

### Reduction of Range Cattle Urged; Drought Possibility Seen

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The agriculture department suggested Wednesday that western cattlemen would find it to their advantage to reduce cattle numbers on ranges this year in anticipation of new drought hazards.

In a 1947 farm production outlook report, the department said cattle numbers are high and are pushing to the limit ranges which have grown abundant feed through several years of generally favorable weather.

"But when weather becomes less favorable, fewer cattle can be kept," the report said.

The department said one of the

most important adjustments many ranchmen can make this year and next is to reseed their summer-fall ranges.

The department said sheep numbers, on the other hand, should be increased. Since 1943 sheep numbers have declined more than 25 per cent in the 15 western states. Many sheepmen switched to cattle, and many mixed outfits went out of the sheep business, because of a shortage of skilled herders.

Despite six consecutive years of high production, western farmers were said to be still geared for top production of crops as well as of livestock. It said a more abundant supply of labor and machinery will be available than last year, but production costs are higher.

"The potential damage (from wind erosion) is so great," the report said, "that regrassing should be done as soon as possible while moisture is available. A few successive dry years might very well result in severe wind erosion in some areas."

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### Girl Scout Troops Form at Dunn School

Willamette Women's American Legion post is sponsor for two troops of Brownie Scouts which have just completed organization with 14 girls each, under direction of Mrs. James Baker, who leads one troop, and Mrs. Dazey Hornback, who leads the other. They will have their vesture ceremonies March 7 when the troops are officially installed at Dunn School.

The women veterans have their social meeting, Tuesday, Feb. 25, at the home of Mrs. Frank Yok, 1708 Washington Street. Those who have service song books are asked to bring them.

Next business meeting is March 11 at the Armory, when the new initiation and drill team will perform for the first time, initiating several candidates. Any woman veteran of either the first or second World War is eligible to join. Mrs. James Baker is general chairman for the meeting, Miss Ruth Snoddy is in charge of refreshments, with Mrs. Leon Wise and Mrs. H. L. Benston.

### Passenger Accused Of Slaying Conductor

IPSWICH, Mass. — (AP) — Donald P. Mead, son of a well-to-do Peabody manufacturer, was charged with murder Thursday in the death of a conductor after an argument Wednesday night aboard a Boston and Maine train.

Mead, a Dartmouth College sophomore, was arraigned in Ipswich district court and held without bail for a hearing Monday.

Police Chief Frank Machaj said Conductor Roland J. Boucher, 53, of Portland, was killed after a scuffle when he ordered Mead to stop smoking.

### Draft Law Is Protested

CHICAGO—(AP)—Thirty University of Chicago students threw their draft cards into a bonfire last night as a protest against military conscription.

The rally, sponsored by the Student Socialist Club, was held outside the graduate education building on the edge of the campus. University officials refused to permit the meeting to be held inside. The students signed a letter to congressmen protesting any extension in the draft act.

### All Dogs in County Must Have Licenses

All persons living in Lane County who own dogs are required to buy licenses for them, according to A. J. Flint, county dog control officer.

Flint pointed out that money from licenses is used to pay indemnity to owners of stock and poultry killed by dogs, and that owners of unlicensed dogs caught killing are not able to claim this service. Last year \$2300 was paid to stock and poultry owners who suffered damage from dogs, Flint said.

Licenses may be purchased at the county clerk's office in the courthouse, and persons having claims to present where dogs have damaged their stock may present them by calling Flint at Junction City.

### Milwaukie City Manager To Leave for Alaska

SEATTLE — (AP) — Lous D. Kelsey, Sr., advised friends Thursday he was resigning as city manager of Milwaukie, Ore., to accept a similar position at Fairbanks, Alaska.

Kelsey was an engineer for the Federal Works Administration at Juneau, Alaska, from 1935 to 1940 and resident engineer in charge of the Sitka naval air base from 1940 to 1943.

### 58,000 Homes Built During December, 1946

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The Labor Department reported Thursday that 58,000 new homes were completed in December, bringing the total for 1946 to 454,000. The December total was high for the year.

The department predicted that 950,000 homes will be completed in 1947.

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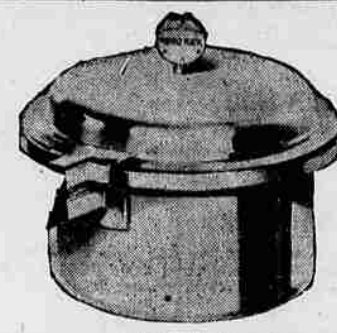
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