

National Potato Letter

Late Crop Spud Report
Due In Mid-March; Demand
For Past Week Unexciting

New and fairly dependable late crop supply data will be available later mid-March, when BAE again will release a stocks estimate. This time, we understand, it will be on a survey basis rather than just calculated, and will be close to the mark. Early crop information still is mostly of the "guesstimate" variety. California probably was retarded some by cold weather, but most observers doubt that this will have any appreciable effect on yields unless growers are so anxious to get that they sacrifice size to get into the currently high markets. In Florida, the Fort Meyers section should be cleaning up soon, but Dade county will be shipping for some time. Dade county planting was so strong out that shipments probably will show no reasonable bulge as usually develops. Further north, planting has been delayed by wet weather in some sections, and may even affect acreage if the ground fails to dry soon. In any event, arrival of any appreciable volume of early potatoes has been delayed which will give the late crop a longer play for the markets. If the early crop bunches up too much, however, it will be bad for distribution and give both the industry and DoA a real headache.

MOVEMENT

Shipments looked better last week, with a total of 5991 cars (463 government) against 5133 cars (551 government) the week before. Net gain in the commercial movement was 946 cars, probably mostly accounted for by seed shipments, which have picked up lately. Weather and cars have been partly responsible for the slow movement as well as for the good markets. Maine hit 472 cars daily last week, close to peak output. Noticeable gains also were made in Idaho, Minnesota and North Dakota. Smaller gains and a few losses were noted elsewhere. Early crop shipments moved up to 183 cars but will not be a big factor until next month.

Markets for the week were wholly unexciting. Maine had a consistent-

ly slow demand with the market barely steady to weak and prices off a nickel at 5 cents under the floor. Upstate New York demand ruled slow, the market dull, with prices wobbly and off 5 to 10 cents at a dime under the floor. North Dakota demand is reported slow, the market dull with weakness in sight, and prices mostly unchanged around floor. Note that, as always happens at this time of year, Cobblers and Bliss now are quoted at about the same level. Colorado demand improved and then slowed, the market weakened, with prices off 20 to 25 cents at 85 cents over the floor for washed stock. Idaho demand has ruled very slow, the market dull, with prices showing signs of strength early in the week but closing steady at \$1.50 to \$1.60 over the floor for very few sales of washed. Washington demand has ruled very slow, mostly with too few sales to quote but with prices close to \$2.20 over the floor at about \$5.20 for washed offerings. Michigan demand continues light, the market steady and prices unchanged at floor for Chippewa and 20 cents under floor for Rurals. Nebraska demand is reported improved to good, the market about steady, and prices off a little at 60 to 65 cents over the floor for washed stock.

The terminal summary is about on a par with the fobs. Chicago has had fair demand with market steady to firm, especially for new stock. New York ruled dull. Atlanta mostly steady with some weakness on new; Boston and Minneapolis

dull; Detroit steady for old, dull for new; Philadelphia dull for old, dull to weaker for new. Arrivals and trackholdings both increased moderately, with holdings high enough to be a market factor. However, some holdings undoubtedly are seed for later diversion.

MISCELLANY

Government purchases now total just short of 25 million bushels. Matched against the crop of 384 million, it would appear that needs for the 1947 crop were only 330 instead of 375 million bushels. However, distribution has been cockeyed. While 375 million probably is too much, the figures for this season do not tell how far above real needs the crop actually was. Gossip has it that the California early acreage, officially estimated at 72,000 acres, probably is closer to 75,000. Also, that goal compliance in the state is only 40 per cent. If true, DoA may resort to its authority for sub-floor sales. We have heard not even a hint, but it could happen. Rumors out of Chicago say DoA is thinking of moving some Red River valley stock to the west coast at cut prices. This could happen because DoA has obligations to consumers as well as to farmers. Our DoA contacts will not talk. If such a move is made, Western stock almost certainly will be cheaper and some receivers may be caught on a few cars. Consumer packs in Maine continue to enjoy demand and price considerably better than 100s. It has been that way

OVS Offers
Farm Course

Besides conducting a regular class on agriculture, Oregon Vocational school is also the central head of the veterans' institution on the farm training function throughout the Klamath area.

This course is provided for veterans who are learning agriculture either on their own farms or as employees on farms.

The group at OVS consists of eight class-room students and 25 on-the-farm students. They get a minimum of 200 hours of group instruction at the approximate rate of four hours

all season and we think the pattern is fixed.

