

WASHINGTON Calling

A Weekly Sizup by the Washington Staff of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers

(Continued From Page One)

WAR MANPOWER commission's plans for after V-E day are:

1. Retain 48-hour week and other controls in war-producing and critical labor areas.
2. Redistribute war contracts to level labor supply between abundant and scarce areas.

3. Discourage migration from war centers by emphasizing overtime pay factor.

Administrator McNutt's order freeing returning veterans from all WMG employment controls was forced by Selective Service Director Hershey and veterans administrator Hines, who sided with congressional critics' contention that veterans' placement board, not WMG, should handle servicemen's job program. Board was created under G. I. bill of rights, with McNutt, Hershey and Hines as members.

Dewey's Currycomb to Throw Sparks

LOOK FOR Governor Dewey henceforth to go over administration's domestic and war management records with a currycomb that will throw sparks.

Having put himself on record on his Western tour for New Deal social reforms and for an international peace organization, he's got that behind him, is free to turn his attention to other things.

His research staff has been going through the record, item by item. And the Republicans have just begun with Senator Truman. The Democratic vice presidential nominee is going to hear his words in Truman committee reports read back to him constantly from now on by Dewey and others.

DEMOCRATIC STRATEGY is now being geared to offset possible loss of New York. Roosevelt handlers aren't conceding those 47 electoral votes but they're planning to intensify campaigns in Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Ohio, New Jersey, as "insurance."

F. D. R. can win them say, without New York; Dewey can't.

But Roosevelt loses New York, he'll need Pennsylvania and probably one of the other big doubts.

Up G. I. Vote Estimate

ESTIMATES OF soldier vote are being revised upward, with reports from overseas theaters that troops are showing more interest.

Another criterion: Airmail volume of applications for ballots coming in, and of ballots going out, is up.

THOMAS E. DEWEY, John W. Bricker, Clare Luce—that's the order in which requests for speakers are coming into Republican headquarters. Clare's the first woman to rate like that. She'll oblige, in spite of her own congressional campaign.

COMPLAINTS OF "pampering" of German prisoners have caused war department to revise rules on dining-car service.

Prisoners hereafter will get meal tickets good for box lunches and sandwiches to be eaten elsewhere.

Passengers' had complained about having to wait while prisoners dined.

Post-War Radio

COMPETITION FOR post-war spots on radio spectrum is as brisk as that for aviation rights. Federal communications commission tackled the apportionment job this week, has allotted the next month for hearing spokesmen for television, aviation, facsimile, police, education, international broadcasters, and others who want frequencies somewhere in the range of 30 million kilocycles.

OPA WILL shortly fix price schedules for new radios, production of which is scheduled to resume after V-E day.

Manufacturers here for conferences with OPA price executives agreed that first sets will be in

RUHR BOMBED AS BRITISH GAIN

Climactic October Battle Shaping on Entire Western Front.

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port center 70 miles east of Arnhem.

R. A. F. Halifax and Lancasters followed them, crashing a destructive bomb load on synthetic oil plants at Bottrop and Sterkrade.

American 1st army skirmishers and artillery harassed the Germans all along their front from the Echternach forest down to southern Luxembourg without important change in the opposing lines, while 7th army forces on the southern flank hammered out small gains in the mouth of the Belfort gap against furious German opposition.

The fighting in Holland, meanwhile, settled down into an unspectacular slugfest match for possession of Hertogenbosch, which controls one of the main lines of supply—and escape—still open to the Germans west of the British salient.

Situation Deteriorates

The situation of the huge German force pinned against the coast appeared to be deteriorating hourly as the British pressed in on Hertogenbosch from the south and sent armored patrols stabbing through the Wall-Meuse corridor from Nijmegen in an attempt to envelop the railway center from the north.

A front dispatch from United Press War Correspondent Ronald Clark said the patrols were near the point where the parallel Meuse and Waal streams almost converge, about 30 miles west of Nijmegen and barely 10 miles northeast of Hertogenbosch.

Simultaneously, a combined Canadian and British fighting team moved up into the German flank southwest of Hertogenbosch, driving beyond the Antwerp-Turnhout canal on a six-mile front and making steady progress.

Trap Not Yet Closed

The trap was not yet closed around the enemy but its jaws were tightening slowly and strengthening by the hour as fresh British troops and armor streamed up into the salient jutting more than 40 miles into Holland from base along the Belgian border.

Clark reported that all the railway lines running through the 25-mile wide gap between Arnhem and the Zuider Zee had been cut by allied bombers.

Everywhere on the British-Canadian front, however, the Nazis were fighting hard and skillfully, demonstrating their ability to make a unified battle force out of a rag-tag collection of service troops, trainees and remnants of knocked-out elite guard divisions.

Hind Bridge Destroyed

A roundabout report said the Germans had blown up the northern end of the Arnhem bridge, but there was no confirmation and official sources were inclined to doubt it.

On the American 1st army front, Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' troops carried out a local attack in the Hurtgen area, eight miles southeast of Stolberg, with undisclosed results, and made limited progress through the Siegfried line fortifications southwest of Prum. Eight enemy strong points were reduced in one attack.

TRYING TO HOLD METZ

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At the southern end of the allied line, American and French units of the U. S. 7th army pounded out gains running up to six miles through the strongest kind of resistance.

American troops at the western end of Belfort gap made only small progress.

The Luftwaffe came up in considerable force over the battle areas yesterday, particularly in Holland where more than 300 enemy fighters were sighted. Thirty-one Nazi planes were downed at a cost of four allied fighters.

HIND BRIDGE DESTROYED

TOTAL FARM MORTGAGE debt of the country is down a billion dollars since 1940; farmers' equities in their land are highest in a quarter of a century, Agriculture department reports.

Farmers' worries about talk of putting returning veterans on the land; foresees troublesome farm surpluses, if too many turn to agriculture for livelihood.

REPUBLICAN congressional campaign committee finds funds easy to get this fall (with control of the house in easy reach).

One day's solicitation in Detroit netted \$300,000.

Congressional fund is separate from that for presidential ticket, will be spent to help Republican candidates for house and senate.

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

plans to use abandoned army posts, other government-owned land, for hospitalization program, buying as few new sites as possible. Even so, it will spend \$500,000,000 for hospital program.

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The delegates also named Indianapolis as next year's convention site.

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