

April 1, 1948

### FARMERS BUSY AS PLANTING SEASON NEARS

Preparation of land, seed and machinery for the big spring planting program is now underway through the Klamath country's sprawling agricultural area.

Plowing is fairly general. In the southern part of the district grain is being seeded, and there is some seeding of peas and a little vetch. There has been some planting of onions.

There is much activity at this time in getting potato seed ready, including purchasing, delivery, dipping, etc. Early potato planting is expected about April 15, but the main planting will hit high gear about May 1.

The farming area is unusually wet for this time of year, with the season from two to three weeks behind normal. This is not an unfavorable sign, however, as farm experts have observed that late years are usually good crop years in this country.

### FEED WHEAT CAN BE OBTAINED THIS YEAR

Feed wheat to help county farmers meet livestock and poultry goals is again available from Commodity Credit stocks, Currell Short, chairman of the county AAA committee, announced yesterday.

The feed wheat program, halted a month ago when the original allocation of 125,000-000 bushels was exhausted, has been resumed as a result of passage of a bill by congress authorizing the sale of another 100,000,000 bushels of government-owned wheat.

Under price schedules announced for March, the wheat is available in this county at a cost of \$1.04 a bushel, or \$34.65 a ton. April prices have not been announced, and it is possible that new prices will be slightly higher, the chairman said.

Under the original program, wheat was offered at the equivalent of 85 per cent of the corn parity price. The bill passed by congress last week authorizing the sale of an additional amount increased the price to the equivalent of full parity for corn.

### DO REPAIRING NOW, ADVICE TO FARMER

Farmers needing repairs on their trucks and other equipment should have it taken care of immediately, Marshall Nauman, district manager ODT, announced today.

With an ever increasing shortage of parts and mechanics, those farmers whose equipment needs repairs should not wait until time to move their crops to have this needed repair taken care of.

By getting this equipment in shape before crop hauling starts, they can help prevent any tie-up of transportation due to mechanical difficulties, and move their vital foodstuffs to market without interruption.

This step will also aid the already overtaxed garages who are having their own problems. The shortage of manpower does not permit the fast advice that they were able to give before the war.

In following this plan the farmer will not only benefit himself, but also greatly aid the garage men in scheduling their activity, Nauman stated.

**TIRES FOR TRACTORS**  
Enough rear-wheel tractor tires to equip 13,000 to 14,000 new farm tractors have been released, and action is being taken to release completed farm implements in time for spring planting. Also, farmers can obtain tires for tractors now in service by applying to local OPA rationing boards. At the same time, Food Production Director Townsend announced that he is seeking a 1944 farm machinery allotment as large as the number distributed in 1942.

### Home or Hotbed Planting Gives V Garden Head Start



A protective frame like the one pictured above, for getting Victory garden seedlings off to an early start, is easily built by the home handyman—or woman.

Prepared by the U. S. Department of Agriculture for NEA Service

To add to the pleasure of gardening and get an early start, many Victory gardeners will want to start their supply of early plants in the house or in a hotbed. In some cases it will be possible for groups of gardeners to club together in the construction of hotbed facilities.

Among the garden crops which may be started to good advantage in house boxes or hotbeds are tomatoes, early cabbage, peppers, eggplant, and lettuce. Cucumbers, melons and squashes may be started indoors by using flower boxes, paper bands, or berry boxes to hold the soil.

#### WATCH TEMPERATURE

Where just a few tomato and cabbage plants are desired, the seeds may be sown in a cigar box or in a shallow pan with a few holes punched in the bottom for drainage. Any shallow box that may be fitted into a window where there is a reasonable amount of sunlight will serve for starting early plants.

After filling the box with sifted soil, smooth it off and press down slightly. Use the edge of a ruler or a strip of thin board to

form little grooves or furrows in which to plant the seeds. These little rows should be about two inches apart and one-fourth inch deep.

Scatter the seeds of tomato, early cabbage, pepper and eggplant very thinly in the rows and cover by sifting a small quantity of soil over the entire surface. Smooth the top gently and water very lightly.

The box then should be placed where the temperature will remain at about 70 degrees F. If conditions are kept right, the seed will come up in 5 to 8 days. The seedlings will require constant care, especially watering.

As the light comes from one side only, the seedlings will draw toward the window; the box should be turned each day to keep the plants from growing crooked. As soon as the plants are large enough to handle, they should be transplanted to other boxes and given 2 or 3 inches of space on each side.

#### HOW TO MAKE FRAME

For a larger number of early plants, a hotbed or coldframe may be used. The usual construction method is to dig a shallow

low pit 8 to 18 inches deep, according to locality, and pack it full of fermenting stable manure. Before being placed in the pit, the manure should be turned once or twice in a pile to insure even heating, then packed into the pit and tamped uniformly. Standard hotbed sash is 3 by 6 feet and the size of the bed should be made to suit the number of sashes to be used. A framework of boards 18 to 24 inches high at the back and about 12 inches high in front is placed over the pit to support the sash covering.

