

National Potato Letter—

California Spud Crop Ahead Of Schedule Due To Recent Warm Weather

Supply
New crop potatoes in some southern sections were exposed to cold weather recently, but so far growers report no damage other than retarded growth. Most crops were not far enough along to be damaged. California continues to have warm but very dry weather and crop progress is at least three weeks ahead of normal. What this means depends on future whims of the weather. If warm weather holds through early March, there will be a really big California crop, but if frosts come any time after February, the plants will be so far advanced that damage will be serious. Growers anticipate the early disappearance of western late stock and an opportunity for good markets and profits. Hence rumors, probably well-founded, that acreage will be expanded and may exceed the intentions reported recently. Early diggings likely will be very immature if the market is hot, and immature stock could make the big acreage boomerang seriously.

Movement
Shipments regained some of their decline from the recent peak of early January. Total for the week was 4760 cars (583 government) as against 4286 cars (616 government) the week before, a net gain of 537 commercial cars. Almost certainly a considerable part of the grain was seed stock which will move in now through March. Biggest increase was in Red River valley, which was up 464 cars, but Maine went up 183 cars over the previous week. Colorado slid off from 315 cars to only 173. California, Idaho, Oregon and Washington changed very little from the previous week's shipments. It is fairly safe to say that none of the western areas have too much stock left and that they will clean up early, unless a rising market should cause growers to hold back on marketing.

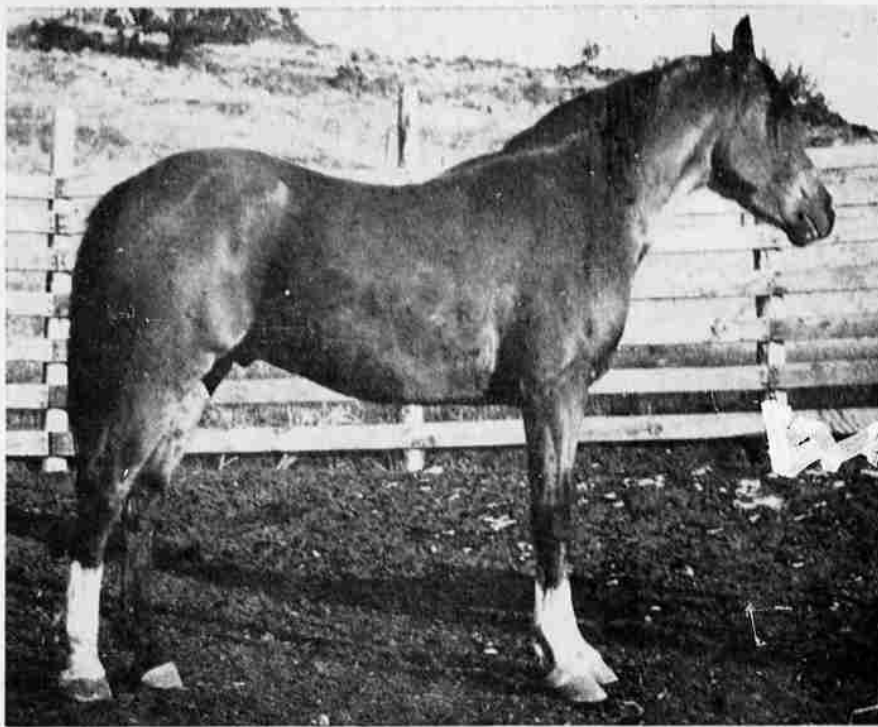
Demand And Markets
Maine reports the demand slow to good, the market about steady to firm, but better for consumer packs; and prices off a nickel at floor to a nickel under floor. Up-

state New York is reported slow and dull, with prices unchanged at 10 to 15 cents under the floor. North Dakota ruled slow to good and stronger, with prices at floor for Cobblers and 15 cents over floor for Bliss. Colorado demand ruled moderate and stronger after the cold weather shut-down, with prices up 15 cents at \$5 to 80 cents over the floor for washed offerings. Idaho ruled fair to slow and very unsettled, with prices higher at \$1.70 over floor for washed. Washington ruled very slow although firm to stronger, with prices as high as \$1.90 over the floor for washed lots. Growers in both Idaho and Washington are reported holding for higher prices, with buyers holding off at current levels. Michigan is reported very slow and dull, with prices a nickel under floor for Chippewas and 70 cents under floor for Rurals. Nebraska ruled slow to moderate and firm, which prices about unchanged at 65 cents over the floor for washed stock. Florida's first report from Fort Myers indicates a moderate to fair demand, the market steady, and prices at \$5.90 for washed offerings in 50s.

Chicago demand is reported good, the market firm to stronger. At New York, old stock held steady, with new slightly weaker; Atlanta steady; Boston mostly about steady; Detroit steady to stronger for westerns, others about steady; Minneapolis firm to slightly stronger on westerns, mostly about steady on others; Philadelphia new stock dull, old mostly firm to about steady but weaker on locals. At San Francisco, Klamath area stock held steady at \$5.15 to \$5.40 for 1st lots. Arrivals and trackholdings have held with little change from the previous week.

