

Wheat Crop Estimate Below '42

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21—(AP) The agriculture department Monday estimated that 37,482,000 acres had been planted for the 1943 winter wheat crop and probably would produce 624,504,000 bushels.

The seeded acreage is 2 per cent less than in the fall of 1941 when it totaled 38,339,000, while the production forecast was 11 per cent less than the large 1942 crop of 703,253,000 bushels.

Kansas, which annually has more than a quarter of all the winter wheat acreage, planted 6 per cent less than last year, representing in part a return to the usual planting, the department said. Acreage also was smaller in the north central and Pacific coast states.

A slightly larger acreage was seeded in Nebraska and Texas while in Missouri an increase of 880,000 acres, or 45 per cent, reflected what the department said was a return toward usual wheat acreage from a relatively small acreage seeded in the fall of 1941 because of adverse conditions.

Growing conditions were favorable in most sections although there was too much rain in Pennsylvania and a deficiency in Illinois, Washington and Oregon.

Pointing out that a favorable December condition was usually associated with a low loss of acreage between seeding and harvest, the department said abandonment of the 1943 crop was indicated at 6.7 per cent compared with 7 per cent last year and an average of 19.7 per cent. The condition of the crop as a whole was 88 per cent of normal.

The indicated yield was estimated at 16.7 bushels an acre, less than last year's 18.2 bushels but above the average of 11.8 bushels.

Married Men's Draft Speeded

PORTLAND, Dec. 21—(AP)—In-duction of married men without dependents will be necessary sooner than expected because so many members of the 'teen-age group are already in the armed services, Portland draft board officials said Monday.

More than 50 per cent of 400 registration notices sent out by one board have come back marked "already in service," it was reported.

It may be necessary to call up married men without dependents by the end of next month, one board official said.

Registration of Multnomah county 18-year-olds for selective service reached 800 Monday, Registration Chairman Paul C.

Rites Today for Salem Native



Mrs. George J. Pearce (above), native of Salem and long an active leader in business and social life of the capital, died Saturday night at her residence here. Funeral services will be today at 2 p. m. at the First Presbyterian church, in charge of the W. T. Rigidon company, with burial at IOOF cemetery. Survivors include two daughters, Dr. Helen Pearce and Miss Dorothy Pearce, both of Salem.

County '42-43 Tax Collections Reach Mark of 78.3 per Cent

Tax collections pouring into the Marion county sheriff's office since the counters were cleared to receive payments on the 1942-43 rolls have rolled up nearly the million and a half dollar mark, T. J. Brabec, deputy sheriff in charge of the tax department, announced Monday.

Payments by mail and across the counter alone aggregate \$1,401,288 or 78.3 per cent of the roll for the entire year. In addition approximately \$85,000 has been paid on delinquent tax accounts. At equivalent times in past years the tax department has patted itself on the back over 65 to 70 per cent collections.

"We have had fewer partial payments than ever before," Brabec reported, adding that collections by mail had been exceptionally heavy.

Of the taxes received, \$837,735 has already been distributed, including \$357,010 in the largest single turnover ever made, it is believed, by the Marion county collector's office. Another, of about \$160,000, will be made this week.

Giesy said. This is about half the expected total.

Dimout Holds For Holidays

When Santa Claus reaches Oregon from his North Pole headquarters, he is in for a surprise this year.

The lighted Christmas trees that used to shine in many windows will be invisible from his reindeer sled because the dimout goes, Christmas or no Christmas, according to C. H. Lundell, state light control officer for the Oregon state defense council.

Christmas celebrants within the 14 dimout counties are warned not to leave a candle shining in their windows.

"No lights visible from outside the home" remains the rule, and Christmas will be celebrated behind pulled-down shades this year.

Salem Draft Board Ahead On Policies

The December 8 order of the manpower commission removing men over 37 years of age from being subject to military draft will bring little change in operation of the Salem local selective service board, because the members long ago established a policy deferring married men in this classification, Ray J. Stumbo, chairman, said Monday.

The board was permitted to make up as high as 40 per cent of its quotas from among men of the older age registration but did not draft married men who were living with their families, Stumbo said. He explained that the board felt these men were needed in Salem and "wouldn't fit into the military program anyway."

"I guess we just were ahead of the army on that one," Stumbo added.

Placing of selective service under the manpower commission has brought no changes in procedure to date, according to Col. Elmer V. Wooton, state draft director.

PHILADELPHIA—(AP)—Philadelphia's main-line commuters are buying tickets on the iron horses now.

The Pennsylvania railroad, as an experiment, has installed a pari-mutuel machine to dispense tickets at its Broad street suburban station.

