

Storms May Spare Beef

By Gaynor Maddox
NEW YORK —(NEA)— The worst winter in the history of the western cattle country may not take very many steaks and chops off your dinner table after all.

As storm after storm piled up on the ranges, leaving livestock starved and snowbound, housewives across the nation began to fear that the long-awaited drop in meat prices would be wiped out by the blizzards.

But while Department of Agriculture reports from field men in the stricken areas are not expected for another three weeks, NEA Service found that key men in the meat industry are less worried than the housewives over the day-to-day isolated reports.

A quick survey disclosed these more optimistic views of the long-range picture:

1. Our total cattle population of

2. A large number of cattle are not on the storm-beaten ranges but safe in feeding lots in the Middle West. Those now on the range are lean "unfinished" cattle not scheduled to come to market until late fall.
3. Emergency relief efforts are saving many cattle and sheep which otherwise might have been lost. In addition, breeders expect to find many cattle and sheep safe in protecting ravines and canyons.
4. The heavy snows will mean good "rain-seed" conditions next summer, which spell not only better grazing and fatter cattle, but also the possibility of another bumper wheat crop.

The sheep picture is not as

good. The bacon-pork-ham supply is unaffected, since hog producing is concentrated in areas not hit by the storms.

Typical of the experts' reaction is that of Eugene G. Schulz, commissioner of markets in New York City, which needs 30 million pounds of meat a week.

When the supply threatens to drop below that figure, it's his job to start worrying. "As to lamb prices in late summer and early fall," he said, "there may be some upset. But I do not expect any important upset in the beef picture at that time. So we aren't worrying."

T. C. Smith, Swift & Co. vice president in charge of beef, veal and lamb, did not foresee any immediate effect on meat supplies except in some localities where livestock marketing may be delayed by blocked roads.

He added that the damage to breeding stock from exposure and starvation may be more serious than actual death losses. Both cows and ewes, he explained, will come out of the storm in weakened condition, which may reduce calf and lamb crops.

F. W. Specht, president of Armour & Co., said that 1949's meat supply "is expected to equal or exceed that of 1948" despite his belief that storm losses of livestock will doubtless be "regretably large."

War Altered By Spy Ring

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Soviet agents stay at his home and one set up an illegal radio station, the report says. That was in 1929.

At that time, an earlier and probably bigger ring was at work in China. But it was far less spectacular.

There is nothing in the report about any tie-in with Soviet espionage in this country. But one name in the report appears rather obscurely in still-secret testimony taken last year at the spy hearings of the House Un-American Activities Committee.

Only Bare Details

Japan released only the barest details about the ring and the trials and convictions of 17 people at the time. The U.S. Army found out about them after occupation forces moved in.

Many of the minor figures in the ring were released as political prisoners. The Army report indicates that maybe that wouldn't happen if the Americans had it to do over again. At that time, it said, few people had the idea that "a Soviet spy who had worked against the Japanese might later work against the United States."

Still "at large," the report says, are Missouri-born Miss Smedley and Guenther Stein, a German who now may be an American and who was a temporary but "top-level member" of the Tokyo ring from 1936 to 1938.

Books Written by Both

Each has written books on China. Who's Who says they get mail in New York City.

The report says Stein is "a man about whom too little is known."

Miss Smedley is described as the go-between who first brought Sorge and Ozaki Hozumi, his right hand man, together. That was in China, where they operated for a time, around 1929 to 1932 and 1933.

Sorge was a professional German Communist posing as a swagging Nazi. He used a newspaper assignment as a cover, and the German Embassy in Tokyo as if he owned it.

Hozumi Writer Too

Hozumi was another newspaperman and writer. He became adviser to the cabinet and confidante of the "brain trust" of Prince-Premier Konoe. He was consulted on the highest secrets, and sent them onto Moscow.

There were no Russians in the ring. That was a rule. Mostly there were Japanese and a few Germans.

Sorge, the report says, was able to keep Russia "fully informed on Japanese military and industrial capabilities and intentions from 1933 to 1941. The Red Army always knew the status of current Japanese war plans, and could make their own plans and dispositions accordingly."

Scores Perfect

It was a network with "perfect sources and almost got away with the 'perfect crime'."

By comparison, the Army sizes up the wartime Soviet spy network in Canada as an "amateur show."

While serving the Moscow masters, Sorge cultivated the German ambassador in Tokyo and his staff so well they told him almost anything, asked his advice, and let him see secret papers. He had a camera handy.

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Crews Shovel To Crash Site

CALDWELL, Idaho — (AP)— Ground crews Thursday were shoveling through the heavy snow of the Owyhee Mountains to reach the wreckage of an airplane missing last Thursday with two men aboard.

The plane was sighted Wednesday and aerial observers could see no sign or life around the plane.

The search for the missing plane nearly resulted in another double tragedy when Chet Moulton, state director of aeronautics, and Bob Shultz, Boise newspaperman, escaped injury when their plane crashed in a snowbank.

Moulton said he was flying low when the wheels of his plane touched the tip of an unseen snowdrift, flipping the craft over on its back. Shultz and Moulton walked a half mile to a ranchhouse and then shoveled and pushed their way four miles to another ranchhouse, from which they were taken to Homedale by automobile.

Moulton's accident happened near Succor Creek in the same vicinity where the wreckage of the other plane was sighted.

Believed dead in the wrecked plane are Bill Jewell, Rome, Oregon, rancher and his uncle, George Harper. They had been missing since last Thursday on a flight from the Jewell ranch airport to Caldwell.

Nebraska, during 1946, had a total birth rate of 27,753, as compared with a total of 12,365 deaths.

Labor Hearings In Uproar

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Senator Taft. It called him a "Lucifer of labor relations."

The ITU called for quick repeal of the Taft-Hartley law. It said retaining the act "would spell the doom of the free American trade union movement."

Accepts Experiment

The ITU declared that while it is not completely satisfied with the administration's labor bill it is ready to accept the measure "on an experimental basis in the interest of speedy repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act."

The ITU views were expressed by Randolph in a statement prepared for the Senate committee. Randolph was listed as the committee's first witness Thursday under a revised program which continues the public hearings until Feb. 23.

Because of a big backlog of witnesses yet to be heard, the committee abandoned its original plan to close the hearings Thursday night.

Lake Superior is larger than the state of South Carolina.

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Offices to Close

City and county offices will be closed Saturday for Lincoln's Birthday, official sources announced Thursday. All administrative offices of both governments will close. Fire, police and emergency units will be on duty.

LAND BILL APPROVED
WASHINGTON — (AP)— A House Public Lands Subcommittee Thursday approved a bill to authorize sale of land between Anchorage and Palmer, Alaska, to the territorial Council of Boy Scouts.



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Oregonian and Pressmen Still Working
PORTLAND — (AP)— Pressmen for the Oregonian and the Astorian-Journal are still working under contract negotiations. A meeting Wednesday afternoon after a four-hour session. Others are planned.

Frequent washing of water usually will remove ink from skin on clothes.

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