

KF Man Recalls

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and practically tore the door of the pickup off when boiling in.

"I was still a little silly when we reached the base. We began telling people about it and I was still laughing hysterically like a man without a full set of marbles. For some strange reason it seemed to be the funniest thing that had ever happened.

"I had been hit and I knew it, but I was still too keyed up to hurt any place.

"About that time one of the fellows pointed to my leg and said it must be hurt. I looked down, saw a steady stream of blood bubbling over the top of the boot; and then it did hurt, it hurt like it never hurt before or since.

"They hustled me over to the hospital right away and cut away the boot. The bear had evidently bit me in the calf of the leg and had driven her fangs about an inch deep in each side.

"I was too scared to feel any pain when the bear bit me; fact is, I didn't even know I had been bit. But it was a different story when the doc rammed home the swab to cauterize the fang holes. Man-n-n, it took three good sized men to keep me from flying off the table and wrapping myself around the light fixtures."

At just about that same time, Barmore began to ache all over. He had reason enough for doing so. An inspection of his clothing revealed that part of one boot had been torn away where the bear probably cuffed him the first time and knocked him off his feet. Also, one of the shoulders of his heavy flight jacket was shredded where she had cuffed him as he lay on the ground.

Although the injured leg later became infected and almost had to be amputated, it healed satisfactorily and Barmore is just as ready for a bear hunt as he always used to be.

"Such wasn't the case for the first couple of months afterwards," he assures you.

"It happened every night after I had gone to bed, I'd be in that in-between condition when you're not quite awake but you're not quite asleep. At that point each night I'd see the big Kodiak coming down on me again, began hollering, jump out of bed, and run right into the wall.

"That went on until one day my friend and I went bear hunting.

I was afraid that I'd freeze up when seeing one, and I did. However, my buddy snapped me out of it, we began shooting, and the big male bear and the two sows began running for the brush.

"I don't know enough about psychology to know what happened. It just seems to me that the sight of that bear running away instead of at me was all I needed."

The old-timers and natives around Kodiak still bring to mind the time the big fireman was mauled when they start talking bear. What they can't quite understand is why the half-ton of wild Kodiak bit Barmore deeply in the leg and then ran off without finishing the job.

The general thinking is that although the bear bit deeply, it never got the taste of blood. When chewing into the big man's leg the bear bit through the heavy boots, the fleece lined pants, the long handles, and a pair of heavy boot socks. The thinking of the Kodiak hunters is that when it pulled out its fangs they were wiped clean by the heavy concentration of fleece, wool and leather.

What does Barmore now think about when he's not fighting fires? That's right, he longs for the day when he will be able to make a trip back to Kodiak for a little bear hunting, but not with his .22 caliber rifle.

Beef Prices Are Held Steady By Strong Consumer Demands

An agriculture department report on stocker and feeder movement shows a sharp gain in shipments during March compared with the same month one year ago.

Nearly 336,000 head moved through major markets during March, heading out to farms on the next leg of the journey to the retail meat counter. This total of 336,000 compares with 283,000 head during the same month one year earlier.

Shipments were below the 1957 level at Chicago, Fort Worth, Los Angeles, Oklahoma City, San Antonio, and at Ogden, Utah.

At other major markets, shipments were up, rising from 8,700 to 11,000, 500 in Denver, from 24,000 to 32,000 in Kansas City,

KANSAS CITY, Missouri — The phenomenal growth and importance of the livestock auction market as one of the major market outlets in the United States is outlined in a special research report just released by the United States Department of Agriculture.

The study, entitled "Livestock Auction Markets in the United States," points out that in 1955 more than 51 million head of livestock were sold at 2,322 auction markets.

In tracing the rapid expansion of auction markets since 1930—from 200 in that year to 2,322 in 1955—the USDA researchers associated their rise and popularity "with a trend toward a decentralized livestock marketing system."

This trend, beginning in the depression, gained impetus as a result of steadily declining livestock prices and "with the proximity of auctions to producing areas, out-of-pocket transportation expenses were less for livestock sent to local auction than for shipments to more distant outlets."

During 1955, according to the USDA survey, more than 60 per cent of the livestock consigned at auctions originated from within a radius of 25 miles. However, it was added, the proportion of livestock consigned from outlying areas tended to increase with the size

from 19,400 to more than 24,000 in Omaha, from 25,000 to nearly 4,000 in Sioux City, Iowa.

