

Farm Product Prices Show a Slight Increase

Washington, (AP)—The agriculture department reported Tuesday that farm product prices increased one-third of one per cent during the month ended March 15—ending a decline that had been going on steadily for six months.

The mid-March level, nevertheless, was eight per cent below that of a year ago and 16 per cent below the record set in mid-February of 1951.

In the previous period reported, mid-February of 1953, the farm price level dropped 1.5 per cent.

The department said prices paid by farmers for goods and services used in production and in family living also increased one third of one per cent between mid-February and mid-March.

These prices were about 2.4 per cent below those of a year ago and about 2.5 below the record set in mid-May of 1952.

The change in the farm price trend reflected higher prices for hogs, cotton, eggs, wheat and corn.

Products which lost a little more price ground included beef cattle calves, milk and potatoes.

The department said the farm price level was 94 per cent of parity in mid-March, unchanged from a month earlier. A year ago prices were 100 per cent of parity. The record is 122 per cent set in 1946.

Parity is a level of prices declared to be fair to farmers in relation to prices they pay.

Hop Markets on Coast Anemic

Pacific coast hop markets remained unsettled and weak during March, according to reports to the Market News Service of the U. S. department of agriculture.

Trading continued to be light in volume and was largely confined to sales of 1953 crop supplies for future delivery.

At the close of the month, 1953 crop regular seeded clusters were priced at a range of 30-32 cents per pound with one sale of fuggles contracted earlier in the month at as high as 37 1/2 cents, basis 6 per cent pick. Seedless hops from the 1953 crop were contracted within a price range of 31-35 cents per pound. At the close of the month trading slackened further.

Trade resources revealed that while a large portion of the 1953 crop was under contract, the potential production remaining appeared to be in firm hands.

Little change is expected in hop acreage this year in the Sacramento valley, but fairly large reductions are anticipated in Oregon and Washington unless market conditions improve during the next few weeks.

Yellow Dwarf Deadline Today

April 1 is the cleanup deadline for onion yellow dwarf control in the Lake Labish area, reminds D. L. Rasmussen, county extension agent.

The control order provides that no cull or waste onions shall be dumped or maintained with the area following the first of April.

In the case of onions sorted after this date, cull or waste onions shall not be dumped or maintained within the area for longer than 24 hours after sorting.

The reason for this cleanup program is disease prevention, states Rasmussen. "Onion yellow dwarf is a serious virus disease affecting all kinds of onions."

VanLeeuwen, Vernon Johnson, Eldon France; deaconesses, Mrs. Vernon Forest, Mrs. Ben Haytack, Mrs. Paul France; Sunday school superintendent, Ben Haytack; assistant superintendent, Paul France; clerk, Mrs. Oliver Rickman; financial secretary, Donald Chittick; treasurer, Vernon Forest; missionary treasurer, Mrs. George VanLeeuwen; head usher, Bob Wright.

The woman's club will hold its April meeting Thursday at 6:45 p.m. in the Community hall.

The Mother's club of Lincoln school will meet April 3 at 1:15 p.m. in the multipurpose room at the school. Guest speaker will be Dr. Walter Snyder, superintendent of Salem schools.

Four Corners

A house warming for Mr. and Mrs. Roy Thayer was an event of Friday evening when the members of their Sunday school class surprised them at the Thayer's new home. Those present for the social hour were Mr. and Mrs. Harold Holler, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Snook, Mr. and Mrs. Don Jacobs, Mr. and Mrs. George VanLeeuwen, Charles and Mary VanLeeuwen, Rev. and Mrs. Victor Loucks.

Hosts on Sunday evening for a dinner party were Mr. and Mrs. Jess McIlroy. Guests bidden for the evening were Mr. and Mrs. Herman DeLangh and grand-daughter, Joyce, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Schermacher all of Marion, and Mr. and Mrs. Warren Exell, the Misses Shirley and Linda Exell of Salem, Gary and Ronnie McIlroy.

Last Thursday evening the Four Corners Baptist church held its annual election of officers. Those elected to take office on April 1 are moderator, George VanLeeuwen; trustee, Leon Hopkins, Bob Wright, Vernon Forest; deacons, Ben Haytack, George

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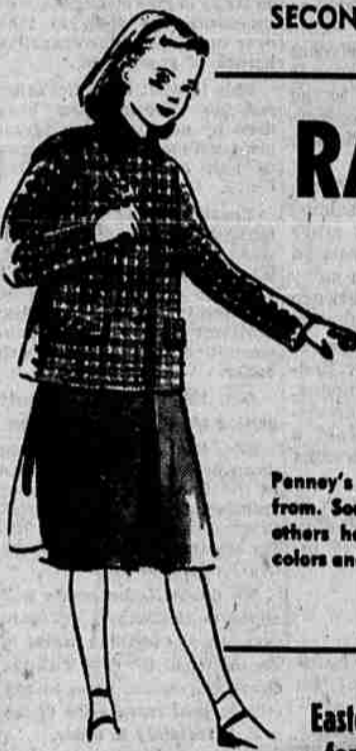
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