



OREGON SEED TO RELEASE NEEDED BOMB MATERIALS

Oregon's winter legume seed ranks as a strategic war material—in fact, the estimated 200,000,000-pound crop of vetch, Austrian winter pea and crimson clover seed being produced in the state this year is the equivalent of 12,000,000 hundred pound bombs.

This information as to the importance of Oregon's seed industry in the war effort was given by Washington, D. C., officials of the department of agriculture here attending the recent conference of western states USDA war board chairmen.

Farmers in the southern and east central states have been using large amounts of nitrate fertilizer to produce food and fiber crops vital to the war effort. Now all available nitrates are needed in the manufacture of munitions. One bag of nitrate of soda will supply nitrates enough for two 100-pound bombs.

To replace nitrate of soda, southern states' farmers are growing their own nitrogen with winter legume cover crops, using seed produced on Oregon farms. About 25 pounds of cover crop seed will produce a crop to replace 150 pounds of nitrate of soda—enough to make three bombs.

To make certain that seed is available to farmers in all areas where it's needed, the AAA is buying all winter legume and common ryegrass seed that is offered by Oregon growers this year. Purchases are made direct from the grower through established warehouses and dealers, who are paid a handling charge of 45 cents a hundred pounds for hairy vetch, and 40 cents for all other seed. The state AAA office reports that orders for 250 carloads of seed had already been received from southern states by August 1, with more coming in every day.

has gone into the construction of lifeboats will now be available for other purposes. Much opposition was overcome to induce the maritime commission to accept lifeboats made of plywood but the Gundersons doggedly stuck to the task, spent thousands of dollars proving the practicability of plywood and months of engineering before they finally convinced skeptical naval officers of the merits of their plan. Not only does their contract open the way to wider use of Oregon lumber but its immediate effect is greatly to increase state payrolls.

Between Medford and Ashland, in Rogue river valley, there is a deposit of low grade coal. Bureau of mines has directed one of its engineers to make a survey of this coalbed to determine its depth, extent and quality of the coal. Army is interested, for the White cantonment in Rogue river valley will require 80,000 tons of coal and the army always prefers obtaining coal as close to an army post as possible. If the coal proves satisfactory this Jackson county fuel will be almost in the heart of the cantonment.

War production board has been advised by the local grange and shippers that the Brogan branch of the Union Pacific in Willow creek valley, Harney county, will handle 2100 head of cattle and 6000 lambs this fall, and the only way to market is over the railroad. War production board, however, announces that the road does not contribute to winning the war and it will take the rails and use them elsewhere.

Dr. S. R. Hyslop, chairman of the Oregon flax and linen board, has been advised that flax importations are now restricted to government agencies. Commodity Credit corporation has just closed a contract for flax from Peru, where seed was exported last year from the flax organization at Mount Angel.

With level country and plenty of sunshine, Ontario, Ore., is asking the war department to establish a training school for fliers at its new airport. A war department engineer at Portland has been instructed to visit Ontario and make a study. The war department promises nothing, but says Ontario and its facilities and possibilities will be given consideration in the event new training fields are decided upon.

More Enriched Flour Aim of Campaign

Only about 50 percent of the white flour being offered for sale in Oregon is vitamin enriched, according to a spot survey made in various parts of the state by the O. S. C. extension service. While enriched flour is generally available to consumers, it was found that much of the white flour in the widely used lower priced grades is not enriched, said W. L. Teutseh, assistant director of extension.

In an effort to encourage a wider demand for the enriched flour, the extension service, through the newly organized neighborhood leader system, soon will initiate a statewide educational program on the value of enriched flour. This movement has the strong support of the food and nutrition board of the National Research council and of the state committee on nutrition for defense. Efforts are being made nationally to bring about the enrichment of all types and grades of white flour with vitamin B elements and iron.

GRASS CONTROLS THISTLE

Oregon City—Use of fescue grasses in the control of Canada thistles is becoming a general practice in Clackamas county, reports J. J. Inskoop, county agent, who says that many farmers are controlling the thistles in about three years in this manner. Chemical weed killers are now used mostly for controlling small patches of thistles, blackberries, and other noxious weeds.

