

Bread Belt Farmers Keep Fingers Crossed And Hope For Good Growing Season

KANSAS CITY, April 2 (AP)—Bread belt farmers and those on the great plains to the southwest have their fingers crossed this spring as the new crop growing season begins.

The attitude of these men, who each spring gamble once again on the elements and economics, is "wait and see." Most wheat farmers feel there is little chance of another bumper crop like last year's.

For seven years now they have had bumper crops in the hard wheat country, the heart of which lies in Kansas, Oklahoma and the Texas panhandle.

The weather and the law of averages are against a repeat performance. Yet there is a touch of optimism in the talk at the crossroads as the countryside begins to green up.

Outlook Better
The corn outlook is better but Missouri is about the only state among those of the South Central and Southwestern group that can be considered much of a corn country.

Oats, like wheat, got caught by the weather. Wheat hit a dry spell shortly after planting time last fall and oats ran into a wet spring which kept farmers out of fields for the most part.

The farmer's lot has improved somewhat from the labor, storage and machinery standpoint—enough so that he probably can slip through the growing season and harvest without too much trouble.

The weather, always "X" in the farm equation, has had a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde effort on the crops in these parts. It even went so far as to effect the tomato and onion crops in Texas.

Tomatoes Ruined
Early tomato plants in East Texas were wiped out by the early March freeze. Rio Grande valley plants were retarded. The onion crop wasn't hit so hard. Texas is the biggest tomato shipping state in the nation and shares the onion producing honors with Colorado.

Northern consumers are just going to have to wait on those tomatoes and onions. The tomato harvest won't start until June 10 or thereabouts and the onion harvest around April 20.

A dry fall got wheat off to a bad start. Swirling dust, fanned across the fields by autumn winds, revived talk of the old dust bowl days of the thirties. Winter killed that talk by blanketing wheatlands with record snowfalls. But the harvest is bound to be late.

Now the wheat is greening up. It's spotty, thin in places and like velvet in others. The one thing wheat men fear now is weeds. With wheat coming out of winter retardation, the weeds may get the jump in the growing season.

But farmers always have been a hopeful lot—like C. A. Crumbaker, who farms some 1000 acres along the Blue river in Central Kansas. "I have one plot of wheat that I was going to plow up for spring oats planting," he says, "but it has greened up so much in the last few days that I believe it will make a good crop."

To the west around Hutchinson, Kas., farmers believe they may produce more wheat than last year. This ordinarily heavy producing area was hard hit last year by the weather. Thousands of acres around there were riddled by hail.

There are others not so hopeful. Ellsworth Sherman near Garden City, the core of the wheat orbit, predicts the crop will be only about half as good as the last one. Sherman is one of the biggest men in the wheat growing business and should know.

Northern on the plains is there anything approaching unanimity on the crop's chances.

Oregon Solons OK School Aid Bill

WASHINGTON, April 2 (AP)—Oregon and Washington senators helped pass the bill yesterday which would provide \$300,000,000 a year of federal aid to states for education. Senator Cain of Washington and Senator Gordon and Morse of Oregon, all republicans, voted for the measure. Senator Magnuson of Washington, a democrat, was among those hotly vying but announced as in favor of the bill.

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Betty Adolph, queen of the annual Biscayne Bay Yacht regatta to be held in Miami, Fla., in April (10 and 11), displays the charms that won her the title.

New Spuds Find Favor

New potato varieties developed in the national potato breeding program of the United States department of agriculture and the state agricultural experiment stations are not only replacing many of the old varieties in this country but are finding favor in many foreign countries.

Katahdin, one of the first successes in the program and now widely grown in many states, according to the potato breeding specialists of the plant industry station, Beltsville, Md., has shown great promise in certain parts of Australia.

In Alberta the potato breeders of the provincial agricultural experiment station established a variety developed at Presque Isle, Maine, but not used and have found it highly satisfactory there. They suggest it be named Catus in joining of the abbreviation Can. and U. S.

Lately Australia obtained an unnamed potato seedling from Beltsville and the potato specialists there find it so good they are increasing it and have asked for a name so they can certify it. The department of agriculture specialists are now considering a name which may be an American Indian name in line with the names of most of the varieties the program has brought out, such as Katahdin, Sebago, Chippewa and the very newest one, Kennebec.

Argentina has obtained another seedling from our potato breeders and it is reported doing well there.

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THE PLURAL OF 'WHIM' IS WOMEN.

Quick Thinking Averts Tragedy

PORTLAND, April 2 (AP)—A cool-headed bus driver averted disaster yesterday after his bus ran away in a freak mishap. Driver Lloyd Lyle Swetman, 35, stepped on his brakes and the pedal fell off. The freed vehicle gathered speed downhill, but as it crossed two railroad lines and a busy highway, Swetman worked the machine down to second gear.

Then he ran it into a hedge and the East Side bus, carrying two passengers, stopped short of the Willamette river near Milwaukie. One of the passengers suffered minor injuries.

NOT MUCH
VALLEJO, Calif., April 2 (AP)—Charles J. Williams' three children didn't seem a bit impressed when their mother gave birth to twins.

The three 5-year-olds, who see, are—triplets.

Holy Land Plan Left Up In Air

LAKE SUCCESS, April 2 (AP)—The United Nations general assembly will convene in extraordinary session April 16 to reconsider Palestine partition.

The move, voted by the security council last night, leaves up in the air the future of the scheme to split the Holy Land into Jewish and Arab lands.

The United States put an inter-lunatic UN trusteeship into effect without prejudice to any final settlement. Russia insists that the UN stick to its 1947 partition decision.