Miscellaneous
Here is one for Ripley. Russet Burbanks in Chicago are selling at wholesale at nearly double the price of good Maines, but both offerings are bringing about the same prices at the retail level. DoA has two boatloads of seed on the way to Austria, and reports that 70,000 tons of table stock are booked for Europe, chiefly France, Germany and Italy. This is a fair sized order and more than half of DoA's total holdings. Prolonged cold spell should have caused a pronounced weather market, but didn't except locally and in a small way. One of DoA's top spud men is scheduled to tour Europe soon. Purpose of the trip is not announced but probably has to do with potato consumption, production, seed needs, etc. Some industry men probably would like to see DoA overbuy for price support. DoA dumped a few too many potatoes last winter, and will be smarter this season. It is rumored that some Maine potatoes may be on their way to California. This is not confirmed but we are surprised it hasn't happened before with \$5.00 f.o.b. prices in Washington for washed size A. Spuds at \$3.15 f.o.b. Maine could be delivered in San Francisco at a little over \$5.00. In fact, we wonder why DoA hasn't thought of moving some storage holdings to the west. We hear that the Kern county, California, yield record of 1188 bushels per acre has been surpassed by a small experimental planting in Massachusetts which yielded 1413 bushels of which 1275 were No. 1's. However, the California record was on commercial acreage grown without special attention, so still is the figure on yield. A 200-bushel national average is likely to show up before long, and could happen with present well-known varieties. What yields may do after further breeding developments is anybody's guess.

Blooded Stallion Is Camera Shy



"Rayvis," Arabian stallion on the Hoffman ranch in Wocus, turned his head from the camera shy as the shutter clicked. This handsome 6-year-old bay was born on the Kelllogg Arabian ranch near Riverside, Calif. He has been assigned to Aaron Hoffman and the Alcorn brothers, Bill and "Ruck," of the Edgewood ranch by the remount service of the U. S. army for three years. Rayvis has an octagonal build according to army specifications. It is seven feet high and encloses a space 30 by 100 feet. He has his own well and salt-lick and all the food he wants.

Merrill Grange Holds Party

Merrill grange No. 717 met its regular session Monday evening with Mrs. John Giacomini, master, presiding.

Mrs. Frank Hadley reported on the result of the benefit card party sponsored by the grange January 26 and of presenting \$50 of the proceeds to the March of Dimes campaign. John Giacomini, agricultural chairman, gave an account of his recent visit to Oceanside, Calif., where the certified potato seed testing plot is located, reporting on the frost that postponed the readings of the seed potatoes. Rev. Kenneth Brown, lecturer, presented a program of games and gave a reading, "The Seven Beatitudes of Marriage." This was followed by a Dutch auction of a lovely Valentine cake baked and donated by Mrs. Murray Howard. Frank Hadley was the successful final bidder.

appeared on small red paper hearts beside each favor. Pie and coffee were served by the committee in charge, composed of Mrs. Lillian Thomason, chairman, Mr. and Mrs. Luther Perkins, and Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Pope.

Livestock Planning Group To Meet

The Lake county livestock planning committee will have a meeting scheduled on the afternoon of March 19 to meet with Harry Lindgren of Oregon State college, Oregon extension specialist in animal husbandry and is well known to Lake county ranchers. The livestock committee took part in the farm planning conference held about a year ago at Lakeview. Recommendations of this committee made up an important part of the conference since livestock is a major enterprise in Lake county.

Merrill Ranchers Buy Stock

Alfred Carleton and Charles Teers, Merrill cattlemen, have just returned from Woodburn where they purchased 18 head of registered Holstein heifers from Felix Haasler, old-time breeder. Carleton and Teers already have

FFA Steer Readied

The FFA chapter at Tulelake is grooming a Hereford steer for the Junior Livestock exposition at the Cow Palace, San Francisco, in March.

The 15-month-old whiteface was donated to the FFA by the Bank of America. He is from the Roy Hart herd in Montague and will be shown by Chapter President Bob Laird.

The bull was raised on the Tulelake high school tennis court. Verne Hemstreet is agricultural instructor at the high school. The chapter also has 11 Hampshire sheep, three registered Hereford heifers and one registered Duroc Jersey gilt.

Holstein and Guernsey herds on the William F. Junette ranch in Merrill. They plan to ship the purchased home on or about February 18.

Classified Ads Bring Results

Dairy Gets New Freezer

The Lost River dairy has just completed installation of a new almost instantaneous ice cream freezer, a Cherry Brurrell Voght V-80. With this new type freezer, the ice cream can be positively controlled, making for smooth, uniform texture freezing, which is difficult to achieve with a "batch" type freezer. The new equipment freezes the ice cream in 76 seconds, and packaging direct from the freezer also makes for smoother texture. The ease with which the parts can be disassembled and cleaned gives positive sanitation control to meet with modern health and sanitation demands. The freezing tube and many of the other parts of the equipment are pure nickel.