The Truth About Santa

(SYNOPSIS: Dec. 6, 1942, marked the 1600th anniversary of Nicholas Day. He was the fourth century saint who gave away his riches, helping the needy and oppressed. He was credited with many miracles. Children of the cold countries thought he dressed in furs—and like them, traveled by sled drawn by reindeer. The Dutch children remembered St. Nicholas like this—)

By ZACHARY TAYLOR
AP Features Writer

When St. Nicholas day came to Holland on December 6 it was a wonderful time for small Dutchmen. On this day St. Nicholas left gifts for them in their shoes. They thought of him as a stern old fellow with a long white beard, dressed in bishop's robes and a bishop's tall hat. He carried a stick for bad boys or those who couldn't answer Bible questions. Sometimes a negro servant, "Black Pete," who could make terrible faces, came with him.

Yes, little Dutchmen loved their St. Nicholas, but they were scared of him and his switch and Black Pete.

And so, when Dutch colonists followed Henrik Hudson's expropriations to America, and brought along their children, the children brought along their St. Nicholas. Washington Irving writes that even the figurehead on one of their ships was a wonderful carving of Nicholas.

A Dream of St. Nick
This particular ship reached the place where now New York City is built. It was then a wild, uninhabited spot. One of the Dutch fathers, a dreamy old fellow, went ashore to scout for a place suitable for the settlement. But he built a fire, sat down, and soon was asleep.

This, Irving wrote, is what he dreamed:
" . . . The good St. Nicholas came riding over the tops of trees in that self-same wagon wherein he brings his yearly presents to children . . . and he lit his pipe by the fire, and as he smoked the smoke from his pipe . . . spread like a cloud overhead."

After smoking, St. Nicholas twisted his pipe in his hand, and "laying his finger beside his nose," he mounted his wagon and "returned over the treetops."

The Dutchman thought the dream was a vision. Surely the smoke from St. Nicholas' pipe symbolized a great city, with spires clouded by smoke from factories. So, Irving reported, this was the spot for the city.

The first church of the Dutch settlement was St. Nicholas'. The town which developed, from 1615 upwards, was called New Amsterdam, until English settlers and soldiers arrived and took over in 1664. They changed the name to New York.

Birth Date Uncertain
Now the English made no great occasion of St. Nicholas day (December 6). Their mid-winter parties and dinners began after Christmas and continued until Twelfth Night (Epiphany), and their gifts recalled the visit of the wise men bearing gifts to the Christ-child.

Powers Girl To Christen 'Scrap' Ship

Miss Helen Griswold, Powers high school, will christen the SS Saccawewa when it is launched at the Oregon Shipbuilding yards today. Rev. Putnam, state superintendent of schools, announced here Monday.

Miss Patricia Pinkerton of Moro high school will serve as flower girl and Norman Roberts, Lincoln high school, Portland, will give the principal address before the ship goes down the ways.

With these children on the platform will be Jack Bushnell, president of the Powers high school student body, who gathered the largest amount of scrap for that school, aggregating 13,831 pounds per pupil, in the recent scrap metals drive.

Pat O'Meara, Wasco high school, Year's day, but around the fourth century, churchmen decided it probably was December 25. So, that date was a somber, religious holiday for prayer and fasting.

At first, the Dutch and English colonists in New York went their own ways. Little Dutchmen were true to their St. Nicholas, nicknamed "San Claas." Their English neighbors thought they said "Santa Claus."

As years went by the English grew to love Santa Claus, too, and they grew to like the Dutch and both loved this great new country of America, where they could go to church and believe in the Christ-child—and Santa Claus. (Wednesday: Santa Gets a Poem)

also will attend the launching along with Donald Thompson, another representative of the Moro high school. These students are credited with collecting the largest amount of scrap in their respective schools.

Rev. Perry G. Hopper of Westminster Presbyterian church, Portland, will pronounce the invocation.

Records of Putnam's office show that Powers high school gathered 622,412 pounds of scrap, Moro high school 199,721 pounds and Wasco high school 104,300 pounds.

Grandfather Army Private

CAMP ADAIR, Dec. 21—In the army here is a grandfather with three grandchildren—a man who was excused from the war because he had two children at the time. He is Pvt. Herman Pace and he has a son, John William Pace, who has been excused from this war, so far, because he in turn has two children.

The elder Pace married at 18. That makes it easier to understand how he happens to be a grandfather at 45. His son is 24 and a daughter is 25, the wife of a Canadian officer.

Pvt. Pace was an electrician and telephone repair man and was with the Bell Telephone company, Saginaw, Mich., for 18 years. He was inducted at Fort Custer, Mich., October 24, was sent here after four days, and has been in the hospital for a month. Now he awaits a discharge, not because he has grandchildren, but because he has asthma.

