

NEWS OF FARM LIFE

GRANGES

COUNTY AGENT'S REPORTS

CROP NEWS

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEWS



U. S. EGG OUTPUT SETS NEW RECORD

Price Boost Acts as Spur to Production; Chick Population Upped.

CHICAGO, Aug. 1.—(AP)—The nation's hens, it appeared from egg market vital statistics today, are turning in an all-time high batting average at the nest this season.

These statistics also showed birth control is "out the chicken house window" this year. The young chick population on July 1 was 13 per cent greater than a year ago.

A little boost in egg prices has stirred the average hen's egg output to record proportions, and has put more food in Biddy's trough.

However, farmers aren't goading their flocks, according to city fellows here who watch such things for market tips. Mercantile exchange statisticians estimated average egg production in the United States runs about 60,000 eggs a minute—day and night.

The poultry business, livelihood of hundreds of poultry men and pocketbook money for thousands of farm wives, simply has a lot of good, cheap feed and hens are so fat and happy, the experts say, they have been showing appreciation in their daily turn at the nest. Weather has been favorable, too.

Prices Upped

Although hens still are breaking all records in the laying department, egg production is in its seasonal decline, and with market receipts going down, prices of eggs have risen about 5 cents from the 1938 low of 16 cents a dozen wholesale in February. The government bought eggs for relief distribution early in the year but has been out of the market since spring.

Here's the way the batting average reads: Average eggs per 100 hens March 1 was 42.2; April 1, 57.3; May 1, 58.1; the all-time high; June 1, 52.9; July 1, 46.5. The July figure still was a record for the date.

OUTLOOK IMPROVED FOR CATTLE PRICES

The outlook for cattle prices during the late summer and fall months has been "somewhat improved," the bureau of agricultural economics reports.

The brighter outlook is attributed to the prospective pickup in business activity and consumer demand. It seems likely, the economists said, that the seasonal advance in prices of the better grades of slaughter cattle will be "more marked and longer sustained" than expected earlier.

It was pointed out, however, that the prices of the better grades are not likely to reach the annual high of late summer and early fall last year. More well-finished cattle will be going on the market than a year ago and consumer demand for meats will not be as strong as it was at that time.

As to the lower grades of cattle, the bureau points out that the abundant supplies of feed, good range and pasture conditions, and relatively low feed prices will encourage producers to withhold from market, as replacement stock, more than the usual numbers of cows, heifers, and calves. Consequently, market supplies of these lower grades may show less than the usual seasonal increase during the summer and fall, and price declines may be less marked.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1.—(AP)—The agricultural adjustment administration ordered today a referendum in 15 state potato producing areas to determine whether producers favor a program designed to keep call potatoes off the market.

States in which the referendum will be held between August 19 and 24 include North Dakota, Nebraska, Colorado, Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, Oregon, Washington and California.

The proposed four-year marketing program would set up a joint federal-state system of inspection of potatoes for interstate shipment.

The purpose, officials explained, is to keep low grade potatoes from flooding markets and depressing prices. It also would give the AAA authority to limit interstate shipment of potatoes other than culls in years of large surpluses.

