

Northwest Flour Industry Faces Crisis; Output cut 50%

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 6.—Virtual closing of export markets and loss of eastern markets by prohibitive freight rates were cited today as twin factors responsible for the current crisis in the Pacific northwest flour milling industry, according to John L. Locke, president of the Millers' National Federation, national millers' group.

Locke, head of a Seattle flour mill, made the statement in the face of a crisis becoming progressively worse and threatening the economy of the entire region. Flour milling is a basic northwest industry, he pointed out, and wheat is the northwest's biggest dollar crop. However, mills are now operating at an average of 50 per cent capacity, and the crisis is spreading to poultry and other industries which cannot weather mounting feed costs springing from the flour milling situation.

"The export situation in flour is grim, indeed," Locke stressed. "Latin America is short of dollars. China, once a big outlet, has neither the dollar nor a government the U.S. recognizes. The Philippines, once a number one market for U.S. flour, are now getting 50 per cent of flour from Canada, whereas the ratio used to be 85 per cent U.S.—15 per cent Canada. The swing to Canada has been brought about by a paradoxical situation under which Canadian millers can buy wheat cheaper than the U.S. millers can under government price supports. Devaluation also gives Canada an edge in this market.

"Prohibitive freight rates also loom importantly in the flour milling crisis. Percentage increases have added 30-35 cents more per hundredweight on Northwest flour than for competitive midwest flour. There have been three successive rate increases since 1946, and flour shipments have shrunk some 90 per cent since that time, or a shrinkage amounting to 37,200,000 pounds of flour.

"The Pacific Northwest Grain & Grain Producers association is now seeking relief from hampering freight rates but even if efforts are successful the procedure is not a speedy one, by any means. An overall freight rate reduction of 16 cents per hundredweight to the Missouri River is sought by the Pacific Northwest group.

"It will be seen that northwest flour industry problems have a definite parallel with those of other primary industries—fruit, for example. Prohibitive freight rates and inroads of Canadian price competition are bringing similar distress to the fruit industries."

Locke pointed out that the center of the distress area in the flour milling industry is in Washington, Oregon and Northern Idaho. Southern Idaho is not included because of another paradoxical situation—i.e., government support prices for wheat are set by counties, and in south Idaho, the support prices run about 15 cents a bushel under

that for Oregon, Washington and Northern Idaho. Locke said that the differential is without historical background and alters the normal flow of wheat from South Idaho. Instead of moving eastward, this wheat has gone into California, cutting Washington-Oregon sales in the growing California market.

Undoubtedly the most immediate remedial step which should be taken is to increase the South Idaho 12 to 15 cents bushel and reduce the support price in the Pacific Northwest 3 and 4 cents a bushel, Locke said. This would return the two markets to a normal price relationship.

Outside markets are absolutely essential for the wheat production of Washington, Oregon and Northern Idaho, it was emphasized, as approximately 110 million bushels of wheat are produced and only 30 million consumed in flour and farm needs. While wheat growers do not immediately feel the pinch, as the government continues to buy up the surplus wheat, eventually the government is expected to cut this production and this would have drastic effect on Northwest economy.

Deadline on G.I. Training July 25

Washington, Feb. 6 (AP)—The veterans administration is getting ready to close up its \$30,000,000 free schooling program.

A regulation to be issued April 1 will bar veterans—with certain exceptions—from the government's training and education program unless they enroll by July 25, 1951.

Further rules changes will make it hard for veterans to change their present courses, and will prevent them, after completing one course, from starting another, even though they have some unused school credit.

"The veterans readjustment act specifies that a veteran must start his schooling within four years after discharge or after July 25, 1947, the official end of the war, whichever is later.

The VA estimates that if the 15,000,000 eligible veterans took all the training they are entitled to, it would cost the government \$60,000,000,000. Actual cost of the program from its beginning to the 1956 windup date is expected to range between \$25,000,000,000 and \$30,000,000,000. The next six years will cost about \$16,000,000,000, VA estimates.



German "fools" hold Carnival—Masked Rottenburg representatives parade at Radolfzell, Lake Constance, in annual pre-Lenten "fools" carnival of Southwest Germany.

Auctioneer Puzzled at Slow Bidding in Gilt Sale Here

Cold weather psychology must have been operating at Saturday's fifth annual Oregon Swine Growers bred gilt sale when slow, low bidding on the 30 gilts offered dropped averages to \$89.58 compared to the \$123.18 average set last year.

Six animals went through the ring unsold. For the first time, a Hampshire topped the sale when Neal Elliott of Lakeview bid \$127.50 for a gilt consigned by Lyle McKinley of Shedd, who is president of the Oregon Swine Growers. Durocs have sold highest at three previous sales while a Chester White gilt sold for a top of \$185 last year.

