

26 Billion Foreign Aid In Four Years

Large Portion Goes To Great Britain

Washington, July 7. (UPI) — American taxpayers have laid out \$26,522,000 in the past four years in foreign loans and gifts, of which the biggest chunk went to Great Britain.

Advances for the British over that period were approximately \$6,000,000. That is a sizeable sum in the arm for any economy. But it has not been sufficient to put the British back on their feet.

Sir Stafford Cripps, chancellor of the exchequer in Great Britain's socialist government, revealed to the house of commons yesterday that his country is headed toward bankruptcy and must take emergency measures to avoid just that.

Britain's plight drew a sympa-

thetic response from secretary of state Dean Acheson. He said he is confident Britain can solve her financial problems — with help from the United States and the British Dominions. Acheson didn't say what kind of help.

Congressional reaction was mixed.

Senate Republican leader Kenneth S. Wherry, Neb., said Cripps' disclosure means that either (1) the European recovery program isn't doing what foreign aid chief Paul G. Hoffman said it is, or (2) Britain has "launched a drive" to discourage congressional cuts in foreign aid funds.

Sen. Herbert R. O'Connor, D-Md., said the British crisis "is no favorable advertisement for Britain's much-publicized state socialism" (and) those who are striving so hard here to bring about further government control and regimentation had better take heed." But, he said, Britain must not be permitted to go under. O'Connor said that "without ECA this present debacle would have happened long ago."

At any rate, the British balance sheet today is worse than when the Marshall plan began. Emergency measures are expected to improve the condition of the British economy. But the bad news for the American taxpayer is lack of any assurance that Great Britain will be self-supporting when the Marshall plan program ends in 1952.

Western Europe in general is making good progress and, in comparison with Great Britain, the continental nations are going great guns. None of them was drained of resources by the war as the British were drained. It is equally true that few of them have undertaken a vast program of socialization of industry, banking and medicine as the British have done.

Cripps' acknowledgement that the British still are unable to pull their own economic weight puts the British experiment in Socialism to a searching test in which American taxpayers have a direct stake. The test will determine whether industrial socialism can produce goods in quantity, quality and price sufficient to make the British self-supporting once again.

The east coast drought went into its 42nd day with brief sprinkles teasing farmers who had lost an estimated \$70,000,000 in crops.

A United Press survey showed that 411 persons had died as result of the heat since 6 p.m. Friday. Of the total, 116 died of heat exhaustion, sunstroke and heat-induced heart attacks while 294 were drowned while seeking respite at beaches.

It was so hot at Newark, O., that hundreds of eggs discarded at the garbage dump started hatching. Kids ran to the dump to get free chicks as pets but most of the young fowl died shortly after they popped from their shells. The eggs had been thrown away by a hatchery as unfit for use.

At Indianapolis, iceman Lester Tallaferro's horse showed the good sense horses are noted for. Weary of hauling tons of ice to cool humans, the nag walked into a canal, pulling the wagon after him. Tallaferro had to unhitch the wagon to get the horse out of the cool water.

The 950 residents of the town of Odell, lying on the steaming Illinois prairie, were hit by a water shortage that forced them to carry buckets from privately owned wells. A section of piping dropped into the 1,500-foot city well, caught on a rock ledge at the 400-foot level, and threw the entire city water system out of commission. Mayor Lawrence Ready said the situation would be "dangerous" if a fire broke out in the three days it will take to repair the break.

Forecasters at Chicago said the next wave would begin breaking all-time records there if their predictions for continued hot weather came true. The temperature was expected to stay over 90 through tomorrow, setting a new record of nine days of 90-degree heat.

The violent thunderstorms accompanying the heat did more harm than good in some cities. At Red Wing, Minn., a storm flooded the city's sewage system and knocked out more than 400 telephones. At St. Louis, a sudden shower dropped the temperature from 91 to 76 within an hour but the temperatures rose swiftly and the moisture from steaming pavements added to the humidity.

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