Two-Thirds 'Yes' Needed

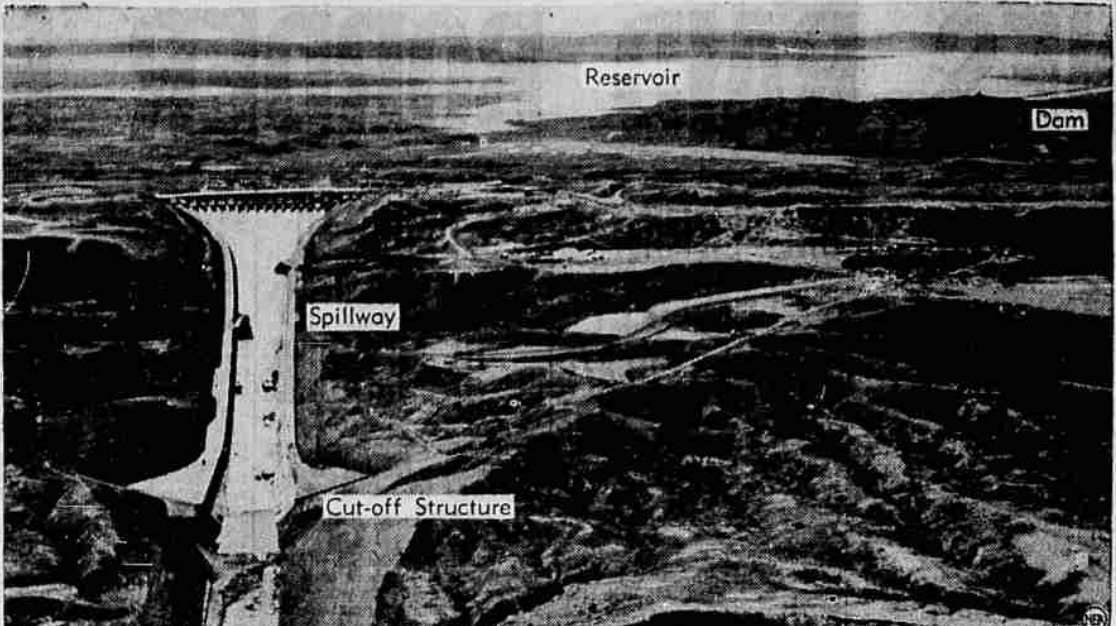
An order requiring growers and handlers to comply with the program will be issued, the AAA said, if favored by two-thirds of the voting growers, either by number or by volume of potatoes produced, and if handlers, representing 50 per cent of the volume of potatoes shipped, sign an agreement to abide by it.

If the producer vote is favorable, but the required number of handlers decline to sign the agreement, the order may be issued with the approval of the president.

The program may be terminated before the end of the four-year period if desired by a majority of growers voting in a referendum.

The program would be administered by state and local potato wheat.

To Protect Valley Dwellers Below Huge Fort Peck Project



This mile-long spillway is a \$14,000,000 insurance policy for the people who live down the Missouri river from the new dam at Fort Peck, Mont. It must carry the excess water in time of great flood and keep the river from tearing out the vast earth-filled structure. Six miles from the dam proper, the spillway skirts a part of the shore of the lake that will be formed and empties into the river at a point where it curves back below the dam. The spillway has a huge concrete dam of its own, with control gates leading to a deep concrete-lined chute. The whole project is costing around 75 million dollars and when completed will control the flow of water in the Missouri so that navigation will be possible between Kansas City and Sioux City, Ia.

"Peasant Type" of American Best Material for Resettlement Plan, Conclusion of Research Worker

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1.—(PA)—A farm security administration social research worker concluded today that the "peasant type" of American seemed the "best human material" on which to base a resettlement policy.

The social worker, Marie Jansy, avoided the term "peasant type" in the body of a report on original settlers in the Tule Lake reclamation project in California and Oregon, but she used it in a footnote.

Her report was based on a study of 136 homesteaders who settled in Tule Lake in 1927 and showed that of this number only 66, or 48.5 per cent, remained when the survey was made late in 1936.

She divided the homesteaders remaining into two classes, the "farmer type" and "capitalist type."

In a footnote, however, Miss Jansy said she would prefer the term "peasant type" for "farmer type," and added:

"But unfortunately—and largely without present day justification—the term 'peasant type' seems to be tinged, to American ears, with notions of medieval backwardness and a physical drudgery not allowing for a decent cultural and material level of living."

Different Types Defined.

Of this type of American, she wrote:

"These settlers cling to their homesteads and want their children to grow up there. They seem, therefore, to be the ideal human material on which to base a resettlement policy aiming at strengthening of the rural section of the population."

The report described the "farmer type" as the man who has a natural inclination for country life while the "capitalist type" of homesteader was described as a man who considers his homestead primarily as an opportunity to get a good return from his investment.

Of the original Tule Lake homesteaders who do not now occupy the land, Miss Jansy reported 17 made a practice of leasing while 53 had moved away.

