

Labor Shortage, Lack Of Farm Machinery Is Threat To Farmers In East Area

This is the first of a series of five regional stories on the spring crop outlook in the United States which will be filed for evening papers. A sixth and final story on the national crop outlook will be filed by Washington for Sunday a.m. papers, April 4.

By The Associated Press
NEW YORK, March 29—Farmers in the northeastern and middle Atlantic states, wondering how they'll fare this year in the market basket of the nation's biggest industrial area, saw some clouds on the spring horizon today.

From Maryland to Maine, from West Virginia to Lake Ontario—wherever farmers met in fence-corners and at crossroads—each man was his own best authority. But where opinion consistently differed there emerged a general pattern of the problems confronting farmers in the region.

Labor Up
Labor costs are higher than ever. In some areas able farm hands are as scarce as hen's teeth. New farm machinery is difficult to obtain for some and too expensive for others. In a few areas, particularly Vermont, farmers have banded together to buy and operate equipment.

Recent declines in the commodity markets have not yet lowered the price of feed much in the northeast. That particularly hurts dairy and poultrymen—leading types of farmers in the region.

But some of the dark clouds farmers see also have silver linings. The past winter's heavy snows cause experts to expect the best hay and grain crops in many years.

Cornell university agricultural experts generally are optimistic about the burgeoning growing season. Prof. Herrell De Graff of the New York State College of Agriculture at Cornell sees no general food shortage in the nation. He claims, however, that insufficient cereal stock are being grown to maintain an adequate meat supply.

Wheat Gains
On the other hand, Prof. I. C. Cunningham of the same college said 14 per cent more acres were seeded to wheat last year in New York than in 1946. He foresees a 10,000,000 bushel wheat crop in the state—largest since 1906—a state which outlanders associate with steel and coal, but a strong farming state, too—994,000 acres will grow wheat.

Even in New Jersey, where the supply of grain never has met the demand, experts expect wheat production to surpass last year's 2,600,000 bushel mark. As plows ribboned the earth north from the Potomac river bottom on the heels of advancing spring, most thoughtful farmers agreed that 1948 would bring them no easy boons. They also agreed

Easter Hats At Summit

CASCADE SUMMIT, March 29—Only Easter bonnet seen at Cascade Summit was worn by Mrs. Ray Watson of Portland, who spent Easter Sunday with her husband at Odell Summit lodge. Watson is accountant from the home office of the Badley Investment company in Portland and is here to audit the lodge books. The red satin ribbon trimmed black felt was quite a contrast to the more familiar ski-caps adorning the heads of the local belles.

Signs of Easter at Cascade Summit were limited to snowshoe bunny tracks, one green and one pink hardboiled egg shell on the ground at Willamette ski tow, and the Easter lily plant E. V. Adkison brought his wife Florence from Eugene. Not one of the numerous bunnies in the vicinity left any egg basket or nest for the Summit citizens.

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S. B. Gillette Dies Sunday

SALEM, March 29 (AP)—Samuel B. Gillette, 61, state purchasing agent, died Sunday of a heart attack at Kent, Wash. He was visiting a daughter, Mrs. Neal Shaffer, for the Easter weekend. Gillette had worked for the state for 30 years. He also leaves a widow and a son, Leland, Vancouver, Wash.

Supervisor Race Open

YREKA, March 29—W. T. Davidson of Port Jones, chairman of the Siskiyou county board of supervisors, is unopposed for re-election to the board for his seventh term, but a race is in the offing for two other seats on the county governing body. The primary election is June 1. Saturday was the deadline for nominations. Davidson has been a county supervisor for 24 years.

District 1, north portion of the county, has three candidates, including Gordon Jacobs, the incumbent, of Hornbrook; George Yost of Tulelake; and James Stevenson of Maedoc. In district 2 there are four aspirants for the post held by T. R. Douglas, who has announced he will vacate the office. Seeking election are W. A. Barr of Mt. Shasta, and three Dunsuir men, Florin S. Kohlbaker, Hugh Corwin and Ed Baker. Voting for supervisor is non-partisan.

DEMAND
MOSCOW, March 29 (AP)—Pravda demanded today that something be done about Russian fathers who abandon their children without support.

The paper, organ of the communist party, said mothers in such cases sometimes had great difficulty in getting action, occasionally encountering "bureaucracy" which caused them great expense in pursuit of their delinquent spouses.

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An unusual type of damage suit is being brought by Mrs. Velma M. O'Sullivan against Weyerhaeuser Timber company, which recently was involved in federal litigation of a \$25,000 damage suit brought by the woman's husband, Jerry O'Sullivan. A \$1300 judgment for O'Sullivan was the result of that trial.

This new case, filed in circuit court, is for \$2999. O'Sullivan was badly injured April 12, 1946, when a load of lumber fell on him, and Mrs. O'Sullivan charges that as a result of the accident she has been deprived of her husband's companionship.

Traffic Accidents Claim 30 Lives

SALEM, March 29 (AP)—Thirty persons died in Oregon traffic accidents during February. Secretary of State Earl T. Newby said today. This was eight more than in February, 1947. Lane county led with seven fatalities.

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Newby said that during 1947, one out of every 10 drivers involved in fatal accidents had been drinking.

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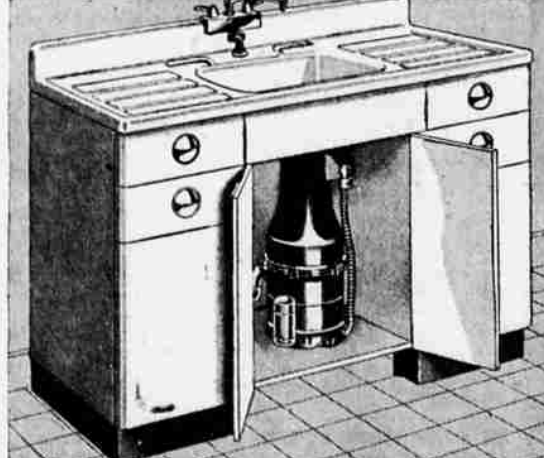
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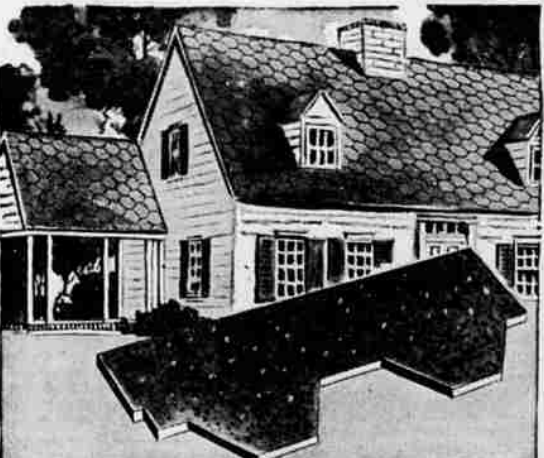
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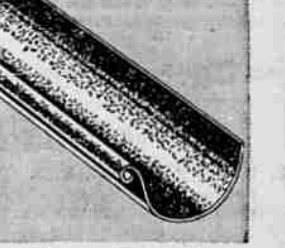
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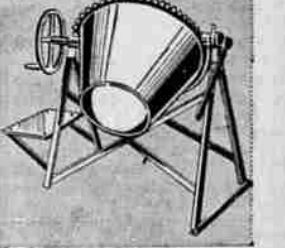


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