

Migrant Workers Real Tragedy in Florida Cold Spell

Miami — The real tragedy of freezing weather in Florida is reflected in the dark and drawn faces of the migrant farm workers.

There are around 80,000 of the wandering nomads of the bean and tomato fields and citrus groves who come to Florida each winter.

A series of bad weather spells — among the worst in the last 63 years for Florida — destroyed many crops. When there are no crops to be picked, the migrant farm worker, his wife and children literally have nothing. No work. No pay.

A nurse brought a week-old infant into a Dade county welfare department clinic explaining, "It hasn't had any milk in four days. The mother was feeding it somehow with a mixture of oatmeal and water."

Scenes Repeated
Such scenes were repeated a thousandfold through the Florida farm and citrus belts in the wake of the bad weather. First came a hard freeze Dec. 12-13, which ruined nearly 20 per cent of a record citrus crop, destroyed nearly all the winter vegetables except those under cultivation south of Miami.

Heavy rains arrived with the new year, flooding more crops. They were the finishing blow to tomatoes, beans, potatoes and corn in the vast Everglades growing region around Lake Okeechobee.

Another freeze came Jan. 8-9, adding to the woes of the citrus industry and cattle ranchers.

State officials predicted recently the loss of Florida crops will mean that 15,000 farm workers will be destitute between Feb. 1 and Mar. 15, when work opens on the spring crops.

Throughout the recent freezes and floods, Dade

Ford Demotes Edsel Division As Sales Drop

Detroit — Ford Motor company has demoted its Edsel division and promoted its foreign small car operations, another recognition of the decline of the medium priced cars and rise of the small cars.

Henry Ford II, president of the company, Wednesday climaxed weeks of rumors and personnel shifts in the Edsel division by making it a part of the Lincoln-Mercury division.

At the same time, Ford announced the company's imported English cars will also be handled through the new division, which will have responsibility for all cars except the Fords.

"In the past year, changing competitive conditions have put new emphasis on the importance of both the medium-price and the imported car markets," Ford said.

The "changing competitive conditions" have seen the medium-priced cars sink from a lush 60 per cent of the market in 1954-55 to less than 30 per cent in the final quarter of 1957.

Sales of foreign small car imports became the "1957 automotive story of the year" by climbing to about 200,000 with predictions of 350,000 sales in 1958. While this year's sales totaled only about 4 per cent of the market, the "Big Three" auto firms are all moving to get into the small car market.

Edsel, with four series of models blanketing the medium price field, had aimed at 200,000 sales in the first year. Its sales since its introduction in September have totaled about 25,000.

Henry Ford II said there would be no change in the individual merchandising, advertising and dealer franchising of the Lincoln-Continental and Mercury and Edsel on an individual basis.

Adult Classes Are Scheduled at School

Adult education classes sponsored by the Medford school system will start the week of Jan. 27, Lindsay Vinzel, director of adult and vocational education, has announced.

Courses in arts, crafts, homemaking, nursing, business and general education will be offered, he said. Registration will take place by telephone at the Medford High school starting Monday, Jan. 20, and continuing through Friday, Jan. 24, he added.

Linton, Ind. — Mrs. Marion Bennett dug a sweet potato from her garden that tipped the scales at four pounds.



CELEBRATING 45TH BIRTHDAY, Vice President Richard M. Nixon is congratulated by members of staff in Washington office. They all chipped in for cake. (International)

VA Will Provide Account Statements

An income tax service for Oregon veterans and others whose "direct" home loans are held by Veterans administration will be provided by the VA regional office in Portland, S. T. Brannock, officer in charge, Veterans administration office, Medford, has announced.

Brannock said the office will mail to each such borrower a statement of his account, including interest and taxes paid during calendar year 1957, which he may use for income tax purposes if he

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MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—THREE

wishes to itemize his deductions.

The statements will be mailed not later than Jan. 15, he said. Brannock emphasized that the statements will be sent only to those veterans whose mortgages are held by the VA under the direct GI loan program and to other borrowers who have purchased properties acquired by the VA.

He said the service will not include those whose VA guaranteed mortgages are held by private lenders or individuals. The latter must obtain whatever statements they need from the lenders or those currently holding the mortgages.

Dollar Value of Building Declines

Seattle — The dollar value of building permits in the five Pacific Coast states in 1957 was the lowest since 1954, according to Pacific Architect and Builder, business magazine, Seattle. The total for 1957 for Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and California was \$2,334,567,124; for 1956, \$2,563,972,674; 1955, \$2,500,425,102; and 1954, \$2,227,227,495.

Idaho is the only state showing consistent gains while California, Oregon, Washington and Montana are below

1956 and 1955.
Of the 116 key agencies reporting, 40 per cent showed a gain in 1957.
Total for Oregon in 1957 was \$116,91,827, a \$23,023,278 drop from the 1956 total of \$139,945,105.

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Usually 39c a yard!

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Usual price 6 for 1.74

Women's Knit Rayon Panties

Elastic leg style gives smooth, comfortable fit. White . . . in sizes S, M, L. Only because of a special purchase can we offer these spectacular savings. Hurry, 6 to a customer!

NO. 30

SALE

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Usually 59c and 69c each!

Men's Cotton Knit Underwear

Expertly-made athletic shirts, T-shirts, briefs, boxer or gripper shorts. Full-out sizes S, M, L; shorts 30 to 44. Quantities limited to three of each style to a customer.

NO. 31

SALE

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Usual 8.95 Quaker Lace

Dinner Cloth . . . Save 57%!

Fabulous special purchase makes this possible! Elegant lace . . . boasts machine-washable, EASY-iron practicality! 70x80", gracefully scalloped; ecru. 1 to customer!

SAVE 1/4 - 1/3 - 1/2 and MORE off WARDS original low low Prices!

NO. 14

SALE!

99¢

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Washable and sanforized, these wonderful shirts have two button-through pockets, dress-type collars and double stitched main seams. Limit 2 to a customer.

7.59 10% WOOL BLANKET	5 ONLY	\$4.00
10% Wool, 90% Rayon, 72x90"		
2.98 FASHION WOOLENS	YD.	\$1.49
Solid colors, tweeds, 54 in. wide.		
2.93 MEN'S UNION SUITS		\$1.98
Med. weight cotton. Short or long sleeves		
12.98 MEN'S MELTON JACKETS	5 ONLY	\$8.99
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6.98 MEN'S RAIN COATS		\$3.99
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WOMEN'S NYLON RAIN BOOTS

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MEN'S WORK RUBBERS, 2-BUCKLE RUBBERS

LIMITED QUANTITIES, BROKEN SIZES

49.98 Orlon, Dynel Short Coat	1 Only	\$35
9.98 Girls Car Coat, Size 7	1 Only	\$ 6
12.98 Girls' Car Coat, size 8	1 Only	\$ 7
12.98 Girls' Winter Coats, 8-12	4 Only	\$ 8
16.98 Girls' Winter Coats, 7-14		\$10
19.98 Girls' Winter Coats, 7-14		\$13
15.98 Mid-Teen Car Coats, 10-12	2 Only	\$10
19.98 Mid-Teen Winter Coats, 8-14		\$13
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24.98 Teen-Ager Winter Coats	10-16 4 Only	\$16
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12.98 Misses, Women's Dresses		\$ 8
15.98 Misses, Women's Dresses		\$ 6
17.98 Misses, Women's Dresses		\$ 9
5.98, 6.98 Street Dresses		\$ 4
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