SOME LIGHT SHED ON FUTURE TREND IN FARM DIVISION

A partial answer to the question of how many additional farms can be developed in Oregon by subdividing present farm lands is given in a new bulletin, "Land Settlement in the Willamette Valley, with Special Reference to Benton County," just issued as O. S. C. station bulletin 407.

The bulletin embodies the report of an intensive study made in Benton county by Vernon W. Baker of the bureau of agricultural economics, in cooperation with the department of farm management at O. S. C. Because of its fertile soils, mild climate, and general reputation as a region that can support additional settlement, Willamette valley has been experiencing a steady infiltration of new farm families, the bulletin points out.

While the future is heavily clouded by the present war and uncertainty of coming conditions, the situation at the time of the study was made showed that only about 7 percent of the present farm ownerships in the county are sufficiently large to permit subdivision into two or more adequate sized units for full-time farming. Most of these, in fact, live along the flood plains of the Willamette river, where both clearing and flood control protection will be necessary before subdivision and further settlement could safely be encouraged.

About one-third of Benton county's present crop land in the main valley is devoted to grain crops, even though it is well adapted, under proper management, to the production of more intensive crops. With possible future irrigation and drainage development, these lands possess a vast store of additional potential productive capacity, for which new markets are also essential before they could be considered for commercial subdivision.

Those who made the study conclude that, regardless of the pattern of future settlement in western Oregon, it is desirable that it be controlled and directed to some extent by means of educational programs, coordinated credit policies, and subdivision control.

HEPPNER MEN IN WYOMING

Ft. Warren, Wyo., Aug. 6.—(Special)—Three Heppner men are among recent arrivals at the Quartermaster Replacement Training center here where they will enter a dual training program combining basic military with special school training. All in Company B of the Third OM training regiment, they are Albert E. Winkelman, Alf Haaland, and Wilfred L. Plumondore. Plumondore is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry L. Plumondore of Heppner and formerly was employed by the Heppner Lumber company. The new soldiers will be trained in basic military subjects (first aid, map reading, squad drill, use of the rifle, etc.) and then will be enrolled in the motor operations school and taught truck driving.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 6—While it had been supposed that an artillery range would be located somewhere between Bend and Burns, it has now been decided that some 50,000 acres are wanted east of Harrisburg and Halsey, in Lane county. This is to be used in connection with Camp Adair, near Corvallis. Protests to the army engineers have been unavailing. The engineers say the target range is an integral part of the cantonment and while they regret that there is opposition by numbers of farmers in the affected area, the range will be located as planned.

Business men of Burns are on the rampage against the federal bureau of mines; think a congressional investigation should be made, and a petition has been received at the White House, by Vice President Wallace, and by members of the Oregon delegation. Burns people are convinced that there is a deposit of tin at Squaw butte. Much publicity was given the Squaw butte "find" last year, for if there was tin it is just what the government wants, tin being so scarce that it cannot be used on bottletops and tin allocated to canneries has been reduced to a minimum. (In the east tin cans are being saved and sent to detinning plants). The Squaw butte area has been examined and tested by every known method of disclosing tin and none has been found. Bureau of mines has assayed samples and has used a machine that unerringly discloses the smallest trace of any known mineral or metal, but there has never been the slightest sign of tin in the bureau samples taken from Squaw butte. A dozen scientists have made individual studies and still no tin. In the face of all this, Burns insists that tin exists in quantity at Squaw butte and wants the president or congress to do something about it.

The plywood industry of Oregon was given a substantial boost when Gunderson Bros. of Portland sold the government on the idea of making lifeboats of this material for the maritime commission. The contract recently signed calls for the construction of 1000 such boats in the Gunderson plant, involving more than \$1,300,000. Heretofore lifeboats for the Liberty ships have been made of steel. Tests have proved that the plywood boats are much stronger and lighter than boats made of steel, and more than 1000 tons of this metal which heretofore



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