Billion Bushel Wheat Crop To Be Moved Soon, Car Situation Said Improved

CHICAGO, May 20—(AP) Railroads which soon will start to move the first billion bushel winter wheat crop in the nation's history reported today that their box car supply situation was improved over last year.

However, they agreed that transporting such an enormous amount of grain will present a "tough problem."

Within the next 10 days harvesting of this fabulous crop—believed to be the largest any nation ever produced—will start in Texas.

Harvesting will progress northward through Oklahoma, Kansas and Nebraska, and when it is over, around mid-July, a whopping store of wheat will have been added to the food supply of a world desperately in need of bread.

Biggest Job

In this rich agricultural territory railroads now are girding themselves for a job unmatched in peacetime history.

Explaining that the Association of American Railroads had ordered eastern lines to supply 777 cars a day to western roads, the Santa Fe said "the eastern lines have been co-operating better than last year and we have stored some cars in the grain territory. Last year we had none stored."

"Considering the enormous production, all lines will have some difficulties," the Santa Fe said, "but we expect the crop to be easier to handle than last year when the grain seemed to come from all points at once. We expect a more normal northward harvesting movement this year."

The Santa Fe said new elevators had been built along its lines while capacity of older elevators had been increased. "Most elevators now are empty and are standing-by for the new crop," the road added.

Agricultural department officials estimated the crop, as of May 1, would total 1,025,789,000 bushels, but private reports since that date have said the outlook had further improved. Large demand and high prices are expected to encourage farmers to ship the wheat as soon as possible.

Bonanza High Girls Honored

Lila Jean Driscoll, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Driscoll, has been selected valedictorian of the 1947 graduating class and Hazel Gift, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Gift of Langell valley, is the class salutatorian. It was announced Monday by Principal Clayton Sharpe.

Lila Jean entered the Bonanza schools from Lakeview in the second grade and has attended the Bonanza grade and high schools with the exception of one year in Henley high school. She has been a four-year honor student and served as president of the freshman class and secretary of the senior class. She has taken part in both junior and senior plays and was a member of the affirmative debating team this year. She plans to attend the University of Oregon and will major in nursing.

Hazel has been an honor student the past four years and was secretary of the freshman class and president of the senior class. She was a member of the junior and senior play cast and this year's debate team. Hazel plans to attend Marylhurst college, Oswego, in the fall and will train for a teaching position.

Baccalaureate services for the class of 1947 will be held in the high school auditorium at 7:30 p. m. Sunday, May 18. Commencement will be held in the high school gym Wednesday, May 21.

GROWING

Both Europe and Africa had populations of approximately 100 million persons 300 years ago. Today, Africa's population is 156 million, but Europe has increased to about 540 million.

Bonanza High Honor Students

Lila Jean Driscoll, left, has been selected valedictorian and Hazel Gift, salutatorian, of the 1947 senior class at Bonanza high school
—Kennell-Ellis.

New Brand Law To Go Into Effect

SALEM, May 20 (AP)—Some features of the California system of livestock inspection at sales yards and slaughter houses will be adopted by Oregon July 5, when the state's new brand inspection law goes into effect, M. E. Knickerbocker, chief of the state department of agriculture's division of animal industry, said today on returning from Sacramento, where he conferred with California livestock officials.

Under the new law, all cattle going through sales yards and slaughter houses in brand inspection areas must be inspected as to brand. The brand inspection areas are all counties east of the Cascades, and Josephine, Jackson and Multnomah counties.

Pilot Tells Of Bitter Battle After Bailing Out

MITCHELL FIELD, N. Y., May 20 (AP)—A battle for survival in the dark waters of the Atlantic was told here today by a P-47 fighter plane pilot who parachuted into the ocean last night and fought to inflate his life raft while entangled in the shroud lines of his parachute.

The pilot, 1st Lt. Hubert W. Gainer, 31, of Freeport, N. Y., who was reported in good condition at the station hospital here, was washed ashore at Breezy point in the Rockaways at about 4:30 a. m. (EST), almost seven hours after he catapulted from his plane.

Gainer, whose wife is in the Panama Canal Zone where he is attached to the 36th fighter group, told officials here he was en route from Maxwell field, Ala., to Mitchell field when he ran into bad weather between Washington and New York.

The weather buffeted the plane so badly that some of the instruments went out and the radio worked only intermittently, Gainer said. He attempted to land at the tiny Kings Park field in Suffolk county on Long Island but was unsuccessful in four tries.

Gainer finally reached Mitchell field but his gas supply was too low for him to fly the ground approach control pattern necessitated by the bad weather and he was given a bearing which would take the plane out to sea and ordered to bail out.

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