PRICE SUPPORT FOR 1948 DoA still has 1948 program details under wraps but the big question is answered. In a letter to congress on February 26, Secretary Anderson said that if congress fails to put a new legislative direction on the line, there will be no support after December 31, when Steagall ends. It is only a partial answer, of course, because nobody knows what congress will do. What DoA will not do does seem clear, however.

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Often Bring
Sleepless Nights

Doctors say your kidneys contain 15 million of tiny tubes or filters which help to purify the blood and keep you healthy. When they are tired and don't work right in the daytime, many people have to get up at night. Frequent urination, pain, itching, and burning sometimes shows there is something wrong with your kidneys or bladder. Don't neglect this condition and lose valuable, restful sleep. When disorder of kidney function permits poisonous matter to remain in your blood, it may also cause racing headache, rheumatic pains, leg pains, loss of pep and energy, swelling, puffiness under the eyes, backache and dizziness.

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per week. Individual instruction is also provided on the farm.

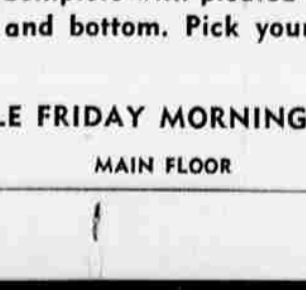
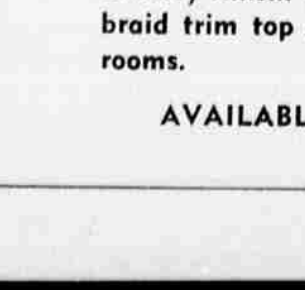
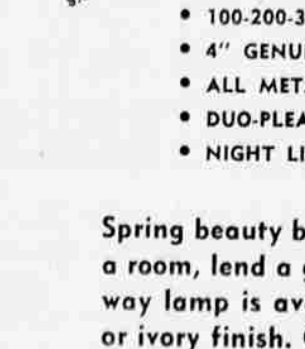
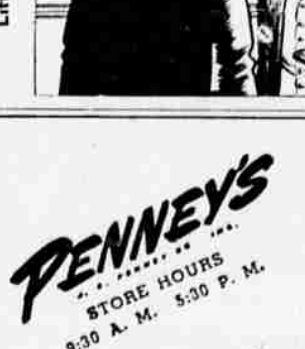
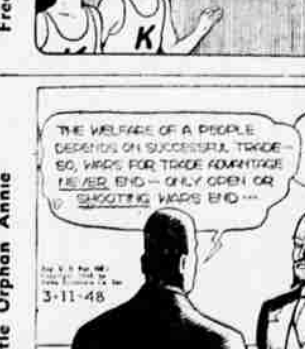
The program is under the veterans' GI bill of rights and tuition, books and expendable supplies are provided.

Poultry, livestock and general agriculture are now in the program in the areas of Henley and Bonanza. Classes are held in the public schools in these towns.

Any phase of agriculture may be undertaken as long as it is acceptable by the training program. Art

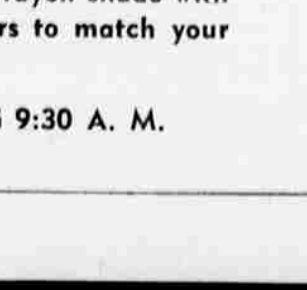
Chase is supervisor of the agriculture department at the vocational school and Newell C. Wood is on-the-farm instructor.

LOCATED BEFORE DISCOVERY The planet Neptune was located in the sky before it was discovered. Due to irregularities in the motion of the planet Uranus, the astronomer Leverrier suspected another planet existed and mapped its location, where it was found later.



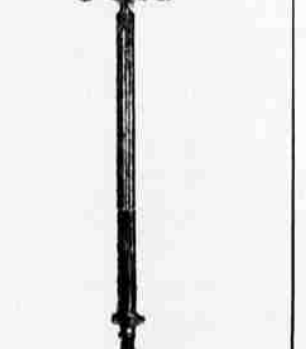
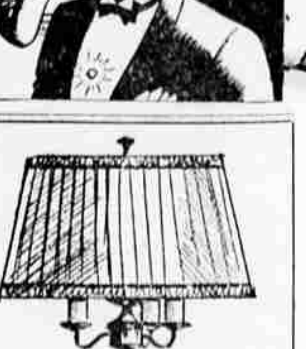
CITY DWELLERS
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