SAFEWAY

Christmas Food Shopping

★ ★ ★ Guide ★ ★ ★

Last Minute Food Suggestions

<p>Nob Hill Coffee.....Lb. bag 23c Edwards Coffee.....Lb. bag 24c Hills, Maxwell House.....Lb. size 32c Golden West.....Lb. size 31c Filter Paper, Filter Cloths.....Pkg. 9c Lipton's Tea, Y. L.....10c size 9c Apple Cider, Hood River.....Gallon 41c White Rock Water.....Small 2 bots. 35c Seven-Up.....7-oz. bottles 6 for 25c Mavis Cola Syrup.....12-oz. bottle 29c Molasses, Brer Rabbit, green.....12 oz. 15c Argo Corn Starch.....2 1-lb. pkgs. 15c Peanut Butter, Beverly.....2-lb. jar 53c C-H-B Catsup.....14-oz. bottle 15c Red Hill Catsup.....14-oz. bottle 12c Salad Dressing, Duchess.....Pint 21c Salad Dressing, Duchess.....Quart 33c Miracle Whip Dressing.....Pint jar 26c Miracle Whip Dressing.....Quart 41c NuMade Mayonnaise.....8-oz. jar 15c NuMade Mayonnaise.....Pint jar 25c</p>	<p>MIXED NUTS Fancy Assortment 2 Lb. cello. 53c Pecans Lb. bag 35c Filberis Lb. 29c Almonds Lb. bag 39c Walnuts Large, Lb. 25c Fancy Chocolates Dorothy Duncan 2 Lb. box 97c HOLIDAY CHOCOLATES 2 Lb. box 65c PEANUT CLUSTERS 1-Lb. package 23c</p> <p>Tomatoes, Gardenside.....No. 2 1/2 can 14c Tomato Soup, Campbell's.....3 cans 23c Kraft Cheese, pim., pineapple, etc.....2 5-oz. jars 35c Lindsay Ripe Olives, jumbo.....Pt. can 25c French's Mustard.....6-oz. jar 8c Sun-Seal Grapefruit.....No. 2 can 17c Maraschino Cherries, C&M, 5-oz. bot. 10c May Day Salad Oil.....Pint 25c, Quart 45c Planter's Peanut Oil.....Quart 69c</p>	<p>Morton's Salt, pl. or iodiz.....2 pkgs. 15c Baking Powder, Calumet.....25 oz. 23c Flour, Kitchen Craft.....49 lb. sack \$1.69 Flour, Crown or Drifted Snow, 49 lb. \$1.85 Flour, Harvest Blossom.....49 lb. sack \$1.55 Cake Flour, Gold Medal.....Lge. pkg. 25c Bisquick Flour,.....40 oz. pkg. 31c Ginger Bread Mix, Dromedary.....pkg. 18c Westag Vanilla.....8 oz. bot. 10c H-O Oats, reg. or quick.....Lge. 23c Wheat Hearts, Sperry.....28-oz. pkg. 23c Shredded Wheat, Nabisco.....2 for 21c Ass't Cereals, Kellogg's 10's.....pkg. 23c Popcorn, Jolly Time.....10 oz. can 10c Popcorn, ready to eat.....12 oz. bag 25c Potato Chips, Blue Bell.....10c, 15c, 25c Graham Crackers.....2-lb. pkg. 19c Honey Maid Grahams.....2-lb. ctn. 31c Clapp's Strained Foods.....4 cans for 25c Clapp's Junior Foods.....3 cans 25c</p>
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Su-Purb Soap
Has a hand-lotion ingredient.
24-Oz. pkg. 19c

Rinso Soap
Favorite granulated soap.
24-Oz. pkg. 21c

Lux Flakes
For finer laundering.
12 1/2-Oz. pkg. 22c

Camay Toilet Soap
2 bars 13c

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to serve this Xmas

YOUR Uncle Sam has the brawn and brains and courage to handle the biggest fighting job of his life.

He's getting tougher. He's hitting harder—but he needs fresh surges of power to keep those mighty fists hammering away.

WAR BONDS . . . and more WAR BONDS . . . the PUNCH to serve this Christmas!

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LOIN PORK ROAST Lb. 35c
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Guaranteed Fresh Produce

<p>CRANBERRIES Cobb Bay Fancy.....Lb. 19c APPLES Winesaps or Delicious.....Lb. 9c TEXAS YAMS Smooth, Fancy.....5 lbs. 23c</p>	<p>ORANGES Valencia.....Lb. 10c GRAPEFRUIT Texas Pinks Lb. 8c Arizona Seedless Lb. 7c</p>	<p>CELERY Lb. 15c LEMONS Sunlist Lb. 10c PEARS D'Anjou Lb. 5c</p>
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MERRY CHRISTMAS!

HEY LOOK! HERE'S A LETTER FROM OUR FORMER MANAGER IN THE SERVICE OVERSEAS. IT'S ADDRESSED TO ALL OF US. COME OVER HERE A MINUTE, AND I'LL READ IT ALOUD.

Hello Gang—
Got to thinking about Christmas and how busy my store always was during the holidays. It was fun though. Saying Merry Christmas. I want you to add my best wishes to yours where you send Season's Greetings to all of our customers.