West Winfield, Pa. has a modern recreation room and dance hall in an old mine 300 feet under ground.

Neal Stewart, Realtor. Phone 9759.



From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

Will's Proud of His Big Ears

Will Dudley's mighty proud of his big ears! Best crop of corn he's grown since '38. And Will, like so many other farmers, has plenty of reason to be proud of what he raises.

The farmer has always been a keystone in our economic life, and the key to our national well-being. But from where I sit, he's more important now than ever. He's not only feeding America—but friends of America overseas—building a goal will for this country at a time when friendship for democracy is most important.

And farmers have willingly shouldered that responsibility. Will spends extra hours in his cornfield... comes home tired to a temperate glass of beer and early bed, to be ready for the next day's work.

From where I sit, America can be mighty grateful for her five million farmers... for their productivity, hard work, and temperate living... of which Will's moderate glass of beer is proof!

Joe Marsh

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CAVALCADE OF HISTORY

Born: Hardin Co., Ky., Feb. 12, 1809. Twice President of U. S. "With Malice Toward None; With Charity for All." Abolished human slavery from American soil by Emancipation Proclamation, 1863. Delivered immortal

Gettysburg, Battlefield Address: "That Government of the People, by the People and for the People, shall not perish from the Earth." Assassinated in Ford's Theatre, Washington, D. C., April 15, 1865.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

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WEIGHT — 48 lbs. empty; 1500 lbs. loaded.
BOOM—16 or 30 ft. wide; 25 ft. hand spray hose.

OVS To Host FFA Meeting

Future Farmers of America, Southern Oregon district conference, will open at 5 p.m. Friday at the Oregon Vocational school, with dinner in the mess hall.

At 6 p.m. the conference basketball tournament will be held. Shop contests including welding, rafter cutting and rope work will start Saturday at 8 a.m., followed by the public speaking contest at 10:30 a.m.

Main's FFA club's entry in the speech contest will be Ted De Merritt Jr., who will talk on "Is Chemistry a Passing Fad?" De Merritt is a junior at Malin high school. Saturday afternoon the parliamentary contest will be held with officers from all seven FFA chapters of Southern Oregon competing. Judges for both contests will be Director Winston Purvine of OVS, Howard Holt of the speech department, KUHS and John Houston, Klamath Falls insurance man. Officers of the Malin FFA chapter are President Kenneth Ellis, Ted Gordon, vice president, Carl Rajnus, secretary, and Con McAvillie, treasurer.

Other chapters expected to attend the conference are Myrtle Point, Roseburg, Grants Pass, Madras, Redmond and Lakeview. Out of town attendants will be accommodated at OVS.

Omak In Huff Over Beauty Rules

OMAK, Feb. 12 (AP)—Twenty-one years ago, Jesse Jim won the title of the most beautiful Indian girl in America at a Washington, D. C. contest.

Omak remembers her triumph with pride. So, because rules for the proposed Washington state beauty competition to send a girl to the Atlantic City "Miss America" contest specify all candidates must be of the white race, Omak objects.

The Omak chamber of commerce has therefore refused to take part in this summer's event, saying the rules show "racial discrimination."

The cathedral in Milan, Italy, has some 3500 statues inside and out, of which only 40 were damaged in World War II.

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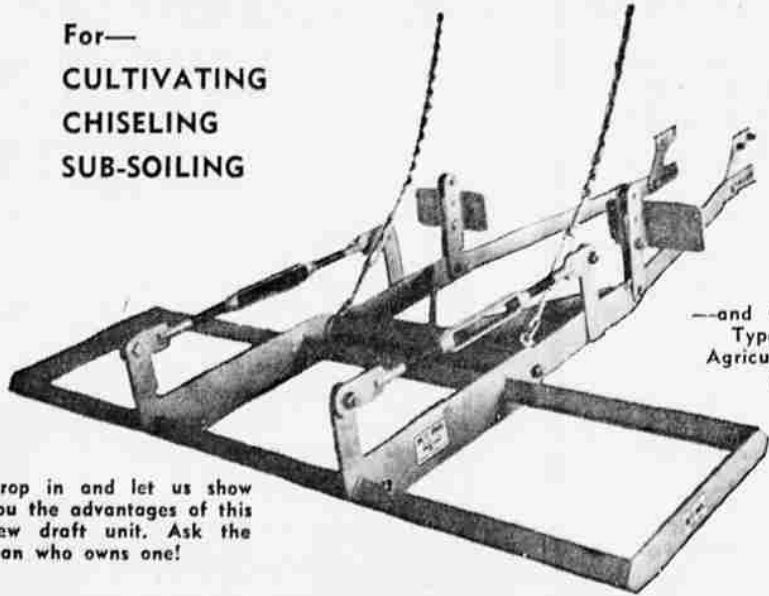


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