

# A Letter From Washington . . . .

Rep. Harris Ellsworth

Just a year ago, you may recall that the Oregon delegation in congress carried on what finally proved to be a winning fight to obtain the release of wheat for feeding our poultry flocks. The president, through the department of agriculture, had denied the sale of feed on the ground that this nation's commitments to starving peoples throughout the world would not leave enough wheat to keep the Oregon poultry industry alive. Some ten or twelve days after we had confronted the president and secretary of agriculture with the fact that there was not sufficient shipping space to remove the accumulated wheat from the northwest, the drastic freeze order was lifted. Due to the several weeks of battling and the unwarranted ten days' delay after the facts were presented, a very large part of our poultry industry was liquidated. Many farmers lost heavily, and a number of flocks were simply destroyed, because cold storage facilities were overloaded.

Now the department of agriculture tells us, in one of its regular publications which is entitled, "The Wheat Situation," that we have exported almost as much wheat for the year ending June 30, 1947, as was exported during the previous 12 months, but there has been no indication of a repetition of last year's drastic and foolish action which was so costly to Oregon agriculture. The department's statement reads as follows:

"Carry-over of wheat on July 1, 1947, is expected to be about 25 million bushels less than last year's 100 million bushels because of the very large exports during the present marketing season. Exports of wheat and flour as wheat, for the year ending June 30, 1947, may total about 375 million bushels, only slightly below last year's record of 391 million bushels."

The erratic action of the department of agriculture regarding wheat was brought to mind by the fact that similar unexplainable antics have been going on lately with respect to sugar. On June 7, for example, Secretary Anderson testified before the house committee on banking and currency that the removal of sugar controls at this time was not considered possible. Four

days later, he removed the controls.

Many members of congress, including your own representative, have lost confidence in the efficiency, ability, and yes, even the integrity of many of our government departments. The wheat and sugar illustrations I have just given are but samples of administration blunders with which we are confronted constantly.

I recently appeared, along with William H. Tolbert, executive secretary of the Oregon State Farmers Association, before the house committee on agriculture, urging the inclusion of bulbs in the bill which would authorize the department of agriculture to bar the importation of diseased shrubs and other plant life. In fact, the hearing was called to consider a bill which I had introduced. I had thought the bill was a simple one, for the protection of our farms and gardens, and was surprised to find a room full of witnessed anxious to protest the inclusion of bulbs in the bill. The opposition assumed (incorrectly, I believe) that, because the bill would permit the department of agriculture to stop the importation of diseased bulbs, the department would construe the authorization to mean that it could limit the importation of bulbs generally. Apparently, the sheer weight of the opposition in numbers and extent may lead the committee to leave bulbs out of the bill. Several witnesses for the opposition represented associations of gardeners and others running into the hundreds of thousands. Only two or three of us were there to plead for the purity of bulbs.

I have since talked to Hon. Clifford Hoe, chairman of the committee on agriculture, who, by the way, is one of the ablest members of the house, and am supplying him with the committee with additional data which, I hope, may help our case.

## Local News Items

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Layton of LaMesa, Calif., arrived Friday for a visit with Mrs. Layton's brother, Claude Clayton, at his home on the Winchuck.

Miss Mary Cavitt has been receiving medical treatment at the Seaside hospital, Crescent City.

Mr. and Mrs. William Hempel are proud parents of a son born at Seaside Hospital, Crescent City on June 9. They have named the newborn, William Fred, carrying the tradition of being a "Bill" in each generation of the Hempel

family.

Mrs. Gladys Payne and Mrs. Hannah Dotson are attending the summer school at Southern Oregon College of Education at Ashland, which started last week. They will come home each weekend. Both will teach in the local schools next year.

