

Nation Notes Drop In Butter Supply

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The nation moved into the fall season with butter reserves only about half as large as a year ago, the agriculture department reports.

The reserves help meet consumer needs during the fall and winter seasons during which production usually does not match demand. Officials expressed belief, however, that the reserves will be sufficient because butter consumption has dropped considerably below last year's level.

A year ago, reserves totaled 234,000,000 pounds, the bulk of which was owned by the government under a producer price support program. Reserves presently are about 113,000,000 pounds, virtually all held by the trade.

Officials said this year's decline

in butter consumption has been accompanied by an increase in use of margarine. Butter production has dropped below last year's level largely because consumers are buying more fluid milk.

NEW STYLE WATERMELON

LAFAYETTE, Ind. — (AP) — Watermelons with only two or three seeds apiece are being grown at Purdue university's experimental farm near Owensville.

W. B. Ward, extension horticulturist, reported that commercial seedsmen will offer the "seedless watermelon" seeds next year.

The round melons weigh from eight to 10 pounds, a handy size for refrigerators, and Ward says they are of high quality. A reduction of seeds almost to the vanishing point was effected by treating the plant with a chemical compound, colchicine.



CHILD'S PLAY—"So simple that even a child can operate it" is the idea behind this picture of a new German-made agricultural tractor, displayed at a farm equipment exhibition in Bolzano, Italy. The one-and-a-half-ton machine has a 22-hp Diesel engine and costs around \$3200. (Photo by NEA-Acme Staff Photographer Massimo Ascari.)

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VOTES FOR PRICE GUARANTEES

Poultry and dairy feeds continue to rise. Where will the end be? And who will pay the final cost, the poultryman, the dairyman, or the housewife who buys the food? Or maybe, even the farmer who gets the huge guaranteed price? Wish we knew.

But, as a guarantee that the politicians are not letting grass grow under their feet, prices "SUPPORTS" have already been established for the feed crops to be produced in 1952. Before the ground is even plowed. Yes, months before the crop can possibly be planted.

The national average "price support" rates follow: Oats, 78¢ per bu. for No. 3 or better; (about \$49.00 per ton, at the farm, plus freight and all other added costs, and taxes to "administer the program."); Barley, \$1.22 per bu., (over \$50.00 a ton); Sorghums, (milo maize) \$47.60 per ton in the community it is raised, plus above charges. And we haven't the "support prices" on wheat and corn at hand this minute, but you all know they will be in proportion. We haven't been able to afford wheat for feed for several years, even though wheat has always been the common feed grain in the Pacific Northwest.

The U.S.D.A., which handles these matters in co-operation with the Commodity Credit Corporation reminds us of a puppy chasing its tail, and getting just as far. First, they are afraid, due to high, yes, exorbitant prices of meat animals, that "grain-consuming animal units" will increase past the ability of grain producers to raise enough grain to feed them.

Next, they are afraid the exorbitant support prices will stimulate the production of grain to where the CCC will have to buy it and store it for years, as they have in the past, and like with apples, dried eggs, and etc. and etc. So, round and round she goes, and where she will stop, only the Good Lord knows.

We wonder how many honest, deep-thinking farmers realize like this sort of price jockeying. We wonder how many honest, deep-thinking farmers believe wage hikes another form of "supports", can go on and on, and this wonderful, country keep a firm foundation? We wonder if it isn't too late to call a halt on this swapping pelf for votes, and get back to the old reliable law of Supply & Demand. And stop the price for feed rises.

16-20 ROLLING

We have a carload of 16-20 fertilizer rolling. This stuff is getting hard to get, due to munitions manufacture. This car is coming from the East Coast, and is American, rather than the Canadian we have been able to get in the past. As a result, the price will be a bit higher, due to high freight rates.

You can save a fast buck or two by taking it direct off the car. But we ask that you come in and sign up for your wants right off. Then we will notify you when the car comes in, so you can be on deck to unload. And while you're at it, better sign up for this loan of our spreader too.

FORCE MOLTING? NO!

Feller come in 'tother day, says his neighbor suggests he "force-molt" his early hatched pullets, to keep 'em from "all molting at once." We can't see any logic in forcing a batch of pullets to quit laying and molt when egg prices are at the top. But people are funny.

We suggest forcing, but we mean forcing eggs, not feathers. No sale here for feathers. Most poultrymen using Umpqua feeds are well satisfied with their egg production. They report up to 80 percent and better, but some have slipped.

If yours are not laying good, ask us why. Maybe they are infested or infected with something we can help you dispose of. Try longer lights even as much as 20 hours a day. Cut out morning scratch grain, but feed plenty at night, especially with the good laying strains, UMPQUA BREEDER PELLETS at noon, or a wet mash if you prefer, which we don't. Have birds clean out troughs, or sweep to one end of trough when refilling.

If you insist on having your pullets molt, we suggest you wait till eggs get cheaper. Though, for the life of us, we can't see why anybody would welcome a molt at any time.

Wife: "How do you know people can see me dressing through the window?"
Hubby: "I've gone to some pines to find out."

ONLY WATCH YOURSELF

Several words in our language are overworked, and here is only one of them. (From Clarence Stratton's "Handbook of English.") Note the difference of meanings possible in only changing the position of only.

Only I told him to jump over the chair.
I only TOLD him to jump over the chair.
I told only HIM to jump over the chair.
I told him ONLY to jump over the chair.
I told him to jump only OVER THE CHAIR.
I told him to jump over the only CHAIR.
I told him to jump over the chair ONLY.

So we only hope you will use "only" only in its right and only place.

HARDWARE HARDTACK

Here are some more timely tips from Pop Ward's sanctum sanctorum.

