. This will prevent tarnishing and scratching and save time when you're hurrying to find your favorite piece.

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Lightly waxed woodwork cuts down cleaning. Rub spots that are handled often — banisters, areas around doorknobs and windows—with a thin coat of liquid wax.

• • •

Don't make dust cloths out of that old sheet. Cut it down to make a cot sheet, crib sheet, or a pillowcase.

All-Bran "Honey Muffins"

2 tablespoons shortening
½ cup honey
1 egg
½ cup buttermilk
1 cup Kellogg's All-Bran
1 cup flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
½ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon soda

Blend shortening and honey. Add egg and beat until creamy. Add milk and All-Bran; let soak until most of moisture is taken up. Sift dry ingredients together; add to first mixture, stirring only until flour disappears. Fill greased muffin pans ⅔ full and bake in a medium-hot oven (400° F.) about 25 minutes.

They're praise winners at *any* meal! And remember, KELLOGG'S ALL-BRAN is a rich natural source of protein, the B vitamins, phosphorus, calcium and iron! "Protective" elements urgently needed now! Make some today with

Kellogg's ALL-BRAN

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So many streets in Montreal are named after saints that it is sometimes called the "city of saints."

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Gather Your Scrap; Throw It at Hitler!

RELIEF! RELIEF! FROM MISERIES OF COMMON COLD HUMPHREYS "77"

For soothing, easing relief from misery of common colds, take Humphreys "77" right away. Works *internally* to help relieve head and throat irritation and that weak, achy feeling. Dr. Humphreys *original formula!* 30¢.

HUMPHREYS Homeopathic FAMILY MEDICINES SINCE 1854

DON'T LET CONSTIPATION SLOW YOU UP

When bowels are sluggish and you feel irritable, headachy, do as millions do—chew FEEN-A-MINT, the modern chewing-gum laxative. Simply chew FEEN-A-MINT before you go to bed, taking only in accordance with package directions—sleep without being disturbed. Next morning gentle, thorough relief, helping you feel swell again. Try FEEN-A-MINT. Tastes good, is handy and economical. A generous family supply costs only

FEEN-A-MINT 10¢

When Your Back Hurts—

And Your Strength and Energy Is Below Par

It may be caused by disorder of kidney function that permits poisonous waste to accumulate. For truly many people feel tired, weak and miserable when the kidneys fail to remove excess acids and other waste matter from the blood.

You may suffer nagging backache, rheumatic pains, headaches, dizziness, getting up nights, leg pains, swelling. Sometimes frequent and scanty urination with smarting and burning is another sign that something is wrong with the kidneys or bladder.

There should be no doubt that prompt treatment is wiser than neglect. Use *Doan's Pills*. It is better to rely on a medicine that has won countrywide approval than on something less favorably known. *Doan's* have been tried and tested many years. Are at all drug stores. Get *Doan's* today.

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