

Editorial — Farmers Continue Battle To Make Bumper Crops

It took more than good fortune to produce 1941's fine crops. With a \$4,000,000 or \$5,000,000 cotton crop becoming nearer and nearer a reality, some of us are inclined to say that Howard county is lucky this year. The county is fortunate, but that is only a part of the story.

Cotton raisers have been on their toes to make the crop a first class one. Despite heavy rains and other obstacles to frequent working of the fields, weeds have generally been kept down. A dirty field is an exception rather than the rule.

The moisture supply has been good, but then farmers have made the most of it by proper cultivation. Better seed was planted than ever before, adding to the promise of a good production of better staple cotton. Many farmers battled furiously against cotton flea hoppers, and much loss to this insect was prevented.

Now there is a new threat to the crop—the boll worm. The threat may not develop. The infestation may not be serious. But farmers who have worked

hard on this crop will not see it taken now by the worms. They will spend many hours in their fields watching for the first signs of danger, and will work like fury to spread poison if the worms appear.

The farmers of this area are to be complimented on bringing a fine crop this far along. And they are to be encouraged in their fight against what will probably be the last major threat to this source of wealth and prosperity for the community.

Water Lippman Says—

Only After Battle Of South Atlantic Will Hitler Attempt To Make Peace

The extraordinary fury of the current Nazi propaganda against the United States is an interesting development. It indicates that there was something wrong in the accounts of the plan of which so much was heard from so many German sources in the early days of the Russian campaign. Hitler, it was said, would conquer Russia and then propose to make peace with Britain. Through this report was undoubtedly circulated by German agents, and though many well-informed persons took it very seriously, there was always something about the tale which did not carry conviction.

It was that since Hitler must know that he could never persuade Mr. Churchill or Mr. Roosevelt to negotiate with him just because he had defeated Russia, there must be more to the plan than had been disclosed. There must be something else Hitler meant to do which he hoped would compel the British and American governments to negotiate. There are reasons for thinking that the outbursts of violence by the Nazi propagandists are in part preparation for the hidden plan and in part an exhibition of rage because Berlin realizes that the American government has not been caught napping.

The real Nazi plan, it is now obvious, is not to let the west alone, defeat Russia, and then propose peace; the real Nazi plan, in addition to conquering Russia and striding up trouble in the Pacific, is to use Admiral Darlan and General Franco to strike at the American Navy at both Britain and America in the South Atlantic and in South America. The Vichy government is to prepare and provide the African base of operations.

General Franco is to carry the propaganda war into Spanish-speaking America. Conspiracies, already organized in South America, are to prepare pro-Nazi and

anti-American revolutions. At the proper moment, which would be when Germany is able to engage forces from the Russian campaign, the battle of the South Atlantic would be precipitated as suddenly as Hitler's attack on Russia. The Nazis would appear at Dakar, their submarines and raiders and aircraft would range the South Atlantic, and rebellions would break out in the key places of South America.

If the campaign was successful, the position of Britain and the United States would be so compromised that a dictated peace, disguised perhaps as a negotiated peace, would perhaps have become a practical possibility.

There is really no doubt whatever that this South American campaign is being prepared. The government of the President and General Marshall and Secretary Welles have indicated, has information which, for good reasons no doubt, it is not yet prepared to disclose in detail. But the sudden and exceptional violence of the Nazi propaganda immediately following the Bolivian affair is probably no mere coincidence. For there is obviously more to the Bolivian affair than has yet been disclosed, much more than Berlin wished to have disclosed at this time.

This whole business is one enterprise, extending from Berlin through Vichy, Madrid and Lisbon to West Africa and then to every capital in Latin America. The enterprise is not fully organized in South America, and the time to set it in motion is not quite now while Russian resistance is causing such a lot of trouble. North Africa is not altogether under control, and the installations there, though they are being made, are not completed.

Obviously, the Bolivian affair went off too soon, and the explanation has probably uncovered

much that at this moment was to have remained hidden. Hence the ferocity of the Nazi reaction about Bolivia at a moment when one would otherwise suppose they had plenty of other things to excite them.

It is extraordinary, for example, that they are more excited about the uncovering of a conspiracy in the Andes Mountains than about the bombing of German cities.