Decision to hold the special meeting of the 57 nations—the second extra session on the Holy Land problem—was made on motion of the United States. Russia's Andrei A. Gromyko withheld his veto. He abstained along with the Soviet Ukraine to allow the proposal to pass, 9 to 0.

Truce Asked
In a rare unanimous ballot, the 11-nation council also called for a Jewish-Arab truce in Palestine. The cease-fire appeal was presented by the American delegation on direct orders from President Truman.

Secretary-General Trygve Lie's staff immediately began preparing for the session, which officials estimated will run three weeks and cost \$20,000. Plenary meetings will be held in the Old World's fairgrounds in nearby Flushing. Committee sessions will be here at UN headquarters.

The special session resolution said merely that the assembly should consider further the future government of Palestine. However, the

Water Outlook Held Excellent

ENTERPRISE, Ore., April 2 (AP)—Northeastern Oregon will have ample irrigation water this year.

The outlook is excellent. Baker, Union and Wallowa counties were told yesterday at the annual water forecast meeting here.

Snow surveys said farmlands already are deeply soaked; snow at lower elevations is unusually deep and the mountain soil is saturated. A sustained stream flow—important to this area where there is little reservoir storage—appears certain, local, state and federal officials said.

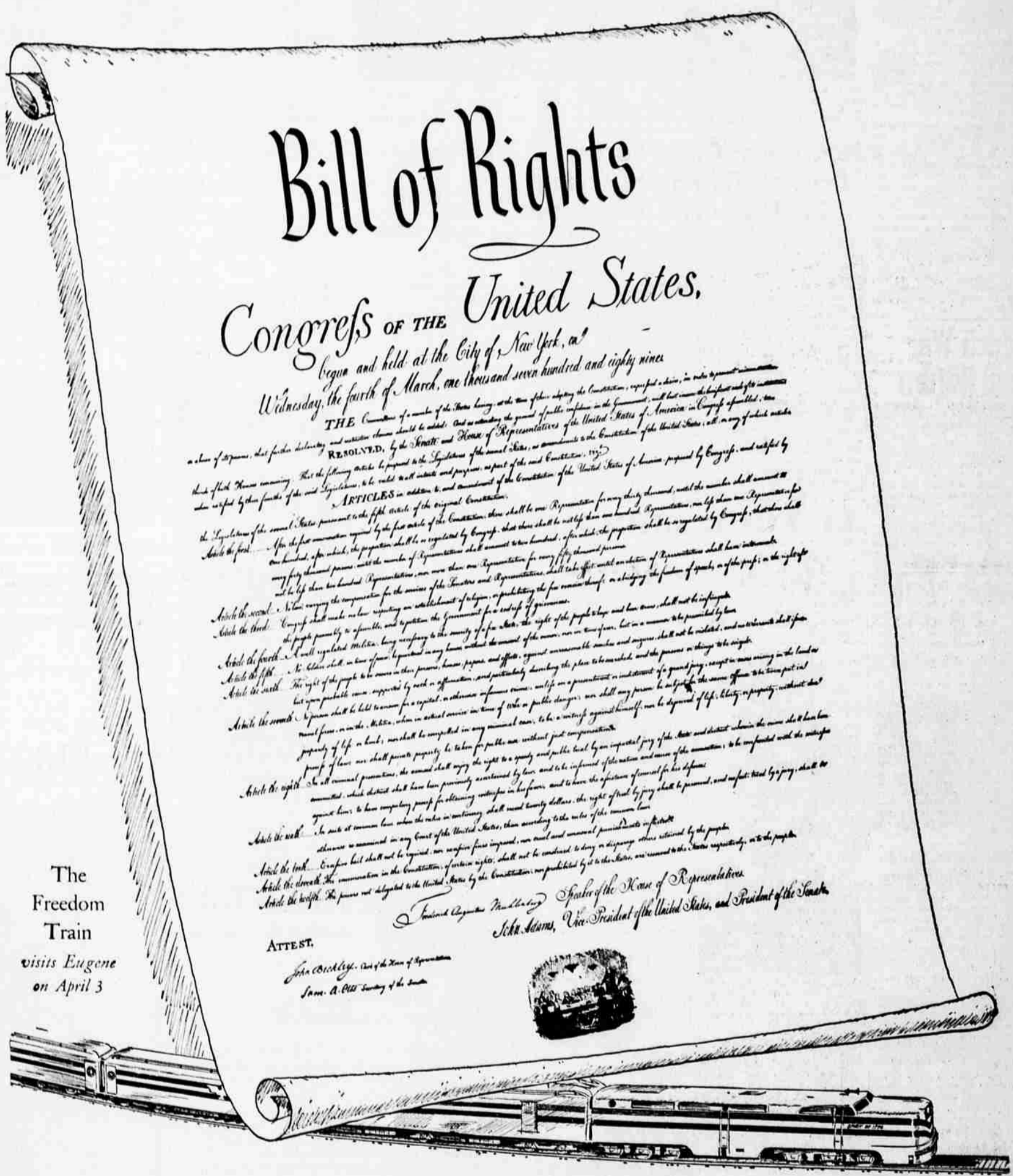
The Powder river in Baker county is expected to be better than average, and land along the north and south forks of the Burnt river and along Pine and Eagle creeks will have ample water.

In Union county the Grande Ronde river and Catherine creek will have a larger summer flow than in 1946.

United States already has asked substitution of trusteeship for the Arab-opposed and Jewish-supported partition plan.

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CHAS. F. DE LAP, County Clerk.



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