

Harpers Ferry Developed Into National Monument

Washington—A national monument is developing at Harpers Ferry where John Brown's rifle once rattled and Stonewall Jackson's cannon roared.

West Virginia has given 500 acres, including a portion of the town, to the Harpers Ferry National Monument project. Maryland, facing the town across the Potomac River, may donate 800 more. The National Park Service envisages a museum and restored buildings, tied together by pleasant walks and trails extending to the Civil War trenches on Bolivar Heights directly behind the town.

Famed mainly for John Brown's abortive raid in 1859, Harpers Ferry clings to a rugged tongue of land above the turbulent meeting of the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers, 50 miles northwest of Washington. Neighboring hills loom gaunt in winter and soften under dense summer foliage.

Floods and Pumpkins
Near the mid-18th century the wild site was picked for a ferry by Robert Harper. Settlers soon experienced the capricious power of the rivers, for one roaring flood spewed pumpkins from upstream Indian fields along the banks at Harpers Ferry. Recognizing water power potentialities, Congress in 1796 ordered an arsenal built at the ferry. From Hall's Rifle Works issued the first breech-loading rifles for the army.

Skilled artisans flocked in, and Harpers Ferry became one of the important towns of Virginia, the state that possessed it before the Civil War but only glimpses it now across the Shenandoah.

The sleepy, ante-bellum community was suddenly aroused on October 16-17 when John Brown's abolitionist raiders, hopeful of a slave uprising, seized the town armory. Virginia and Maryland militia later cornered them in an engine house—but not before several residents were killed, including the mayor. Dislodgement of the raiders was hindered by fear for the safety of several hostages, among them Col. Lewis W. Washington, grand-nephew of George Washington.

Shortly afterward Col. Robert E. Lee and Lieut. J. E. B. Stuart, both U. S. Army officers but destined in a few years to become noted Confederate leaders, arrived with a Marine detachment from Washington. After a futile doorway parley between Brown and Stuart, Lee signaled the Marines to batter down the door. Acting quickly—lives hung delicately in the balance—they seized the raiders. All the hostages survived.

The Civil War, partly kindled by Brown's foray swept quickly to Harpers Ferry. Eyeing the arsenal and the strategic Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, Jackson struck, only to find them wrecked by the retiring garrison.

During Lee's 1862 invasion of Maryland, Jackson struck again. The defending Union troops capitulated in time to enable Jackson to rejoin Lee's imperiled army for the battle of Antietam. As a battleground and camp site Harpers Ferry became a shambles. Its few citizens, bereft of their earlier industries, turned for income to a modest resort trade attracted by the lovely mountain scenery. For even then, as now, the onlooker was struck by the truth of

Thomas Jefferson's judgment rendered while he stood on the heights at Harpers Ferry:

"On your right comes up the Shenandoah, having ranged along the foot of the mountain a hundred miles to seek a vent. On your left approaches the Potomac in quest of a passage also. In the moment of their junction they rush together against the mountain, rend it asunder and pass off to the sea. . . . This scene is worth a voyage across the Atlantic."

Lake Labish Crop Damage Survey Due

Salem — (U.P.) — Kenneth W. Sawyer of Portland, state director of the Farmers Home Administration, will make a survey of water damage to the onion crop in this area, according to Rep. Walter Norblad (R-Ore.).

If the report indicated a need for disaster assistance through low-interest credit, the area would be designated for this federal program, Norblad was told in a telegram from K. L. Scott, agriculture credit director.

Most of the damage occurred in the Lake Labish area.

Jefferson Pioneer Dies at Age of 83
Madras, Ore. — (U.P.) — William Brownhill, 83-year-old pioneer resident of Jefferson county and former county assessor, died yesterday at his home here.

Brownhill, who homesteaded on Agency plains in 1902, came to this country from England in 1887. He was Jefferson county assessor for 16 years, retiring in 1949.

Michigan's 4½ million population is divided approximately 70 per cent urban and 30 per cent rural.

Farm Marketings in Oregon Last Year Up Over Totals for 1953

Salem—(U.P.)—Oregon marketings of wheat last year slipped more cashwise than any other major crop, figures received by J. F. Short, director of the Oregon Department of Agriculture, show.