Farm Net Incomes Show Decline

In the first quarter of 1958, farmers' net income rose sharply to about 13 billion throughout the nation. This is an increase of one and a third billion dollars over the same quarter in 1957.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture says the increase farm net income reflects substantially higher prices received for beef cattle, hogs, eggs, potatoes and other vegetables.

In addition, marketings of other products such as cotton, feed grains and soybeans were augmented this year from last year's delayed harvest.

At the same time, production expenses increased about three per cent. But even if farm prices only equal those of last year, net income is expected to be up five to 10 per cent by the end of the year.

Predict Larger 1958 Wheat Crop

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Agriculture Department forecast this year's winter wheat crop at 1,009,754,000 bushels Friday.

This estimate is 46,118,000 bushels more than last month's forecast of 963,636,000 bushels. It compares with 707,201,000 produced last year.

No forecast was given for spring wheat, but officials have said a crop of 225 million bushels appears possible. This would give a combined winter and spring production of 1,234,754,000 bushels, compared with 947,000,000 last year and 1,030,000,000 for the 10-year average.

The department estimated the yield of winter wheat will average 24 bushels per harvested acre compared with 22.4 last year and 18.9 for the 10-year average.

BASEMENTS FOR LIVING

A steady trend toward the use of the basement for living purposes is reported by the Better Basement Institute. It says that the use of oil and gas as heating fuels makes it unnecessary to set aside large areas for coal storage, and the development of many materials, such as floor and ceiling tiles, makes the area liveable.

Auction Bloc Major Outlet For Cattle

of the auction market.

Packers and packer order buyers, moving to local markets in the decentralization trend, bought the greatest proportion of livestock sold by the auction markets—63 per cent of the hogs, 60 per cent of the calves, half the cattle, and the major share of sheep and lambs. Livestock producers and feeders were the most important consignors to auction markets, supplying over three-fourths of all livestock consigned to auctions in 1955.

Citing phases of development of the nation's livestock auction market industry, the USDA researchers declared that "several important factors contributed to the pronounced expansion of auction markets during the thirties."

"A development of primary importance was the improvement and extension of hard surfaced roads accompanied by the increased use of motor carriers as a means for transporting livestock to and from the market place. With the advent of better roads, trucks could be used for transporting livestock moderate distances both quickly and economically.

"Growing numbers of small packers, located at points away from terminal markets, were able to procure livestock more efficiently at auction markets.

"Other factors leading to the growth of auction markets were the development of more uniform grade and weight classifications for livestock and improvements made by the federal government in providing more extensive collection and dissemination of market news.

"With these developments, local auctions became a convenient marketing place for farmers to dispose of small lots of livestock and to purchase stocker, feeder and breeding animals. These nearby markets also enabled farmers to keep currently informed of local market conditions and livestock prices."

Continued growth and progress of the nation's auction market industry during the two years since the USDA's study is reflected in a consistent increase in their share of livestock sold at the nation's markets.

Despite a drop in salable receipts due to the long drouth, American auction markets sold more than 56 million head of livestock in 1957—a gain of almost five million head over their total 1955 sales as shown in the government study.

"The livestock auction market industry and the national asso-

ciation are deeply appreciative of this research study of our high bid, competitive selling system by the Department of Agriculture," declared Executive Secretary Sanders. "It is an interesting report and indicated the rapid growth and increasing popularity of auction market operations and services."

The report, entitled "Marketing Research Report No. 223," is available from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D. C., at 25 cents per copy.

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THIS BIG MAN is little the worse for the experience, but his eyes light up and he recalls every detail when recounting the time he was mauled by a Kodiak bear several years ago. "Some of the old time Alaska bear hunters used to say that the bear bit me and mauled me a little and then let me go because she was only playing," Fred Barmore chuckles. "That might be, but I sure hope I never have occasion to 'play' with another Kodiak bear... man-n-n... they play rough!"

Stocks Of Barley At Record Level Show Sharp Rise

Stocks of barley on April 1 were at a record high of 262 million bushels—29 per cent above a year ago and 71 per cent above the five-year average. Disappearance of 317 million bushels the first nine months of the season was two per cent above last season and the second largest in the past 14 years. Around 16 million bushels of barley were imported the first three quarters, a drop of 21 per cent from last season. Exports totaled over 55 million bushels, the second largest of record. Farm prices averaged 45 cents per bushel July through April, a drop of 15 cents from the same months last season.

STRETCHER

A New Orleans company has developed a machine for stretching lumber. The process in no way affects the strength or durability of wood, spokesmen for the firm report.

The trained circus seals are nearly always California sea lion cubs.