

Impending Potato Surplus In U. S. Revives Appeals For Ban On Canada Product Imports

WASHINGTON, June 27.—(AP)—The government is running into new appeals for a ban on imports of Canadian potatoes.

They are coming from spokesmen for producers at a time when another domestic apud surplus seems certain. Similar requests were made last year during a surplus supply situation that cost the government more than \$200,000,000 to carry out grower price guarantees.

Why, demand domestic growers, should this country permit imports of potatoes at a time when it has more than it can use?

Officials of both the State and Agriculture Departments agree that a good argument can be made for banning imports. But both add that the matter has ticklish angles from the standpoints of political and trade relations with Canada.

This country permits imports of Canadian potatoes under terms of a trade agreement. This agreement allows annual imports of 1,000,000 bushels of table stock potatoes and 500,000 bushels of seed potatoes at a tariff rate of 37.5 cents a bushel.

Unlimited quantities above these quotas may be shipped to this country at an import duty of 75 cents a bushel.

When the agreement first was signed, Canadian imports seldom created a problem, because the duty generally served to limit them to a few million bushels of certified seed stock. Often because as many American potatoes moved to Canada as Canadian spuds came to this country.

But the post-war American potato price support programs have tended to change the situation. These programs have held potato prices in this country considerably above prices in Canada. As a consequence, the 75-cent duty has not been the barrier that it was before the war.

Canadian shippers have found it possible to buy in the Canadian market, pay the duty, and sell in the American market for as much as they could get at home—and sometimes more.

Thus, the American price support program has served to broaden the market for Canadian spuds. American potatoes displaced by the Canadian potatoes have, as a rule, been sold to the government under the price-support program.

Taking account of the problem created by its exports, the Canadian government entered a special agreement with the United States last November limiting shipments of 1948 Canadian spuds to seed potatoes. This agreement expired last week.

While Canada now is free to send table stock potatoes to the country on payment of the 75-cent duty, few are expected until after the 1949-crop harvest later in the year. Canada has relatively few potatoes remaining from last year's crop.

Aid Works Two Ways
But the problem could become bothersome should U. S. production this year turn out to be large again—as it now is expected to be.

Agriculture department officials say there has been a tendency in this country to "over-magnify" Canadian imports. They said imports of both seed and table stock potatoes between September, 1948, and May, 1949,

totalled only about 8,177,000 bushels, compared with an annual domestic usage of about 385,000,000 bushels.

They noted that Canada imports many times as much American farm products as it sends to this country, and added that there have been times in the past when shortages in U. S. production made Canadian potatoes a welcome product in this country.

Likewise, there have been times, they said, when the situation was reversed, and Canada welcomed American potatoes to augment its own short supplies.

Careless 2, 4-D Spraying Hurts Trees, Crops, Shrubs

SPOKANE, June 27.—(AP)—Careless spraying of 2, 4-D has damaged trees, shrubs and some crops it was intended to protect in Washington, a Washington State College specialist said.

Lamar Chapman, extension agronomist, said faulty aerial spraying had damaged alfalfa and quaking aspen in one Okanogan County wheat area, and some trees and shrubs near a Walla Walla flying field.

The damage arose mostly because the weed killer was sprayed at the wrong time for plants it was not intended to affect, Chapman said, and partly because it was released in the wrong areas.

4-H Winners Of Plummer Memorial Awards Named

CORVALLIS, June 27.—(AP)—Charles Colledge of Monroe and Helen Wrostad of Hubbard have won the annual \$100 O. M. Plummer memorial awards for outstanding 4-H club work.

The awards were announced at the 4-H Club Summer School session at Oregon State College.

At the same session a United States Department of Agriculture medallion for exceptional 4-H club work was presented to Harry C. Seymour, a former State 4-H club leader.

CATERpillars ON MOVE TILLAMOOK, June 27.—(AP)—The caterpillars are apparently crawling south from Clatsop County.

