

Consumer Pays Bill for Neglect of Conservation

Who foots the bill for the conservation that is not carried out? Who pays when soil is washed away and water wasted?

Under the Agricultural Conservation Program, assistance from public funds go to help pay the cost of carrying out approved conservation practices. This assistance averages about 50 per cent of the "out of pocket" costs of the practices. The farmer pays his half of money costs and usually does the work. In this way the public shares with the farmer the expense of saving soil and water.

But who pays for erosion? Who will pay for the third of the nation's topsoil already gone? Who will pay for the half-million acres of farmland now being lost each year? It is estimated that farms in this country have an annual loss of \$400 million from erosion.

The cost, however, according to E. Harvey Miller, chairman of the Oregon State FMA Committee, cannot always be measured in dollars and cents. Eventually human lives and human happiness must be figured in on the balance sheet. The desolation of today in parts of the world where mighty nations once flourished is made evidence of the cost of who pays the bill when soil is neglected.

In China, where fertile soil and abundant food made possible a high civilization as early as 400 B.C., soil in many parts of the country has been worn out and washed away until famine is common, and a perpetual struggle against hunger and starvation is taken for granted.

Aid is investment. The assistance given farmers through the Agricultural Conservation Program to help carry out conservation practices is an investment in food production. It means more abundant production—now and in the years to come. The program is a check against muddy streams and dust filled skies which mean just that much less food. Bread, eggs, meat, vegetables, milk, and fruit are the real loss when soil goes down the river.

But who pays for the loss? According to Mr. Miller, the consumer pays. Lost soil means lower yields. Lower yields mean less food on the grocery shelves. That leads to higher prices to the consumer. In the end the consumer pays, in China, with a lower standard of living.

The Agricultural Conservation Program gives assistance to farmers as a direct method of getting the conservation job done. It provides the means for consumers to cooperate with farmers for abundance. The alternative is neglect of the soil with resulting higher costs later.

Shipshape Technique in Deck-Cutting



Joseph Cary, 77, of Aberystwyth, Wales, and Eileen Butlin, 22, of London, execute the tricky steps of a folk dance that won them first prize in a contest held aboard the Holland-America liner Nieuw Amsterdam on its first postwar voyage to New York. Cary is en route to Alberta, Canada, to visit two sisters he has not seen for 47 years, while Miss Butlin is bound for Altoona, Pa.

News Items Relating To Farming Industry

A 1948 spring pig goal about 6 per cent under the 1947 pig crop has been announced by the United States Department of Agriculture. The spring pig goal calls for 50 million pigs compared with the 1947 spring pig crop of 53 million.

Reductions are indicated for Corn Belt where feed supplies have been reduced by drought and other unfavorable growing conditions.

As a more direct approach to saving grain for human consumption both in this country and for sharing with hungry people in other countries, Department officials again advise farmers to send hogs to market at lighter-than-normal weights.

State goals for the 1948 spring pig crop will be established with cooperation of State USDA Councils.

There will be plenty of alfalfa seed for conservation plantings this fall and next spring. The latest report of the U.S. Department of Agriculture shows that the expected drop this year will be about one per cent smaller than the record crop of last year, but the carry-over this year was three times that of a year ago. This year's production, plus the carry-over, make a supply of 107,780,000 pounds... the largest on record.

This year's high production has been mostly in the Central and Southern States. It is expected that more acres of alfalfa will be harvested for seed this year than any other year of record except last, and the yield per acre is expected to be the highest in 10 years.

Imports during the year from June 30, 1946 to July 1, 1947, were 9,259,000 pounds, about 65 per cent above the average imports.

Research aimed at improving domestic wool fibers so that they can compete with high-quality foreign wools and synthetic fibers has been approved under the Research and Marketing Act. Domestic wool production reached a peak of 388 million pounds in 1942, but since has declined to a level 34 per cent below the 1942 figure. The number of stock sheep at the beginning of this year was the lowest since 1867.

The potato crop this year emphasizes the fact that the margin between too much and too little is not too wide, that it is quite possible to have too many potatoes in June and too few in January. Current demand indicates that an annual production of 375 million bushels is about right, but a 4 per cent variation either way is the margin between too much and too little.

To support prices on 1947 early and intermediate potatoes, the Government purchased through October 14 a total of 15,358,107 bushels. The reported distribution was as follows: School lunch, Federal and State institutions and other direct distribution outlets, 1,489,113 bushels; livestock feed, 1,589,240 bushels; alcohol, 5,282,673 bushels; dehydration, 759,772 bushels; export, 3,366,452 bushels; flour, 82,987 bushels; starch, 1,379,095 bushels; in commercial storage, 818,383 bushels; lost through spoilage 468,458 bushels; for experimental uses, 107,267 bushels.

One-Day Strike Against Safeway Stores Ended

TACOMA, Nov. 12. (AP)—Pickets were withdrawn from Safeway store entrances here today to end a one-day strike by clerks against the company's 19 local units. An agreement, terms of which were not disclosed pending a vote by the AFL union's membership, was reached last night.

Approximately 100 employees of the Safeway company and a few

from one single unit company were affected.

The employees were asking \$60 for a 40-hour week. Present contracts call for \$43 for 40 hours.



GALL BLADDER

SUFFERERS FIND CURE FOR MISERY DUE TO LACK OF HEALTHY BILE

Supply Rushed Here — Sufferers Rejoice

New relief for gallbladder sufferers lacking healthy bile is seen today in announcement of a wonderful preparation which acts with remarkable effect. Sufferers with aching ribs, stomach and gallbladder misery due to lack of healthy bile now tell of remarkable results after using this medicine which has amazing power to stimulate flow of healthy bile. GALLUSIN is a very expensive medicine, but considering results, the \$3.50 it costs is only pennies per dose. GALLUSIN (caution, use only as directed) is sold with full money back guarantee by Fullerton & Chapman Drug Stores.

Sleep-Walking Janitor Plunges to His Death

MIAMI, Fla., Nov. 12. (AP)—Police said a janitor, believed to have been walking in his sleep, plunged to his death early today from the 10th floor of the Ingraham Building in downtown Miami.

The body of James Sigmund

Pacek, 41, was found on the roof of a one-story extension of the building by a nightwatchman who told police Pacek had told him he was going to the 10th floor for a nap on a cot there. Pacek's wife said her husband often walked in his sleep.

There were no mammals or marsupials in New Zealand until men imported them.



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