Mrs. O. F. Huffman took her daughter, Linda, to Monterey for medical treatment. The doctors diagnosed the case as ulcerated tonsils, and one of the worst cases they had ever seen. Linda is much better now and they are expected home this week. Mrs. Nick Baumgartner and daughter accompanied Mrs. Huffman on the trip and helped care for Linda.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Keehnell of Burbank, Calif. arrived last week to join Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Hart, and assist in the building of the motel on the land the group had purchased, several months ago, from Mr. and Mrs. Mark Wood.

Benjamin Jones attended the State Grange convention at Bend which was held June 2 to 6. He was delegate for the Chetco Grange.

Mrs. George Titus is spending a few weeks at Walla Walla, Wash., attending a Seventh Day Adventist camp meeting. During the meeting her son will be ordained in the ministry.

Fred Riches of San Francisco spent a week recently visiting at the home of Benjamin Turner.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Christensen and family are nicely located at their new home at Anacortes, Wash., where they own a small farm. On their way north they attended commencement exercises at Laurelwood Academy at Gaston and saw their daughter, Virginia, graduate from high school.

Funeral services were held at Crescent City the first of the week for Mary J. Harris, who died at Seaside Hospital, following a long illness, with cremation following at Grants Pass. Mrs. Harris and her husband, George B. Harris, owned property south of Harbor, which they recently sold.

Mrs. Henry Weigel is suffering from a severe case of poison oak. Anyone allergic to this malady will feel for her plight.

Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Springer and family have moved to Portland to make their home.

Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Childers, Mrs. Roberta Chapman and children and Frank Ramsey, all of Hobbs, New Mexico, arrived recently to make their home here, for the summer.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Payne and children have moved to Cave Junction where Harry is employed.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Essley and children have returned to this area after spending some time at San Diego visiting his parents.

Mrs. Leo Fischer returned recently to Waconia, Minn., after visiting her son-in-law and her daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Tony Kaniess for several weeks.

Dr. and Mrs. A. O. Schmitt returned late last week from a business trip to Portland.

Miss Charlotte Walling left last week for College Place, Wn., where she is attending summer school. She visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Wallin, for a week, after completing her school teaching at Lorane.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Courtney of Santa Ana are houseguests of Mrs. Courtney's, brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Miller.

Gene Reiling is spending the summer working on his brother's ranch at Olene, near Klamath Falls.

Mrs. E. H. Reekman arrived home Friday evening after visiting for two weeks at Ashland, Weaverville, and Alturas, with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Hanscam returned home from Grants Pass, driving a new Dodge sedan. While at Grants Pass visiting, their son, Terry, was in the hospital five days with bronchial pneumonia.

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Lockwood are extending them all good wishes on their recent marriage. Mrs. Lockwood is a former resident of Sacramento, Calif.

Mrs. Esther Bullis and children have moved to Yakima for the summer.

Attorney Ed F. Ackley returned Sunday from San Francisco, where he attended the international convention of Rotary. He is general chairman for the coming charter night program, Saturday night.

Dr. Borg, of Los Angeles, who owns a bulb farm in the vicinity of Crescent City, was a visitor last week of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Funk.

Mrs. Ruth Patterson of Coos Bay, former schoolmate of Mrs. Ruth Wahl, resident of the lower Chetco valley, spent the weekend at the Wahl home.

Kenneth Pierce, who was with a group of Boy Scouts on a camping trip in the mountains north of town, fell from a tree and was badly shaken up, Saturday. While he was not seriously hurt, he

did receive a severe shock and many bruises in his fall to the ground. He returned to town by the train. Mr. and Mrs. Wesley were called to Portland Thursday by the serious illness and death of Mrs. I. D. Mrs. Kindel's mother.

## VFW Advances Bulb Sale Idea

An idea, whereby Mr. Average Citizens, from all U. S. A., might enjoy the of a Croft lily, was put last week by members local V. F. W. post, who finance the building of a post home by sale of bulbs. Bulbs to be sold this method will be only large ones, 9-inch and

Cards were printed to be all over the country, and this plan, and even at the time, results have been according to M. S. Brains gave the post the idea.

Further details concerning plan will be explained member of the local VFW

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