Winter wood supply means axes.
Soft ground means shovels.
Hunting season means shells.
Dreary days mean news radio.
Muddy feet mean vacuum cleaner.
Butcher time means Home Freezer.

CLASSIFIED SECTION

For sale, half dozen Buyington breeder roosters, from pedigreed stock, already blood-tested. Mrs. Joe Brumbach, Rt. 1.

WEEK'S TOP NEWS STORY

To those of you who believe in honest, clean government, we recommend Jesse Jones' memoirs, released last week in his book, "Fifty Billion Dollars." Jones was head of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation during the depression and war years.

Following are some quotations: "He, (Roosevelt), had no intention of leaving the White House until voted out — or carried out." "In recent years the RFC has been under attack. A congressional committee claims it has allowed political pressure to sway its decisions on loans." "During my regime none of Mr. Roosevelt's attempts at influencing were successful, and there was no 'standing and catering'."

Plenty of persons were hanging round trying to get something they were not entitled to. . . There still are, and I am ashamed to say they are meeting with magnificent success."

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Electric Nut-Drier Plans Available From College

Plans and instructions for building an electric nut-drier with a 500-pound capacity have been developed by the Oregon State college experiment station and published in a new circular of information.

Detailed instructions for construction and operation are given by R. N. Lunde, OSC agricultural engineer, along with a list of needed materials and a drawing of plans.

Copies of circular of information No. 501 are available now at county extension offices and at OSC.

Oregon Meeting Stiff Rivalry For Seed Crops

One word, quality, is taking on increasing importance in the outlook for Oregon's seed industry. The day when buyers came rapping on the door, says H. E. Finnell, extension seed certification specialist at Oregon State college, has definitely passed. Today, more states are entering the market places with increasing amounts of seed. Ladino clover and tall fescue, both widely grown in Oregon, are good examples of increasing competition.

This year, says Finnell, the national acreage of certified ladino clover will approach 70,000 acres. Compare that with 42,000 acres just a year ago. For the second year running, California is away out in front as a certified ladino clover seed producer. Acreage there this year is 34,000 compared with 25,000 acres in Oregon, the second ranking state.

Altogether, 14 states are producers of certified ladino clover seed this year. Idaho ranks third with 5,400 acres followed by lesser amounts in Wisconsin, Washington, Illinois, South Carolina, Wyoming, Tennessee, Ohio, Montana, Missouri, Indiana and Georgia.

Top quality certified ladino clover seed has been supported at \$1.25 per pound by the government, but now there is talk that it will be unsupported next year. If that occurs, growers will likely face lower price prospects.

Oregon once had the tall fescue seed market just about its own way, but no more. Tall fescue certification in the nation this year increased more than a hundred-fold, Finnell reports.

A strain, alta, which originated in Oregon, increased from a certified acreage of 8,600 in 1950 to more than 20,000 acres this year. Although Oregon had 12,000 of the certified acres, the crop has gained a toehold in 13 other states where growers have seed growing in mind.

A competing tall fescue strain Kentucky 31, doubled its certified acreage during the past two crop years.

Red Bureaucracy Enters East German Barnyards

BERLIN — (AP) — Communist-ruled East Germany, (where everybody and virtually everything is pressured to fulfill a state-prescribed production quota,) is halting a sow these days.

She set a record by exceeding the state quota which requires that every sow produce at least 16 piglets in a year. The champ was credited with already having produced 13 litters totaling 114 in breedings so far.

She's the star of a pig farm run by one Herr Wellner near Madgeburg. All the sows seem to be working well for Wellner, who is given an accolade in the Communist press and promised an expansion of his farm with six new pig sties.

County 4-H Split Into 4 Districts Awaits Decision

Possible reorganization of the county 4-H set up into four separate districts was discussed Wednesday by the executive committee of the Douglas county 4-H leaders.

Present at the meeting Wednesday were Andrew Hanson, president; Mrs. James E. Conn, vice-president; M. H. McCord, secretary-treasurer, and W. H. Anderson and Lou Owens, 4-H agents.

The proposal would divide the county into south, central, north and west districts. The executive committee felt the county was too large to group the entire area into a single organization, according to Anderson.

Leaders of 4-H clubs from throughout the county will meet Nov. 14 in Roseburg to make the final decision on the new plan.

Also included in the reorganization proposal is the formation of planning councils in each community. The councils will consist of local citizens of each community and are being organized at present.

Leaders of 4-H clubs in each district would make up a district association and the executive officers of each district association would form an executive board responsible for county-wide activities such as the county fair.

Other activities to be taken up at the Nov. 14 meeting include a leadership awards program.

INTOXICATING CHICKEN MASH

CROWN POINT, Ind. — (AP) — A chicken raiser has lost his suit to avoid payment of a mash bill. He charged the mash made his chickens pilled. He said they were "nervous, excited and unmarketable." A jury thought otherwise and ordered him to pay the \$198 bill plus interest.

Clover Demand Sharply Reduced

CULVER — (AP) — Ladino clover seed is not moving. It is staying in warehouses, jamming them, because of a vanishing demand for the Jefferson county crop.

The government support price is \$1.25 a pound and growers are taking loads on the crop on that basis, said Don Lehman, a seed company manager.

He said a big California crop plus imports from Italy had brought the slack demand. Last year, he said, the crop moved out of warehouses almost as fast as it was brought in.

The Jefferson Seed Growers association, he reported, is preparing a petition asking the government to say now what its next year support policy will be. If that is satisfactory, buyers will return to the market, he said, unworried by the present outlook of a price drop. If it isn't satisfactory, growers can turn to wheat which has a support price of \$2.17 in Jefferson county.

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