A heavy infestation was reported in this area today, about a week after a similar plague was noticed in Clatsop County. Considerable damage to fruit orchards and to alder trees was reported.

Wheat Control Decision Postponed Until July

WASHINGTON, June 24.—(AP)—The Agriculture Department will wait until next month to decide whether to recommend rigid production controls for the 1950 wheat crop.

Secretary Brannan announced he will receive opinions on the subject through July 5. He said he may not decide until after the Department makes its next official wheat crop estimate on July 11.

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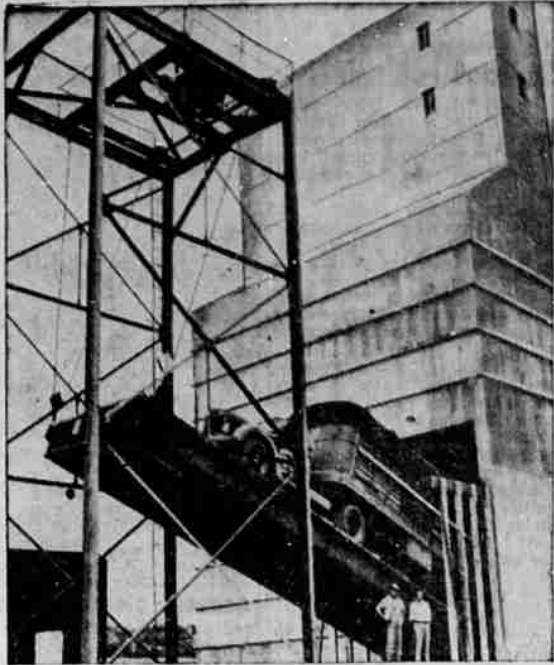
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BUMPER CROP GETS A BOOST—This new trailer lift, installed at a 40,000-bushel grain elevator in St. Mary's, Kan., picks up and dumps a 40-ton loaded trailer in 30 seconds. The 50-foot truck and trailer platform swings 33 feet through a 40-degree arc. The new "raise-the-truck" method is expected to relieve the bottleneck at grain elevators during harvesting of this year's bumper crop.

New Farmhouse And Cabinet Plans Are Offered By O. S. C. At Low Cost

Twenty five new plans including drawings for 14 farmhouses have recently been added to the Oregon farmhouse plan service books maintained in county extension offices throughout the state, John C. Campbell, Oregon State College extension rural housing specialist, announces.

In addition to the 14 new farmhouses, plans are included for a draft cooler, a wood lift, wood box, and various kitchen and storage cabinets. Plans for kitchen cabinets include serving cabinets, wall cabinets, storage and utility cabinets and plans are for chore clothing.

The 14 farmhouse plans are of modern houses designed to incorporate sound, up-to-date planning principles, adequate storage areas, and construction economy, Campbell states. Many of the houses are designed to accommodate the addition of more bedrooms at the later date. Design work on all the farmhouses was done within the past two years.

Campbell states that of the 14 new houses added to the plan service, eight are designed for frame construction, five for concrete masonry, and one house is suited to stone, brick or concrete masonry. Seven plans call for one-story homes and seven for two-story construction.

Drain 4-H'er Ties For Top Place In Forestry

CORVALLIS, Ore., June 27.—(AP)—More than 1800 4-H club members finished their 10-day summer school session on the Oregon State College campus last week.

Winners in the judging contests and other competition included:

- Livestock judging—Tied for first: Delbert Sarkie, Astoria; and Jay Olsen, Coos Bay.
- Poultry judging—Tied for first: Bill McCoy, Fairview; Tom Burton and Lee Paul, Bend.
- Farm crop identification—First, Richard Fix, Bend.
- Forestry—Tied for first: Denny Davis, Gresham; Phil Newsom, Mapleton; Gary Smith and James Linebaugh, Silver Lake; Howard Jones, Drain.

Keeps the boys on their milking toes!

"Boys will be boys," my friend Ted said one day. "They start talking or dreaming about dates and girls, and first thing you know, they forget to watch the milker."

