

Shoppers Buying More Food, Says Agricultural Economist

Corvallis—Food shoppers are not only paying for more convenience in ready-mixed and prepared foods, but are actually buying larger quantities of food for each member of the family, reports Mrs. Elvera Horrell, Oregon State college agricultural economist.

Last year, the average person ate one per cent more food than in 1954 and 14 per cent more than in prewar years. But with incomes continuing upward, the big increase in food spending went for convenience. Precooked and other time-saving food items are crowding the "old staples" off the grocers' shelves.

Today's brides are in the kitchen less than one-fourth as much as their mothers. Many wives are working outside the home to earn the money to help pay for today's conveniences, the economist says.

Billions Spent
Americans spent an estimated \$46.3 billion for U. S. farm-produced foods in 1955. This record spending was about two-thirds of a billion more than in 1954 with the increase going for marketing services.

At the same time, the amount paid to farmers decreased from \$18.8 billion in 1954 to \$18.3 billion in 1955—a cut of half a billion dollars, says Mrs. Horrell. As 1955 ended, the nation's farmers were receiving less than 40 cents out of each dollar spent by consumers. Five years earlier they were getting 48 cents.

The half billion dollar drop in amounts paid to farmers was more than made up in what it cost to get the products from the store. The cost of putting farm

products on the market went from \$26.8 billion in 1954 to \$28 billion in 1955.

Marketing researchers report that labor is the largest single cost in the marketing bill. Wages for employees of food manufacturing firms averaged \$1.77 an hour last October compared with \$1.67 an hour a year earlier.

Elk-Trail PTA Elects Officers

Elk-Trail—Mrs. Arthur Hume was reelected president of the Elk-Trail PTA. The association at elections held March 2 at the school cafeteria. Mrs. Leroy Anderson is the new vice-president; Mrs. Jouy Le Marc, secretary, and Mrs. Charles Fry, treasurer.

Delegate to a state parent teacher convention to be held April 18 and 19 at Eugene will be Mrs. Hume.

The next study group, conducted by Miss Mary Ellen Bell, is planned for the afternoon of March 15 at the school.

Jackson County Council of Parents and Teachers will hold the final meeting of the year at the Elk-Trail school March 21. The school is located one-eighth mile from the Crater Lake highway on Elk creek, three miles above Trail.

Women of the vicinity are asked to take or send salads for the luncheon that day.

A game night for the vicinity will be held March 16 in the school gymnasium. The next Elk-Trail PTA meeting will be held April 13 at 8 p.m.

Veterans, Auxiliary Plan Dinner Session Next Sunday at Hall

A meeting and potluck dinner will be held Sunday, March 18 at 1 p.m. in Redman hall for the members of Colonel Sargent Camp and auxiliary, United Spanish War Veterans auxiliary. Mrs. Josephine Widner and her committee will have charge of the dinner.

Mrs. James Cech, Auxiliary president, asks members to attend the coming hobby show at the domiciliary, Camp White. Mrs. Harry Barneburg is chairman of a committee to arrange for the show judges.

Gold Hill Rebekahs Accept Invitation For Friendship Night

Gold Hill—Plans to attend a Friendship night observance March 21 at Mt. Pitt Rebekah lodge, Central Point, were made by Amethyst Rebekah lodge members at a meeting held last Wednesday.

Mrs. Paul Molloy was in charge of entertainment Wednesday evening and refreshments were served by Mrs. Harry Quinn, Mrs. Fred Lester and Mrs. Harry Newnham.

Ontario, Canada, has a lake and river area estimated at 80,000 square miles.



These five young musicians will be featured in the annual spring concert of the Eve Prentice Accordion band set for Monday, March 12, at 8 p.m. in Medford Senior High school auditorium. They are (left to right) Miss Sharon Roberts, Miss Karen Britton, Gerald Fanger, Miss Melody Pierce and Miss Oveta Walden. The Rev. Elcho Redding, a former member of the band, will serve as master of ceremonies.

Fashion at Crossroads Irish Designer Declares

By ELIZABETH TOOMEY
United Press Correspondent

New York—U.P.—A week in Manhattan:

Fashion is at "a strange crossroads," Irish designer Sybil Connolly said when she arrived here to appear in various cities with her Dublin-made dresses.

Miss Connolly says she could not quite decide which direction the work would take when she worked on her spring and summer collection. But now she has made up her mind.

"I feel that this easy-fit thing has been evolving for several seasons and it has reached its peak," she said. "You know, men don't like it terribly."

"I think women are going to start looking very feminine. They will start dressing for men."

This will rule out straight, loose daytime clothes, Miss Connolly predicted. We'll show off our shapes from dawn through dusk.

"It will happen," she added, "in next fall's collections."

Most unusual visitor of the week: Wagonia Schmidt, 14, Indian girl from Chillicothe, Okla., who arrived wearing a skirt she had woven and carrying a ceremonial dress she said had just been cleaned with clay.

The shy teenager represented her agricultural high school cooking class, winner in Seventeen magazine's annual recipe contest. The girls put together a buckskin-bound collection of 20 tribal dishes, including Wagonia's Indian fry bread.

"It is nothing for me to go out and shoot a squirrel before supper," Wagonia said.

Beaded leather dresses always are cleaned with clay, she explained. She brought the dress to wear on television.

One famous Paris fashion designer, 10 models, two wardrobe mistresses and four other assistants arrived here yesterday on one of the shortest trips for the most expensive fashion show ever held.