Ed Stritzke of Winchester, Douglas county, was the only other buyer outside the Willamette valley. He purchased two Durocs at \$85 and \$77.50 each. Only five animals sold for more than \$100. Auctioneer H. J. McMurray of Iowa was at a loss to explain inactivity of the 100 persons who attended the sale. He said it was the quietest sale he had ever handled and noted that in the 25 years he has been selling he had never seen better values going through the ring.

Professor Loses Life in 'Game'

Princeton, N.J., Feb. 6.—A young Princeton professor bet his life against Lady Luck at Russian roulette—and lost.

Dr. Allison Williams Bunkley, his friends told police, demonstrated the deadly "game" late Saturday night at his 25th birthday celebration.

They said he put one cartridge into a .32 caliber revolver, spun the cylinder, and placed it to his temple. The first two times he won—the hammer fell by chance on an empty chamber.

"Just once more," he told his protesting friends, five men and a girl who had gathered in his apartment.

When he spun the cylinder this time, the bullet came opposite the hammer. When he pulled the trigger the bullet crashed through his temple. He was dead on arrival at Princeton hospital.

He was the son of retired Rear Admiral Joel W. Bunkley of New York City, and his grandfather was the late Senator John Sharpe William of Mississippi, former senate democratic leader.

Mothers' Club Given Program

East Salem, Feb. 6.—The January meeting of the Washington school Mothers' club was held at the schoolhouse.

For the program hour Superintendent Frank Bennett spoke to the mothers as to questions asked by the parents in regard to schooling. Mrs. Lake, a teacher at Bush school, gave a report on new trends in report cards and explained the faults of the old systems. Children of the sixth grade sang several numbers.

Mrs. Cleo Keppinger, president of the club, presided at a business meeting, with Mrs. Larson acting as secretary in the absence of Mrs. Harvey Page. A traveling apron will be passed among the members as a method of raising funds for the club. Members discussed organizing a cub scout troop. They will sponsor the Camp Fire Girls troop of Mrs. Margie Goodman. Refreshments were served by the mothers of the sixth grade pupils with Mrs. W. L. Hamilton as chairman.

Swegle—Mr. and Mrs. Raleigh Welty and daughter have driven to Los Angeles, Calif., for a winter vacation trip.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard T. Wicklander had as their guests the past week former schoolmates, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph La Fromboise of Los Angeles, Calif., who are also visiting in the home of a son and family in Portland.

The Swegle Woman's club will meet Tuesday afternoon at 1 o'clock in the home of Mrs. Louis Newman on 38th street.

Venus Changes Address From Evening to Morning

By J. HUGH PRUETT
Astronomer, Extension Division, Oregon Higher Education System

Venus, so splendid in the southwestern twilight the past several months, has very recently disappeared from her accustomed place in the heavens. But as an eastern astronomer writer stated the situation a few years ago, the goddess of beauty has simply changed her address from the evening to the morning sky.

On January 31 Venus passed almost between the earth and the sun. This brilliant planet is now on the western side of the sun and is rising in the dawn before sunrise. Very soon it will be up early enough to be seen in a dark morning sky. Even now it rises in the east southeast almost an hour before Old Sol. Jupiter is almost "in the sun" so is entirely lost in the solar brilliance. Mercury rises about with Venus, but nearer the southeast.

Saturn and Mars are now closely grouped with the moon. On February 5 Luna will be between the two. By 10 o'clock—or shortly after—all three will be above the horizon. Mars will be clearing the skyline almost due east with the moon and Saturn higher. The next night the eastern motion of the moon will place it near Mars, now becoming quite bright.

Let us observe the fixed stars around 8 p. m. High in the south the fine Orion group is very conspicuous. Note the three stars in a short line marking Orion's belt. Higher, the red star Betelgeuse in his shoulder is prominent. Lower than the belt, blue-white Rigel twinkles brilliantly. Almost due east of Betelgeuse, bright Procyon in the Little Dog is the only star to attract attention.

Much lower than Orion and near the south southeast, a glorious star is scintillating. This is Sirius, the dog star, the brightest stellar object in the evening sky. Fairly well above the eastern point of the horizon, blue-white Regulus glitters. A little inspection of this region will show that Regulus is at the lower end of the handle of the Sickle, which is composed mostly of rather dim stars. Nearer the zenith the twin stars, Castor and Pollux, stand side by side. The orange one is Pollux.