The character of the Nazi attack on the President is in itself strong evidence that there is being prepared an attack via France, Spain-Portugal-West Africa on South America. The Nazi propaganda is making tremendous play of the well known and unaccounted fact that Mr. Roosevelt, like so many other American Presidents, is a Mason.

To those who know something of the politics of Latin countries, the Nazi use of this particular device of propaganda will be a certain sign that they are organizing a new front from France and Spain to South America against the United States. Their propaganda is obviously designed to introduce a religious issue in South America which will disrupt that continent and get the United States embroiled in dangerous factional issues.

All these things lie on the surface. They are impressively confirmed by every piece of information which comes from informed observers in South America and in France, Spain, Portugal and Africa. After the President's remarks in his recent message, and after the public testimony of General Marshall and the statement of Under Secretary Welles, there can be no doubt that the information in possession of the government would confirm what can readily be deduced in general terms from what is already publicly known.

Man About Manhattan— Customers Pose Some Problems

By GEORGE TUCKER
NEW YORK — The customers sometimes raise interesting points. "It has been a long time since I have read anything that has troubled me in the manner that your article on the zoo did," writes J. T. M. of New Orleans. "I refer to the paragraph on the wolf and his constant pacing to and fro, with never a pause... from daylight until dusk." Unlike humans who have committed some vile crime, that unfortunate animal is innocent and was taken from his homeland — the wild — where, if you believe God created all life, his Creator placed him. Do you really believe that the human race gains... by such pathetic sights as that imprisoned, unhappy animal who deserves above all its freedom?"

That's a pretty tough question to answer, Mr. M. It's controversial... If you take the long view, science owes much to its endless, patient observation of animals. Neither them Koch and Pasteur would never have been able to fathom the riddles of tuberculosis and rabies... On the other hand, nothing is as disheartening as the sight of a child, or an animal, in distress.

Here are two notes with but a single thought... R. W. of Kansas City and B. E. H. of Coatesville, Pa., want to know about tickets to major broadcasts in the New York studios.

These tickets are free, but the waiting list is so long that it usually is advisable to place requests weeks ahead. If you plan to come to New York, I would advise writing at once to the Guest Relations Department of NBC, CBS, or MBS, New York City.

Most book publishers believe the price of books will be up 25 per cent by Jan. 1st... It's the rising cost of paper and other essentials that does it.

The new American naval attaché in China, Major James McHugh, U.S.M.C., is the author of a textbook on the Chinese "Mandarin" dialect.

Hollywood Sights And Sounds— Wherein A Child Star Makes A Comeback

By ROBBIN COONS
HOLLYWOOD — Henry Fonda had a haircut. He was happy. He was sitting down to breakfast with a genial butler at his elbow. He was talking English, without a rustic twang. He was wearing regular trousers and a silk dressing gown. He was back in the city—at long last.

He wasn't eating, and he looked disturbed and angry, but that was in the script, not in Fonda. In "You Belong to Me" he plays the unhappy, suspicious husband of Barbara Stanwyck, who is a successful doctor and keeps up her practice after marriage. It is a comedy, a modern comedy with no log-splitting for "Young Mr. Lincoln" Fonda, and no "Wild Geese Calling" Mr. Fonda in the backwoods country.

This was what Henry Fonda hoped would happen after "The Lady Eve." When he went home — to 20th Century-Fox — after proving in "Eve" that he could wear a tuxedo as easily as homespun, and a top hat as jauntily as a coonskin cap, what did they do but stick him in "Wild Geese Calling" — as an honest, homespun lumberjack?

So he was happy about his haircut and his comedy.

And what do you think Hank Fonda talked about, after the picture back on the home lot that he really wanted to do. About the wonderful script Dudley Nichols had written. About "Swamp Wa-

ter," the story of a rustic "way down South, which Fonda wouldn't get to do because he was committed to "You Belong to Me" and "The Male Animal," another comedy.

It's not every actor who can lay the foundation for his future screen comeback when he's 30 or 35 years old. That's what Jackie Searl did — when he made "Skippy" with Jackie Cooper in 1931.