About 2 or 4 inches of fine garden loam is spread evenly over the manure and the bed is allowed to stand four or five days to warm up before the seeds are sown. At first the temperature of the bed will run rather high and it is best to delay the planting until it begins to decline. This best can be determined by placing a thermometer with the bulb about 3 inches below the surface of the soil and waiting until the temperature falls below 85 degrees F. before planting the seeds.

#### BEWARE OVERHEATING

If glazed sash is not available, heavy muslin may be used to cover the hotbed. Glass is most desirable. Care must be taken to give the bed enough ventilation to prevent overheating, as it may heat up rapidly when the sun shines directly on the glass. Watering should be done during the early part of the day and the bed given enough air so that the plants will dry off before night.

The bed should be closed before evening to conserve the heat for the lower temperature at night. If the weather should turn severely cold, straw, blankets or canvas may be thrown over the bed for protection.

A cold frame is constructed in the same way as a hotbed, except no manure is put under it to supply heat. Before plants are set in the garden from a hotbed or coldframe, they should be gradually hardened to outside conditions by giving them more ventilation each day. Finally, remove the sash entirely in bright days and replace it at night. The aim should be to produce strong, healthy plants that will make a quick start when set out in the garden.

(Next: Use and preparation of garden products.)

Who remembers the good old days when they gave bandits plenty of rope?

### Weekly Market Trends

(Editor's Note: The following market information is supplied from material obtained over the government leased wire in the office of the extension economist at Oregon State College. The material, in the form of a weekly summary of trends in the livestock market, is not intended to replace spot day by day market reports.)

#### CATTLE MARKETS

A moderate supply of cattle was received at North Portland Monday, with 1200 available for local trading. Prices on steers and heifers were up as much as 25 cents compared with last week's close. Medium to good fed steers brought mostly \$15 to \$16, while one extra good load reached a new high of \$16.40. Even fed Holsteins brought \$14 to \$15, while ordinary fat dairy type cows sold at \$9.50 to \$10.50. Good steers at San Francisco weighing 900 pounds brought up to \$16.25. The Chicago market was uneven, with choice heavy weight steers reaching a top at \$17.50, although most fed steers and yearlings ranged between \$14.75 and \$17.

#### SHEEP AND LAMB MARKETS

While 1600 sheep and lambs arrived at North Portland over last weekend, only 600 of these were available for local trading,

one of the smallest offerings in many months. While good to choice grades were lacking, there was demand for these at prices up to \$15.75, while medium to good lambs were fully steady at \$14 to \$15.25. San Francisco reported no offerings in the fat lamb market, although good to choice woolled lambs were quoted up to \$15.50. Both Chicago and Omaha prices sagged from 15 to 25 cents, with tops of \$16.35 and \$16, respectively.

In the San Joaquin valley small and medium sized bands of lambs were contracted at \$14.50 to \$14.60. Limited contracting is also reported in the Sacramento valley on lambs for delivery in late April and May at \$14 to \$15.25 straight across, and \$14.50 fat basis. Most of the Imperial valley spring lambs have been sold at a few other bands of early lambs in southern California sold up to \$15.25 delivered at Los Angeles.

#### HOG MARKETS

A fairly heavy run of hogs last week reaching a total of 3500 head was continued on Monday, when 2100 were offered for local trading. Good to choice 180-225 pound slaughter hogs brought mostly \$16.25, while heavier weights sold at \$15.50 to \$15.75. A slight weakness in the market at San Francisco is reported, with an extreme top of \$16.50. At Chicago the top price was \$15.95, or 30 cents below the Portland price.

One of the largest supplies of trucked-in hogs was responsible for last week's heavy receipts in Portland. Relatively high local prices were believed responsible for the increased offerings. One thing noted by dealers was that the hogs were heavier than usual, with most lots weighing above 210 pounds.

Hog slaughter accounted for most of a big increase in federally inspected slaughter in 1942. The average weight of inspected hogs slaughtered was more than four pounds above the previous record. Total inspected slaughter was approximately 15 1/2 billion pounds compared with a previous record of about 13 1/2 billion pounds.

