

Weather Helps Hard-Hit Area In "Comeback"

By Frank I. Weiler (Associated Press Farm Editor)

WASHINGTON (AP)—Benign winter weather here a truce in the drought has renewed and most of the drought areas are in position to take advantage of the pre-seasonal opportunity to plant and with good growing and harvesting conditions they are expected to have good crops where a year ago they so signally failed.

Moisture, the devastating absence of which seared the country from the Rocky mountains to the Potomac river last year, is sufficient for present needs.

Except for Montana and the Dakotas, there is both surface and sub-soil moisture west of the Mississippi river. The spring wheat country complains of slight sub-soil moisture.

East of the Mississippi and south of Kentucky the surface moisture is insufficient. Over the Ohio valley and on east there is hardly any sub-soil moisture and only sufficient surface moisture for current needs.

South Plants for Food The south, which of all sections was worst hit by the drought, has made amazing progress. Warburton says in the planting of home gardens. Farmers who had nothing to eat when their cash income was cut off are planting sufficient truck crops for a winter's supply—many of them for the first time.

Except for Virginia, which appears to have reduced the potato acreage 1,000 acres under that harvested last year, all the south is expanding the crop. All show increases in corn, sweet potatoes and peanuts. As a whole, the south will increase its acreage of soybeans and cowpeas. The grain and roughage increases indicate expansion of dairy herds and livestock production.

Fruits and grass crops are doing well. Some sections have had killing frosts, others cool weather which has retarded plant growth. The government is forbidden by act of congress to estimate the intended cotton acreage, but it is expected to be increased in the south-west and decreased in the cotton belt proper, or the "deep south."

Federal funds totaling \$67,000,000 are aiding farmers in the drought and storm and hail areas which represent approximately one-half of the chief agricultural counties of the country. More than \$25,000,000 has been loaned already to nearly 165,000 farmers and regional offices are mailing out from 1,500 to 3,000 checks a day. These loans have approximated \$150 each.

UNION PERSONALS

By Mrs. L. Z. Terrall (Observer Correspondent)

children drove to Portland Sunday for a visit. Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Hess were in Portland last week.

Mrs. Gus Levy was down from Baker to spend Friday at the Levy home. Mr. Levy was here Wednesday.

Mrs. Eva Wright and daughter Jean, who have lived in Union for several months, returned Thursday evening to their home in Karlin, Nev. Mrs. Wright was called here last summer by the illness of her father, E. A. Seiber.

Mario Smith has been visiting this week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Smith. They plan to take her to Weiser and she will return to Boise.

Mrs. John Nodine and Mrs. Vera Wright, who have been visiting at the J. F. Hutchinson home for several weeks, went to Island City last week for a couple of weeks visit.

The members of the bridge club were entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Stevens Wednesday evening. Three tables were arranged for play and the close of the games high score awards were made to Mrs. George Hoffman and L. Z. Terrall and low to Mrs. Will Vogel. The hostess served a delicious lunch.

Harlan and Milo Stewart drove in from New Plymouth, Ida. Thursday morning and looked after some business interests here. They returned home in the evening.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Hutchinson, Leucine and Mary, Mrs. John Nodine and Mrs. Vera Wright accompanied Ted to Walla Walla Monday where he resumed his college work after an Easter vacation.

Mr. and Mrs. T. C. McDonald, who returned recently from a several months stay in Chicago, were over from La Grande Monday and stayed overnight at the home of her mother, Mrs. Pearl Shaw.

Merton Kuhn is at home after a visit in Moscow and other Idaho points. He did not return to O. S. C. after the spring vacation.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Conner and sons went to La Grande to hear the talk given by Montaville Flowers Wednesday night.

About 30 young people of the Epworth League are planning to go to Island City to enjoy a social hour with the Epworth Leaguers there at 8 o'clock Sunday afternoon. Rev. E. C. Lee will give his usual Sunday morning service and in the afternoon will leave for Los Angeles where he will attend the conference.