This 10-year-old picture is the reason Jackie, now a strapping 20, was sought for "Glamour Boy." The story is of a boy star (Jackie Cooper) who grows up into the oblivion of soda jerking. A movie studio with a new child wonder on its hands (Darryl Hickman) decides to remake an old picture — "Skippy" — and hires the former star to coach the new one. Scenes of the old "Skippy,"

which was Cooper's first hit and featured Searl as the story, play a part in "Glamour Boy" — and that's why Faramount looked up Searl to carry on.

In the new story Searl has continued in films and is now the star while Cooper has faded, which reverses the facts.

They found Searl earning \$35 a week as a riveter at a Burbank aircraft plant. Skeptical, having had no movie calls for a couple of years, Jackie took a leave of absence for the picture, got it extended when he won a bigger part in Jane Withers' "Smash" Town Deb" through Mrs. W.'s ears.

"I made good money when I was in pictures, and I've got a nice place in the valley to show for it, but it was a long time between calls and I figured I'd better get a regular job," he says.

MADE UP TO KILL

Chapter 12
Kitchen Knife

Carol brushed the brandy glass away. "They thought it was me in that big black wrap. I would have been there, where she was, in a minute. It was almost as if I killed her, letting her wear my wrap."

"Don't talk stuff, Carol," I said. "It wasn't your fault that she leaned against that scenery and messed up her own jacket."

Carol said, her lips quivering: "And then when I saw her... I laughed! I stood there and laughed!"

Jeff took her roughly by the arm. "Drink this. Or do I have to hit you again?"

Carol tipped back the glass and drained it. Her hand went limply down on the table and the glass rolled across the top, stopping with a clink against the china book end. She turned it for a moment, then watched toward the bedroom. I started to follow her but Jeff caught me by the hand, holding me back. "Let her alone."

I sank down beside him on the studio couch. My eyes were burning with a third ache, and my whole body felt cold, somehow, and detached. Jeff was looking hard at the door through which Carol had gone.

"Jeff who did it?"

Jeff quirked an eyebrow. "Do you think I know?"

"You know something. You listened to them talking. The police couldn't. They talked in circles." "They were going in circles."

But they must know something, they have something to go on. It isn't like the poisoning. They have the knife..."

"The knife came from the kitchen. Tom Neilson recognized it at once he saw it in the cabinet drawer the first day of rehearsal at the Colony. He hasn't noticed it since, nobody has. Anybody could've

sneaked it out of the drawer, any time. No," he went on quickly as I opened my mouth, "no fingerprints. Wiped off clean."

"But they must have some idea... about someone..."

"The only idea they have is who didn't do it. That's as far as they can get."

"Who do they think didn't do it?"

"You. You were on stage. Ben Kerry. He was on stage."

"That couldn't be all!"

"Not quite. Carol's eliminated."

"Of course."

"I mean she has an alibi because Peter and I were with her from the moment she left the stage until you screamed."

I said in disgust: "Those three eliminations are a lot of help. Nobody else!"

"Listed. Halla. There were twenty-seven people back-stage tonight when Eve North was murdered. They say nobody came in and nobody went out. Twelve stage-hands, six people in the cast, Alice McDonald, Tommy Neilson and Phoebe, Clint Bowers, and the doorman, Eve North's maid and Peterson, Sullivan and I. You and Kerry and Carol are out. The detectives and I are out. Nobody else."

"Eve North is out," I reminded him.

"Yeah, and that leaves twenty. Tommy Neilson brought the curtain down the second you screamed. So he was near the rope at the other side of the stage from Eve. But he has no witness to his movements between the time of Eve's exit and your scream. Phoebe Thompson was on that side of the stage, but even she can't check on Tommy. She says she was standing in the wings with her eyes glued on you, trying to get you out of the mess. Kerry had stuck you in, and she didn't

see Tommy, didn't know he was there until he lowered the curtain. And Tommy can't check on Phoebe, so neither of them has an alibi."

Fifteen Suspects

"What about Sullivan. He was on that side of the stage. No alibi. Sullivan's no help. In the dark he couldn't tell Steve Brown from Phoebe in her black dress. There were twenty-seven people moving about backstage. Nobody can remember when or where they saw anyone else. Peterson nearly went nuts before he realized that this was one murder that wasn't going to be solved by placing people at the time of the crime."

"But, Jeff, there must be some alibi!"

"Not enough of them to help much. Five of the stage-hands were in the basement and they alibi each other."