"That's why I like my new McCormick with the plastic milk hose and timer bell—the milker that says 'When.' You can see and hear when the cow quits giving."

"Just set the dial for the number of minutes needed to milk each cow. Then—when the bell 'dings'—strip the cow with the milker and take off the test cups."

"It's simple. No matter what they're doing—feeding a new calf, carrying milk to the milk house, or just dreaming—they never forget the milker."

"The boys milk faster now, too, and get more milk. They like the way the McCormick varies the vacuum to suit each cow, how it protects tender teats and udders."

"How's the pulsator working?" I broke in.

"Fine! No trouble at all. Operated perfectly, even at 20 below! No oil to gum it up—it just keeps clicking away!"

For more information, ask your local McCormick dealer or write to McCormick Milk Separator Co., 1000 N. 1st St., Chicago, Ill. McCormick dealers are listed in the Yellow Pages.

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Summer Mulch On Garden Good As Cultivation, Inflicts No Injury

A mulch is a covering laid on the soil to protect the roots of plants. In the winter it keeps the frost in, and in the summer it keeps the moisture in. As science places garden operation under critical scrutiny, the rating of summer mulching goes up, as fast as that of cultivation comes down.

Mulching, say the researchers, will do all the good that cultivation can, without doing harm.

Latest is ground-up corn cobs, which florists are using in their greenhouses when they can get it at the right price. Corn cobs are a by-product of hybrid-corn seed plants, and are becoming plentiful and cheap where this seed is grown. Ground up, it is light, porous and weed-free. If applied four inches deep around tomato plants, or between rows, it will keep weeds down, let both air and moisture into the ground and prevent drying out. But when spaded into the soil, it will rob plants of nitrogen until it is thoroughly broken down; so extra nitrogen should be applied, say a pound of balanced plant food to 200 square feet.

The lovely thing about corn cob mulches—and other good mulches as well—is that the directions say: "Spread it on the ground around the plants, and then leave them alone." No more hoeing.

Strange things have been discovered in tests of mulching. Ohio state university found that grass made a good mulch, growing between the rows. Instead of a hoe the gardener uses a lawn mower. Newspapers, many thickless, peat moss, pine needles, coconut fiber, saw-dust, burlap, dried leaves, and glass, yes fibre glass, which can be obtained in blankets to lay on borders in the fall and will last many years.

Remember, apply a mulch over moist soil. Soak the soil first in the summer. And remember that if the soil ever does dry out under the mulch, you may have to remove the mulch to soak the soil quickly. This is especially true of paper mulch and rocks, and concrete slabs, which are being used in some sections for modern garden effects.

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Congers Sell Dairy Farm To O. B. (Billie) Walker

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Conger have sold their 400-acre dairy ranch on Schofield Creek, near Reedsport, to O. B. (Billie) Walker, who owns adjacent property.

Pete Kromminga, an experienced dairyman but more recently employed in logging camps and sawmills in the Reedsport vicinity, will operate the dairy for Walker, and will move his family to the ranch house as soon as it is vacated by the Congers.

Conger formerly operated the Reedsport Creamery and Meat Lockers, Mrs. Conger is a teacher in the Reedsport Grade School.

After a dip in salt water, don't forget to wash your hair to keep it in condition.

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U. S.-State Unity Puts Farm Research In Lead

PULLMAN, Wash., June 27.—(AP)—America's leading position in farm research and progress is credited by the nation's agricultural research chief to voluntary federal-state cooperation.

Dr. P. V. Cardon, Washington, D. C., research administrator for the U. S. Department of Agriculture, told 100 agronomists from 11 Western states here that the nation's cooperative system of research is a constant source of amazement to foreign visitors "who come to find out how we do things."

He referred to cooperative research by the Department of Agriculture and the state land grant colleges. He told the scientists that mass production of penicillin, discovery of streptomycin and development of the weed killer 2,4-D are only a few products of this cooperative research.

During the summer give your hands occasional oil treatments and your nails a treat with cuticle oil.

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