Bright, yellow Capella is almost overhead. Considerably south and a little west of Capella we note a little letter V composed of stars all dim with

Seek Skilled to Push Agriculture Abroad

Washington, Feb. 6 (AP)—The agriculture department announced creation today of a committee to help recruit technicians to carry out present U.S. programs of technical aid to agriculture in foreign lands.

If and when congress approves the broad "point four" technical aid program envisioned by President Truman, the job of finding skilled personnel to spread U.S. know-how abroad will be one of the toughest jobs facing the administration.

YMCA Worker Dies After Saving 4 Boys

New Orleans, Feb. 6 (AP)—A volunteer YMCA worker drowned after saving four boys from the same fate yesterday.

Don Wiltse, 18, of 115 South Wolfe road, the Chicago suburb of Melrose Park, was in a skiff which turned over with the four boys at Fontainebleau state park, north of here.

William McLachlin, YMCA director of boys activities, said Wiltse righted the boat and placed the boys so they could hold on until help arrived. One youngster slipped and Wiltse helped him regain his hold.

"A few moments later Don slipped into the water feet first and disappeared," McLachlin said. "He must have been exhausted with saving the kids. I consider him a hero."

The boys, eight and nine years old, were rescued by campers in the area.

Holly trees should be planted 25 to 30 feet apart.

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MODEL TOWN:



BACK YARD TOWN—Rostan's miniature village.

By ROBERT M. SUNDY
Kane, Pa., Feb. 6 (AP)—Rostan village is a pretty little community in northwest Pennsylvania with churches, stores, a postoffice and a bank—but you'll never find it on a map.

Nobody lives in Rostan. Yet the town has had hundreds of visitors since it was founded three years ago.

It is the creation in miniature of Joseph Rostan, a retired grocer, who found that raising chickens and growing flowers wasn't enough to keep him busy.

Rostan came to this mountain town with his wife in 1946 to seek relief from an asthmatic condition. The little town in Rostan's back yard is a village of memories for the talented builder—almost a biography in itself. Every structure is a reproduction of a building which played an important part in Rostan's life.

Prominent among these is the church from his native village in Yugoslavia, where Rostan

Memories Live In Miniatures



ROSTAN and his work.

America they settled near Pittsburgh and soon started operating a restaurant at Langeloth, Pa. Later Rostan was the first postmaster of Slovan, Pa. Then for 25 years he operated a grocery store at Saranac Lake, N. Y.

In the miniature village, electrically lighted at night, you will find the store from Saranac Lake, built to scale as are all the buildings.

There's the postoffice from Slovan, a town hall like Saranac's, a bank, a hotel, a shrine and various homes.

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When the Rostans came to was baptized. Also present is the chapel from the cemetery of that village. "The churches really bring back memories," commented Rostan. "I started out there as an organist."

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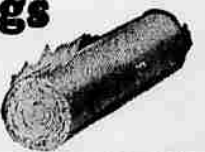
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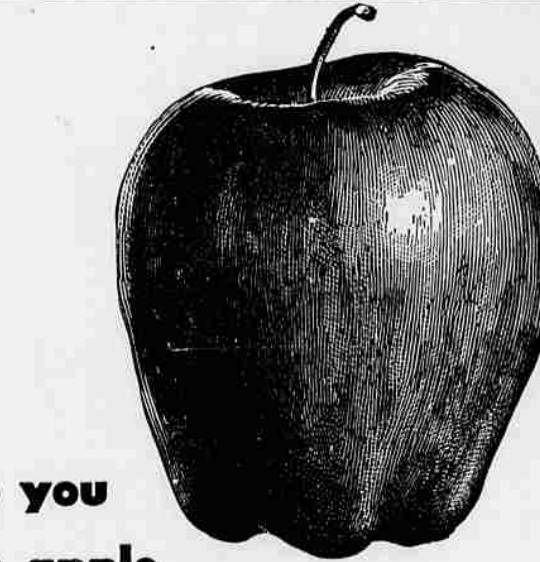
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Whether it's a juicy Jonathan or a tangy Winesap, you judge an apple by the color and gloss of its skin . . . that's what tells you about the condition and flavor of the food within. It tells you what you must know "about the goods in the package."

Brand names enable you to judge the quality of the product, the reputation of the dealer, and the reliability of its manufacture. Any manufacturer knows that if you find his products good, you will buy them. If not, you won't—and the manufacturer will be forced out of business. Brand names are your protection. Brand names tell you exactly what's in the package—exactly what you must know to shop wisely and well.

Brand names also enable you to avoid getting products you don't want—whether you're buying an automobile, a towel, a can of peas or a candy bar. That's why smart shoppers will look carefully at the brand names when they read the ads in this newspaper. That's why you should choose the things you buy by their brand names. It's the sure way to get exactly what you want.

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