"And where were the rest?"

"Around someplace. At the 'light switch' in the prop room, on the stairs into the basement. No alibi. Bowers was sitting on that pile of first act furniture in back of the set, and he saw people moving about. But that's all they were. Just people, no specific persons. It was too dark. He thinks he saw Amelia coming out of the kitchen when you screamed, but he isn't even sure of that."

"What about the rest of the cast, Jeff?"

"Well, Philip Ashley was in his room on the third floor making a change. Alice's room is next to his and she was in it, but that doesn't give either of them an alibi unfortunately for she had her door closed and was 'wrapped up' in a script. Neither of them saw or heard the other. Steve was in his dressing room too, on the second floor, but Kerry has the room next to his and Kerry was on stage. So that leaves Steve minus an alibi."

Defense Bond Quiz

Q. What is the procedure of redeeming a Defense Savings Bond, if I need the money before the Bond matures?
A. You may secure payment by signing the request for payment in the presence of an authorized officer, who must add his certification; you then forward the Bond in accordance with the instructions printed on it. On all U.S. Savings Bonds appears a table of redemption values, showing the amount you are entitled to receive on demand at any time.

Q. Will I be able to get my money quickly?
A. Normally, a Treasurer's check is mailed to registered owner shortly after receipt of Bond with "Request for Payment" properly executed, either by the Treasury or a Federal Reserve Bank. Bonds cannot be cashed at post offices.

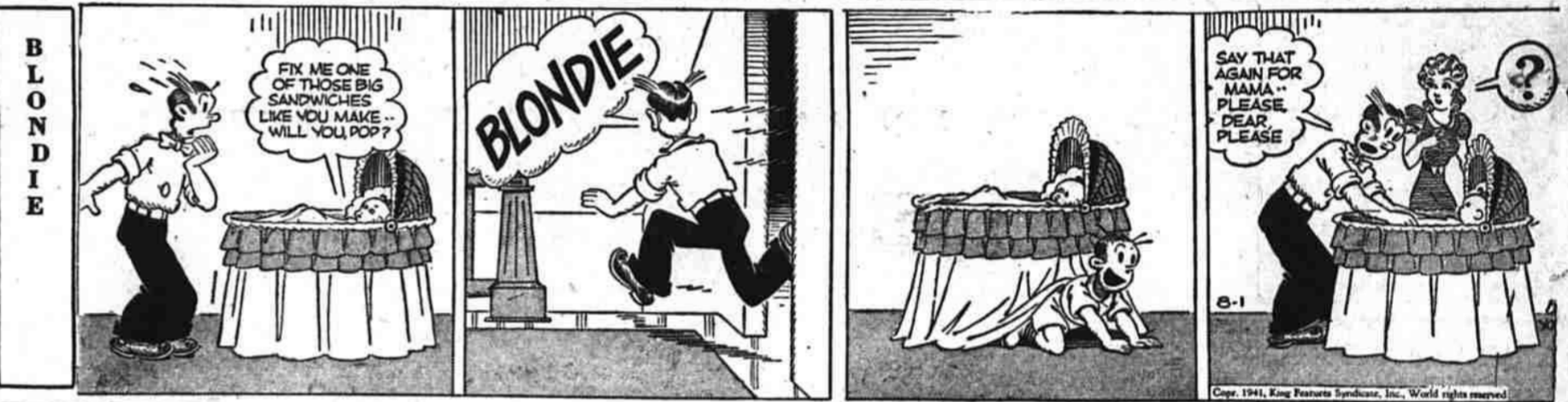
Silk Rationing To Get Underway Soon

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 (AP)—A priorities order is in preparation which will curb substantially, if not completely, the flow of raw silk into hosiery mills and other civilian manufacture. Office of Production Management officials said.

The order, expected within a short time, will probably provide for a deep initial cut in silk consumption, followed by gradually diminishing allocations to mills until the civilian use of the imported fiber is virtually halted, it was said, in order to conserve existing stocks for military purposes.

"SO WE'RE REDS"
BERLIN, Aug. 1 (AP)—Harry Hopkins' offer of United States support to Soviet Russia makes America a party to the soviet's efforts to thrust communism into the heart of Europe an authorized German spokesman said today.

Bridge



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