

Oswego (NY) was selected as the locale of a typical United Nations Flag Day celebration (a) because it is a transshipment point for Lend-Lease materials en route to and from Canada; (b) it has a large foreign born population and (c) considerable war materiel is manufactured there.

The idea of a United Nations Flag Day celebration was presented to Mayor Scanlon by the United Nations Information Office. The mayor immediately called a meeting of 50 of the towns most prominent citizens to discuss the matter. At this meeting representatives of the various groups in Oswego agreed to throw the town's resources behind the proposed celebration.

At the original meeting it was decided to form a central committee to take charge of the entire celebration. This committee was to appoint sub-committees to take charge of various aspects of the celebration. For example, there will be a committee of retail merchants, a school committee and a religious committee.

The celebration will begin on June 13 with sermons being delivered in the various churches on the subject of the United Nations. On Monday there will be a parade and the United Nations Exhibit will be opened in the local Armory. Between Monday and Saturday, when the celebration will end with a quiz program and a community songfest, there will be a number of rallies, meetings, forums etc.

## Picture Possibilities

769 Since the Oswego celebration will touch on all phases of the town's life there are a number of possibilities for pictures for a picture essay. On the Lend-Lease angle, pictures could be taken of the unloading of barges carrying bauxite from Dutch Guiana and the same barges loading coal for Canada. The port of Oswego, one of the most important on Lake Erie, lies at the foot of the town and the barges can be seen from the heights of the town itself.

Some shots might be made in the plant where the chassis of the General Grant Tanks are built. From time to time, the town railroad siding has a string of gondola cars loaded with these tanks. A shot of the interior of the plant with workers of various nationalities featured and an accompanying shot of a trainload of tanks might be made.

The United Nations' Church services will be staged on Sunday morning. The picture possibilities here are varied since there are, in addition to the regular religious denominations, a number of churches for the various nationalities represented in Oswego.

There will, of course, be the usual pictures possibilities in the parade which is scheduled for Monday and in the mass affirmation of the United Nations principles. This latter is in the planning stage but the general idea is to have a substantial body of people repeating an "oath of affirmation" after the Mayor or some other member of the prominenti.

769 Still other possibilities will be pictures of the national heroes who will be sent to Oswego by the various United Nations governments. The present plans call for these heroes to stay in private homes rather than in hotels. As a result, their public appearances, especially with their landmen in native costumes, if possible, and their "private lives" in Oswego ought to offer something.

Not to be over looked is the possibility of re-staging the original meeting at which the leading citizens of Oswego decided to have a United Nations Flag Day celebration. This ought to give us a chance to get the faces of the town fathers into the picture.

Since Oswego is surrounded by rich farm lands, the farmers' part in the celebration ought to be pictured, particularly if the descendant of an old American family can be placed alongside a foreign born citizen at work, at a town meeting, in church or however.

If the plan to bring the Indians of the Seven Nations into the celebration succeeds, there ought to be additional picture and story possibilities in them.

#### Story Possibilities

In addition to the usual stories on the way the celebration is progressing, we ought to have some color stuff on the way the workers are speeding up production so that the production figures of the United Nations Week will top the figure for ~~the~~ all other weeks. This might be followed up with some data on the way the various nationalities are responding to the celebration and what they are doing to make it a success.

Whatever else is done, facts and figures on the celebration must be shot to Sutherland Denlinger, Washington each day. An over night story on what has been accomplished during the day is a daily MUST.

769