Chief reasons for leaving were sale of the land for speculation, a dislike for country life, and assorted domestic troubles, including marital relations and drunkenness.

The report concluded that a system of strict family selection is essential to the success of resettlement undertakings.

FIXING OF PRICES FOR PEARS URGED

Douglas growers asked to stand for rigid price to bolster market.

Douglas county pear growers are urged by Pomona prices to meet and determine prices to be asked for canning pears.

Sacramento growers, the agricultural committee reported at a meeting of Pomona growers Saturday, have refused an offer of \$20 per ton, while canners and packers claim they can buy Yakima pears for \$17.50. No price has been set for Douglas county pears, of which there is a big crop this year, and Pomona growers recommended that the growers should hold for a suitable price rather than permit a break in the market, particularly in view of the present outlook.

Fred A. Goff, chairman of the agricultural committee, reported he would be glad to arrange for a meeting of growers, providing sufficient interest is shown and asked that growers favoring such a price fixing meeting communicate with him.

Saturday's meeting was attended by only a small group of growers due to the fact that so many farmers were busy with the harvest. Representatives were present from Glide, Melrose, Riversdale, South Deer Creek, Myrtle Creek, Riddle, Camas Valley, Kellogg, Sunnyside, Sutherlin community and Tenmile granges.

FEDERAL LOANS AID OREGON FARMERS

PORTLAND, Aug. 1.—(AP)—The government's efforts to raise the status of low-income and handicapped farmers to a self-sustaining basis brought assistance to 7,565 families in Oregon for the year ending July 1, Clifford L. Smith, state director of the farm security administration, revealed.

The administration extended loans of \$2,708,159 to 3,139 farmers for livestock, machinery, feed, seed and cooperative facilities. Loan collections amounted to \$373,540. More than 83 per cent of the maturities were met promptly and 274 loans were paid in full.

The farm debt service adjusted the indebtedness of 545 families from \$2,139,086 to \$1,332,287 by consolidations, refinancing and terms extension.

Six tenant-farm purchase loans were made in Lane county and improved tenure agreements negotiated with 754 farmers. About 167 families have not been transferred from submarginal areas, many of them being located on the Yamhill farms project.

Sixty-two one-pound leaves to bread can be produced from the four ground from one bushel of wheat.

News of 4-H CLUBS

The group of 4-H club boys who are carrying livestock projects left yesterday afternoon for Salem where they will join with 4-H club boys and leaders from other parts of the state on a livestock judging tour. This is the first of two livestock judging tours this season which are sponsored by Lapham Motors.

This group first made a tour of the Valley Packing company plant at Salem and judged Southdown sheep at the Claude Steufluff ranch. This afternoon they are judging Hampshire hogs at the Hayes Labisch farm at Brooks. The boys will camp tonight at the City park in Dallas, where they will enjoy swimming, games, supper and a campfire program. Tomorrow they will judge Jersey cattle on the L. A. Hubert ranch at Independence and Hampshire sheep on the R. W. Hogg and Sons ranch near Rickreall. Tomorrow afternoon they will judge Guernsey cattle on the J. A. Campbell place near McCoy and then return to the Dallas City park to spend the night again.

On Wednesday they will judge Romney sheep on the William Riddle farm at Monmouth and beef cattle at Oregon State college. Early Wednesday morning they will be shown thoroughbred horses on the Pleasant Acres farm in Corvallis.

This group has made plans to spend an extra day camping and having a good time so will spend Wednesday night and Thursday just enjoying themselves and returning home by not later than 7 o'clock Thursday afternoon. They will unload on the used car lot of the Lapham Motors company, E. A. Britton, county club agent; H. W. Grow, Roseburg high school Smith-Hughes instructor; C. D. Talcott, 4-H club leader, and H. A. Carlson, livestock club leader, will accompany the boys on the trip.

The second Lapham Motors livestock tour will be taken to Clatsop and Curry counties on August 18, 19 and 20.