Earlier planting of rice fields has been found possible by the use of airplanes in California while the soil is still too wet for ground machinery.

Income from forest products in Louisiana last year were \$154,796,919.

Amateur Radio Speeds Help To Disaster Zones

WASHINGTON (AP)—Amateur radio operators and clubs in all parts of the world are establishing themselves as an important aid in bringing relief to victims of tragic disasters.

In the past several months amateurs have speeded up relief, actually bringing succor to members of the ill-fated Viking expedition and victims of the New Zealand and Nicaraguan earthquakes.

The Washington Radio club, enthused by the general success of radio amateurs in establishing communication links to scenes of remote but tragic disasters during the past winter, recently pressed all available apparatus into use and relayed hundreds of personal and official distress messages from the stricken earth-quake survivors in the ruined city of Managua. In addition to message traffic, information was obtained for the world from the stricken areas.

Organized into an efficient staff covering the air at all times under the direction of C. A. Briggs, himself operating W2CAB, more than a dozen Washington amateurs declared themselves ready to serve in relaying messages received from the single Nicaraguan station in operation.

The station NN-N-C, owned by Captain Francis E. Pierce of the U. S. Marine Corps, is located in Managua.

For more than a week after the disaster these amateurs stayed on the air continuously, with hundreds of messages passing through in a steady stream.

Farm Board May Buy 1931 Wheat If Plan Works

SPOKANE, Wash., April 20 (AP)—Frank J. Wilmer, president of the North Pacific Grain Growers, Inc., said here that he sees "reentry of the grain stabilization corporation into the 1931 wheat market" despite farm board promises to the contrary, a logical aftermath of the proposed wheat surplus control plan.

The new control plan, as announced last week in Chicago, calls for growers to hold a portion of the 1931 crop off the market and reduce 1932 acreage.

The farm board announced the stabilization corporation would not operate in the 1931 wheat market, solely because the farmers have failed so far to do their part in acreage reduction and production control," said Wilmer over long distance telephone from his home in Rosalia.

"Should the surplus control plan outlined at Chicago by a committee representing wheat growers of the entire nation be adopted by the farm board and successfully put over with the growers of the country, it would be entirely logical for the stabilization corporation to go back into the 1931 market."

Wilmer, who is also a director of the Farmers' National Grains corporation, was made chairman of the surplus control committee at Chicago and delegated to present the new plan to James C. Stone, chairman of the farm board.

"If growers do hold back some 1931 wheat and reduce next year's acreage," Wilmer said, "the farm board can hardly refuse to do its part in putting the stabilization corporation back into the market as a reciprocal measure of protection."

LONDON HAS LAND BOOM AS CITY ENGLUFS FARMS

LONDON (AP)—After centuries of comparatively slow but steady increases in land value, London is going through a boom.

Suburban property in particular, due to the construction of subway extensions and wider roads connecting with the city proper, has felt the new impulses. Some farm land that sold for \$500 an acre a year ago is going now at ten times that value.

But the increase has not been confined to this class of property, after in the west end of London having changed hands recently at approximately eight times their price of five years ago.

Circus elephants wintering at Monte Carlo were used advantageously to pull stumps from an orchard which was being sub-divided.

At the eighth annual banquet of the Utah Poultry Producers' association, the 673,461,240th egg handled by the cooperative was scrambled and eaten.

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It is expected the judges in the \$50,000 Camel Cigarette Prize Contest will be able to render their decision within a short time and that public announcement of the prize winners can be made soon.

At this time the officers and directors of R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company wish to thank the nearly a million men and women for their interest in entering this contest. We wish to assure you also, most emphatically, that every single letter received, despite the enormity of the task, is being carefully read and studied.

It is because of the extreme care being taken to insure the absolute fairness of this contest that we ask you to be patient just a little longer.



Entries in the Camel cigarette \$50,000 prize contest were received so fast that it was more than a week after the close of the contest before all the mail could be opened. In this pile were more than 500,000 letters awaiting reading by the judges and their staff.

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