#### WOOL MARKETS

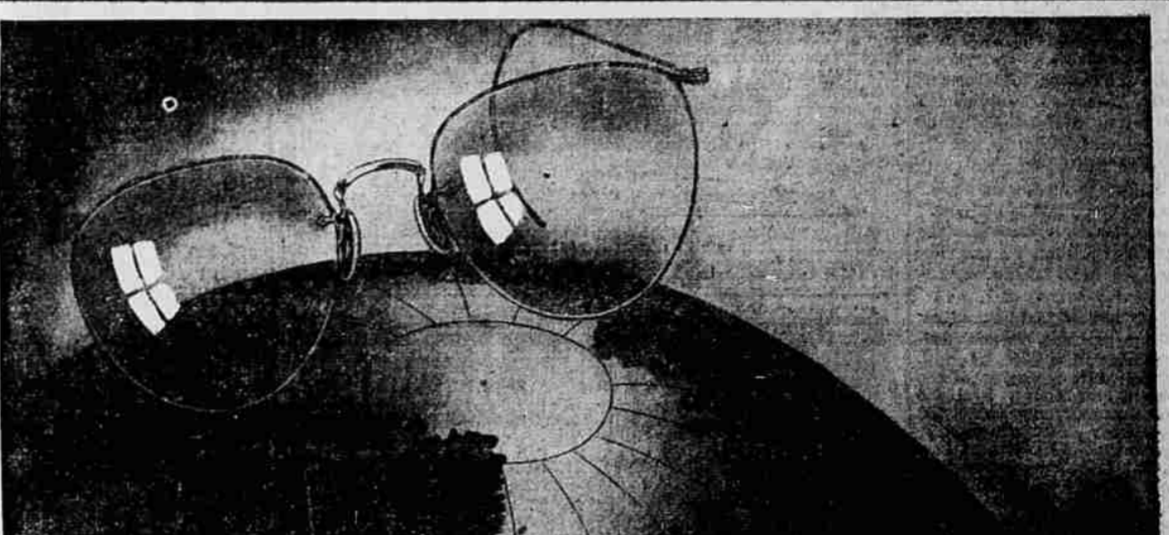
Both domestic and foreign wools were in active demand at Boston last week, in view of expected orders for wool cloth from the quartermaster corps. Original bag southern California wools, the bulk of which were fine, were bought at a delivered Boston clean price of \$1.10 to \$1.14. Contracting was active in Montana, Washington, northern California, Wyoming and Texas, with prices at or close to ceilings. Some shearing is already started in the fleece wool states, although shearing in the middle west has been impeded by cold weather and rains. Some Michigan sales were reported at 47 and 48 cents for clean, and 40 cents for rejects. A mixed lot of Idaho, running bulk to three-eighths was sold on sample at Boston at a grease price of 47 cents.

#### SLAUGHTER REGULATIONS

Farmers and local butchers who sell meat and who are not registered with the OPA may obtain slaughter permits any time now. Slaughterers must stamp their permit number at least once on each wholesale cut delivered after March 31. Permits to farmers and to local butchers and meat packers in small towns will be issued by the county USDA war boards.

#### GOODS TO ALLIES

At present about 15 per cent of total United States munitions production is going to our allies under lend-lease and by direct purchase.



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#### NO POINTS ON THESE FOODS

APPLE JUICE	8oz. Qtz. Bottle	25c	GRAPEFRUIT	No-Nada-Sugar, size 46, 4 for	47c
TENDERONI	2 Pkg.	19c	APPLES	Imperial Newtown Large Size 40-Lb. Box	3.25
PEANUT BUTTER	Skippy 1-Lb. Jar	39c	APPLES	Fancy Delicious from Yakima 40-Lb. Box	2.75
PEANUT BUTTER	Carden 1-Lb. Jar	53c	ORANGES	Fancy Large 100 Size 40-Lb. Box	59c
PRUNES	1-Lb. Cello Bag	30c	ASPARAGUS	Fancy U. S. No. 1 1 Lb.	25c
HI-NO CRACKERS	Lgn. Pkg.	21c	RADISHES	AND GREEN ONIONS, 1 BU.	13c
SNOWFLAKE CRACKERS	1-Lb. Box	33c			
CREAMED HONEY	14oz.	29c			
SUNBRITE	3 for	14c			

#### QUALITY "POINT FREE" FOODS

Rice	M. J. B. 2-Lb. Pkg.	25c	Strawberry Preserves	Fancy Royal Club — 2-Lb. Jar	63c
Rice	In bulk, Fancy Blue Rose 3-Lb. Cello Bag	35c	Coffee Stretcher	Bulke—Doubles coffee ration. Lb. Pkg.	18c
Olives	La Mirada Large Ripe Pint Tin	29c	Clorox	1/2 Gallon	25c
Dill Pickles	C.H.B. 34-Oz. Jar	35c	Sego Milk	Case 4.79; Tall Tin	10c

(*) BEANS Small White, 1 Lb.	20c
(*) BABY LIMAS 1 Lb.	24c
(*) CUT BEANS Lane County No. 1 Tin	15c
(*) ASPARAGUS Royal Club All Green, 1-Lb. Tin	29c
(*) ASPARAGUS Royal Club All Green, 10 1/2-Oz. Tin	21c
(*) CATSUP Large Bottle	15c
(*) PEAS Libby's No. 1 Tin	15c
(*) SALMON With-worth Pink 1-Lb. Tin	25c
(*) TUNA FISH White Star, 7-Oz. Tin	35c
(*) SWIFT'S PREM 17-Oz. Tin	35c

Saturday Only	
FRESH POULTRY	
JONES COLORED FRYERS	As Long as They Last
COLORED HENS	Lb. 39c
TURKEYS	Lb. 47c
FRESH FISH	
Halibut	Lb. 39c
Salmon	Lb. 39c
Fish-by-the-piece	Lb. 37c
Smelt—Long as they last	
No Points Necessary on These Items	

SPERRY'S PANCAKE and WAFFLE FLOUR 9.8-Lb. Bag 59c BISQUICK Large Pkg. 32c

Flour	Swansdown 48-Lb. Bag	\$2.09
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GRADE A EGGS	LARGE SIZE	DOZ. . . . 36c
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