The same report showed that total farm marketings in Oregon last year were \$382,661,000 compared with a revised 1953 total

of \$401,381,000. The 1954 farm income from wheat was \$53,973,000, almost a \$1,000,000 drop from 1953 and the lowest since 1950.

Gross Income
In releasing the figures, Short pointed out that they represent gross income out of which farmers had to pay all farm and labor costs as well as taxes.

Farm receipts from cattle and calves last year were \$57,397,000 or almost 3 million dollars above 1953. Oregon farmers marketed \$50,800,000 worth of dairy products, \$3,500,000 less than in 1953; \$32,600,000 worth of poultry products, down \$8,700,000 from the year earlier; and \$6,700,000 worth of other livestock. Marketings of all meat animals were a

little over \$74,000,000, up \$3,000,000 from a year earlier and the total on all livestock and livestock products was \$164,287,000 or \$9,200,000 off from 1953.

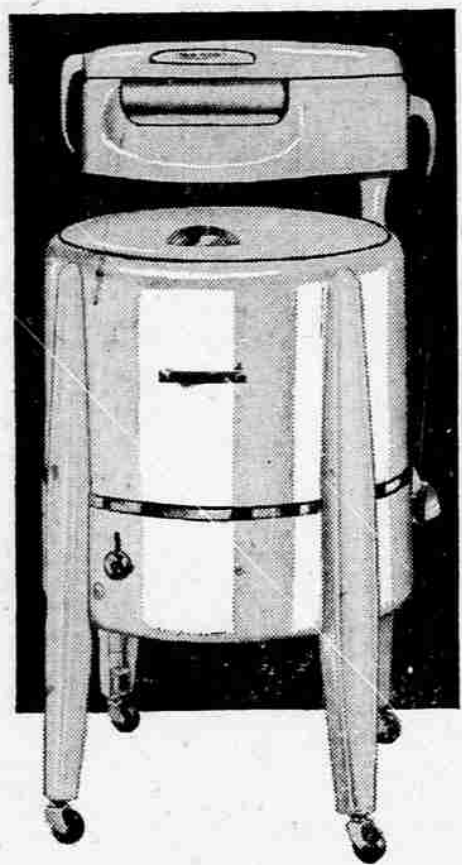
Barley Second
On the crop side of the picture, barley ranked second for a single commodity, bringing in \$15,000,000 or \$5,000,000 more than in 1953. Snap beans and potatoes

each produced more than \$1,000,000 of farm income and hay was worth \$7,600,000. Seeds were worth \$18,340,000 with common rye grass producing \$6,800,000 of seed total.

As a group, fruits and nuts at \$50,800,000 held fairly even with 1953. The vegetable group at \$34,800,000 was off almost \$4,000,000. For the sixth straight

year, pears brought the largest cash receipts of any of the tree fruits, berries or nut crops. Pears grossed \$13,400,000.

JUST ONE
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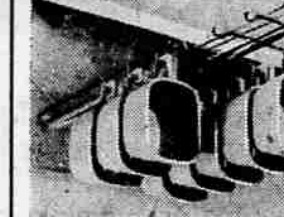
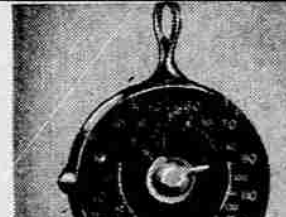
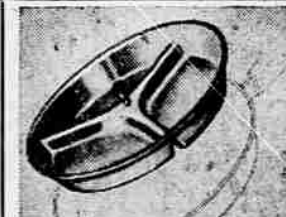
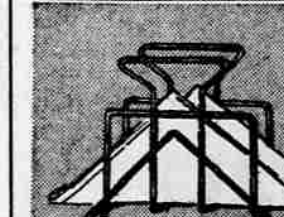
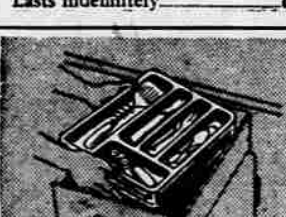
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