The \$100-per-ticket fashion show, held tonight from 8:30 to midnight in a Park Avenue hotel, features the complete current collections of Cristobal Balenciaga and Hubert de Givenchy.

They must be back in the Paris showrooms by Monday morning, along with the 10 models and six helpers, to open for business as usual.

This is the first time French designers have brought their entire collections here for showing during a season. And it may be the last, since complications have dogged the arrangements for days.

Givenchy and Balenciaga both planned to come. But only Gi-

venchy arrived because Balenciaga is sick with bronchial pneumonia in Zurich.

The entire group arrived at Orlo Airport outside Paris to leave Wednesday night and were grounded by a "flash strike." They drove to Brussels and caught a 2 a.m. flight.

Then they ran into customs complications. Finally U. S. immigration officials agreed to put on an extra night shift at Idlewild Airport to speed the inspection of scores of beautiful outfits.

Who pays \$100 to see the results of all this trouble? Some 400 people bought tickets, including Gretta Garbo and Marlene Dietrich. It is a charity function, with the American Hospital of Paris receiving the net proceeds.

Signs of the times: Three of the parlor games featured at the toy fair here this week are a murder-solving game, a dice-controlled uranium race and a junior tycoon game where youngsters can practice selling such New York real estate as the Empire State Building and Yankee Stadium.

Club Session Set At Fichtner Home; Banquet Planned
Pythian Sisters' club will meet Tuesday, at 8 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Carl Fichtner, 613 South Holly street, with Mrs. Audley White as co-hostess.

Past Chiefs' club of Pythian Sisters met last week at the home of Mrs. Baker Yarbrough. After luncheon, cards were played, with prizes being won by Mrs. Della Watkins and Mrs. Ida Ireland. The next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. Watkins.

Another in the series of Past Chief card parties is planned for next Thursday evening at 8 p.m. at the home of Mrs. George Bryant, 3384 Forrest avenue, with Mrs. Ruth Dodge assisting.

Pythian Sisters met last Tuesday evening. It was voted to have a banquet when Mrs. Harry Bryant, grand chief, makes her official visit, April 3. Officers and staff members will practice initiation at the next meeting.

The refreshment committee was Mrs. Mildred Blachley and Mrs. George Thomas.

DAV Auxiliary To Hold Party
A St. Patrick's party is planned by the auxiliary to the Disabled American Veterans for Tuesday, March 13 at 8 p.m., in the DAV hall at 1515 North Riverside avenue. Women who attend are to take cookies or sandwiches.

Flowers All Season Assured By Choosing Right Varieties

By EDNA MANDEVILLE

A sure sign of a good gardener is the ability to have "plenty of flowers" in bloom from early spring to late fall. Actually, this ability isn't hard to acquire. Only a little extra care in choosing varieties is necessary.

The earliest flowers to bloom are the perennials, whose roots lie dormant over the winter and revive early in the spring. This revival occurs even before the ground is warm enough for seeds to germinate. Of course, early blooming of perennials must be planned a year ahead. Planted in the spring, some may appear late the first season, but the real blooming takes place a year later.

There are many wonderful perennials, and sometimes I think the amazing way certain varieties bloom almost before the weather warms up is one of the greater thrills in gardening.

Early Perennials
Very early varieties include arabis (rock cress), aubrietia (rainbow rock cress), gold dust allyssum (the common name for saxatile), and Siberian wallflower. Other sturdy perennials that bloom quite early and continue to do so well into summer include blue flax, carnation, columbine, English daisy, forget-me-not, clove pinks, maiden pink, delphinium, foxglove, Russell lupine, painted daisy, Iceland poppies and sweet william.

Mid season perennials would include balloon flower, gypsophila, hollyhock and hibiscus.

Of the several fine columbines, I personally prefer the "Mrs. Scott Elliott's", a long-spurred variety with an unusually wide range of brilliant colors.

Chinese lantern is another extremely popular perennial but not for early blossoming. Late in the fall its pods turn to an enchanting orange, looking for all the world like tiny lighted Chinese lanterns. Hanging from the stalks, one below another, there are sometimes a dozen on a single stalk. They are long-lasting indoors and add a wonderful touch of warm color to any room.

Next to bloom after the perennials are the hardy annuals. The roots of all annuals die at the end of the season. The strength of the plant goes into the production of blossoms and seeds. As a result, annual flowers tend to be larger, more colorful and more abundant than perennials.

Hardy Annuals
Hardy annuals are just what the name implies. Cold weather doesn't faze these stout-hearted flower fighters a bit. Their seeds germinate earlier than those of other annuals, and when sown in early spring many of them are the first to bloom after the perennials. There are numberless hardy annuals, among the most popular and earliest to bloom being bachelor's buttons, calendula, poppy, larkspur and candytuft.

With plans made for the perennials and early blooming annuals, you can next turn your attention to the selection of reg-

Gold Star Mothers

Announce Luncheon

Gold Star Mothers will meet for luncheon Tuesday, March 13 at 12:30 p.m., at the home of Mrs. Archie Parker, 436 Laurel street in Central Point. The meal will be a potluck event.

New York — (U.P.) — One

French makeup expert, on a tour of the United States, forecasts a pale complexion as the smart one for spring and summer. Guy Nicolet of Elizabeth Arden explained, "It's a pale, subtle look. But... we are not asking women to play Camille."

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