

ARMORED SANTA
 Racine, Wis. — (U.P.) — Santa Claus came to town in an armored car. Sources close to the bearded gent said he did so because there wasn't any snow and to assure protection of his gifts.

ARE AT 86
 Searsport, Me. — (U.P.) — Mrs. May Inne was 16 years old when she started painting, and this local "Grandma Moses" is still turning out canvases some 70 years later.

Value of U.S. Crop Production In 1956 Set at \$18,973,732,000

Washington—(U.P.)—The Agriculture Department said today the value of crops produced in the United States this year was a whopping \$18,973,732,000. This compares with a 1955 crop production valued at \$18,575,494,000.

The department's summary of crop values was based on what farmers received for field, forage, and miscellaneous crops; fruits and nuts; major seed crops; and commercial vegetables. In all, 79 crops were valued.

Corn, as usual, was the biggest money maker. The 1956

Wheat was next with a 1956 value of \$1,969,806,000, compared with \$1,854,189,000 in 1955.

The other more than billion dollar crops were tobacco and soybeans. Soybeans reached the billion dollar status for the first time with a value of \$1,011,716,000. Last year soybeans were valued at \$830,603,000.

Other big money makers included oats, \$807 million; barley, \$366 million; rice, \$222 million; sorghum grain, \$244 million; peanuts, \$174 million; potatoes, \$518 million; sugar beets, \$154 million; apples, \$234 million; peaches, \$137 million; grapes, \$151 million; oranges, \$315 million; lettuce, \$133 million; and tomatoes, \$273.8 million.

The largest per unit price paid was \$806 a ton for almonds. The smallest was 14 cents a pound for mung beans. Last year the mung bean price was seven cents a pound.

The crop value summary by states showed California in first place with \$1,770,296,000. Last year the California total was \$1,652,900,000.

Totals for other states as compared with 1955 included: Arizona \$281 million and \$240 million; Idaho \$265 million and \$254 million; Nevada \$18 million and \$15 million; Utah \$74 million and \$70 million; Washington 349 million and \$333 million.

Does Ike Need License To Fish in New Hampshire?

Concord, N. H. — (U.P.) — When President Eisenhower goes fishing, shouldn't he get a license just like any other angler?

Or, after all, since he's the President, couldn't the rules be relaxed, just a trifle?

Hot, angry words are still being exchanged over this weighty question in New Hampshire, two years after Mr. Eisenhower tried his luck against the wily trout here.

The feud is between Gov. Lane Dwinell and Fish and Game Director Ralph G. Carpenter, Carpenter, Dwinell said at a budget hearing Wednesday, said that in order to issue Mr. Eisenhower a license, "We'll have to have his height, weight and color of eyes and hair, along with a personal signature."

Dwinell said this was nonsense. And he overruled Carpenter, he said.

But that wasn't all. Dwinell said Carpenter wanted to charge \$16 a day for use of state conservation officers attached to Mr. Eisenhower's party. And he had to be overruled again.

Carpenter replied the license

episode was a misunderstanding, and "just one of those things." As for the presidential detail, he said members of his commission felt there should be some provision for payment since conservation officer salaries come from license fees.

Said Dwinell: "I'm sick and tired of the continued lack of cooperation from your department."

Far West Steel Consumption Sets All-Time Record

Oakland, Calif. — (U.P.) — Kaiser Steel Corporation reported Wednesday that steel consumption in the Far West in 1956 reached an estimated all-time high of 6.5 million tons, 200,000 tons above last year's record.

In a report to consumers, the steel company said year-end indications point to a peacetime high in Far West steel consumption this year, despite the 35-day national steel strike and the national decline in steel consumption. The report covered steel used in California, Oregon, Washington, Arizona, Utah, Nevada and Idaho.

Despite record production of the western mills in 1955, they were able to supply only about half of the demands of the Western states' market, the report said.

Southern California, the largest western market for most steel products, received 42 per cent of all Western steel receipts in 1955. Northern California took 31 per cent, down 4 per cent from 1954. The Mountain States upped their share of western receipts from 11 per cent to 71 per cent, while Oregon and Washington retained their previous 16 per cent.

Because of increased uses of steel by western manufacturers, Kaiser predicted the 1957 supply would probably be short. Kaiser said its \$113 million expansion program at its Fontana, Calif., mill which will increase production by 40 per cent, will not be felt until 1958.

Research Important Part of Seal Program

The importance of research financed by the Christmas Seal program can not be overstressed. Dr. Alvin Roberts, president of the Jackson county Medical Society, said recently.

Dr. Roberts noted that about one-third of the people in the United States are carrying tuberculosis germs.

Medical and surgical techniques in treating the disease have greatly improved in the past 20 years and the scope of the prevention work is being broadened and intensified by the local public health organization, he said. It is research that public health officials look to control the disease, he added.

The aim of tuberculosis research is to produce a vaccine comparable in effectiveness and safety to the smallpox vaccine or the diphtheria toxoid and suitable for administration to individuals regardless of their reaction to tuberculin, Dr. Roberts said.

Eisenhowers Plan Family Christmas

Washington — (U.P.) — President Eisenhower and Mrs. Eisenhower have decided to celebrate Christmas in the White House again this year in probably an old-fashioned family style.

Presidential Press Secretary James C. Hagerly gave out no details in announcing that the first family will spend Christmas in the executive mansion. But it is more than likely, the Eisenhower children and grandchildren will be on hand as they were last year.

The White House already is decorated with poinsettias, mistletoes, greenery and Christmas trees including a giant silver-trimmed tree flanked by a manger scene in the east ballroom.

OLD REGISTER
 Boston — (U.P.) — Still in daily use at the men's bar in the Locke-Ober Restaurant is an 1885-model cash register. So little is known about the complex works of the ancient machine that it cost the management \$200 for repairs the last time it got out of kilter.

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Washington — (U.P.) — Crops in Oregon during 1956 were worth \$23 million more than in 1955, according to figures released today by the Agriculture Department.

The 1956 Oregon total crop value was valued at \$4,571,274,000, up from the 1955 value of \$4,360,633,000.

Cotton Crop Second

The cotton crop, including cottonseed, was in second place with a value of \$2,444,053,000. In 1955 the value was \$2,648,292,000.

Hay was third, valued at \$2,302,110,000, compared with the 1955 value of \$2,342,230,000.

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