4-H club members of Douglas county will be glad to learn community fair dates have been set by the various community fair boards. The South Douglas fair at Can-

News of 4-H CLUBS

yonville will be held Saturday, August 27, and may be extended through to Sunday the 28th. The West Douglas fair will be held at Glide, Wednesday, August 31st. Then on Thursday, September 1st, the Lookingglass fair will be held. The Central Douglas fair at Sutherlin is being planned for Friday and Saturday, September 2nd and 3rd.

County Club Agent E. A. Britton is anxious that there be demonstration teams come to the various fairs and give demonstrations on various phases of 4-H club work. There will be prizes awarded for this work. One demonstration team is preparing a special demonstration on hogs which they plan to give at each of the five community fairs. They will not be competing against any other demonstration teams.

It was explained to 4-H club members who exhibited at achievement day programs that they should bring their exhibits that they made at those affairs to the community fairs and at the same time bring the ribbons which were awarded them with the exhibits. Club members who did not exhibit at achievement day programs may also bring their work to the community fairs where it will be scored and ribbons awarded. Those who have already received the ribbons will not have the exhibits scored again. All 4-H club exhibitors will receive money according to the color of the ribbon which they received. These are classed as "A," "B" and "C."

MONEY ALLOTTED FOR FISH LADDERS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1.—(AP)—A total of \$187,000 will be spent by the department of commerce in construction of fish ladders and screens at federal power projects in the Pacific northwest.

Charles E. Jackson, acting commissioner of fisheries, announced Saturday a grant of the required funds had been made by the PWA.

He said the money would be spent in Washington, Oregon and Idaho.

LAMB CROP IN '38 BIGGEST ON RECORD

Western Area Contributes to Most of Increase Over 1937 Output.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1.—(AP)—The bureau of agricultural economics estimates the 1938 lamb crop at 32,221,000 head, the largest on record.

The bureau said the crop was about 5 per cent larger than last year and about 2,000,000 head, or nearly 7 per cent, greater than the average for the last five years. The previous record crop was 31,615,000 in 1931.

Western sheep states, the bureau said, contributed most of the increase over last year. The crop in these states was estimated at 21,192,000 head, or 9 per cent larger than last year, and the largest on record for the region.

The bureau said weather and feed conditions in the western sheep states during the 1938 lambing season were, on the whole, the most favorable in recent years. The death losses of breeding ewes since the first of the year were said to have been relatively small.

The condition of lambs in July in most of the western states was reported to have been above average.

An increase in slaughter supplies may cause lamb prices to decline from mid-July levels, it was stated. But in the late fall and winter some improvement in consumer demand and prospective better prices of wool and pelts are expected to be strengthening factors.

OREGON BUTTER TO BE RATED MONTHLY

SALEM, Aug. 1.—(AP)—Members of the dairy manufacturers advisory committee met here with representative of the state department of agriculture and adopted a plan for monthly regulatory scorings for all butter produced in Oregon.

The scorings will begin sometime this month and two teams will alternate in the work. One team is composed of Earl Cavett, and A. W. Hare, Portland, and Bryan Williams, state department of agriculture representative at McMinnville.

Members of the other team are

HUNGRY CRICKETS EAT RATTLESNAKES

ELY, Nev., Aug. 1.—(AP)—When goaded by hunger, Mormon crickets will devour anything, animal or vegetable.

In this region of sagebrush, the innocent-looking crickets are killing and eating rattlesnakes whose darting head and poisoned fangs are feared by all men.

Morley Murphy, Star valley rancher, reported today that large swarms of crickets are driving rattlers in pits dug by WPA workers.

Murphy said he saw the crawlers, by mass attack, force three rattlers into pits where they swarmed over them without leaving a trace of the reptiles.

During 1936, one American tire company produced 18,000,000 miles of tire cord—enough to stretch around the earth at the equator 750 times.

SPOTTED BEETLES ATTACK CUCUMBERS

CORVALLIS, August 1.—(AP)—Oregon vegetable growers, whose prospects have been crippled by the absence of rain, appealed to the Oregon State college entomology department today for assistance in checking an invasion of spotted cucumber beetles.

The bugs, about the size of the "lady bug" beetle, have destroyed the leaves of many vegetables and flowering plants.

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