

Drouth Boosts Cost of Living in United States

Washington.—It became more apparent this week that the cost of the extended drouth would fall upon both the producer and the consumer, but to a greater degree upon the former.

Producers are bearing the brunt of the unusual weather conditions which have prevailed for more than six weeks.

Farmers in the hot, rainless areas are confronted with disaster. But general heavy rains within the next month would avert the most serious consequences in many areas.

Individual consumers will share the farmers' troubles in increased prices of late fruits and vegetables and in dairy products, especially butter. Butter has gone up 5 cents to 38 cents a pound since July 1. Beef prices are not expected to rise and might slump if continued shortage of water and feed force animals on the market prematurely. There will be sufficient beef, it is believed, although of a poorer quality.

The monthly crop estimate showed the usual supply of food crops was available, but there was a shortage of feed crops for poultry and livestock. Nothing in the government reports suggests a scarcity of products for the consumers' table.

Drouth profiteering has not yet become a factor in the situation, inquiry among official agencies indicated. But Vice-Chairman Stone of the farm board said bean prices had risen from \$25 to \$31.50 a ton and that the increase was unjustified.

The agriculture department survey showed prospects had declined nearly 7 per cent in July. Yields per acre are forecast to be 5.5 per cent below last year's and 91 per cent below the average for the past ten years. The corn crop forecast at 2,311,823,000 bushels would be the smallest since 1901. Pastures are the worst in fifty years.

Much surplus wheat will be consumed as feed to offset the 14.1 per cent aggregate deficit of feed crops. Wheat generally matured too early to be caught by dry weather. The 1930 crop forecast now is for 321,000,000 bushels.

Agriculture department and farm board experts apparently believe the drouth situation is somewhat less general than is popularly supposed. Conditions are local rather than national, they said.

FATHER AND SON KILLED FOR STEALING POTATOES

Toledo, Ohio.—There was nothing to eat in the Tilton home and the children were crying pitifully for food, so Elmer Tilton, father of the family, called his oldest son, Louis, to one side for a conference.

Then they said to Mrs. Tilton: "Mother, we're going out for a while. We're going to get something to eat for you and the kids."

They went out before dawn, last Thursday morning. An hour later a messenger came to the Tilton door to say that father and son had been shut to death "up the road a piece."

Lester Coy, a 23-year-old farmer, had caught Elmer Tilton and his 17-year-old boy in his potato patch. Coy killed both of them with a shot-gun.

Tilton was 45 years old. He had been out of work for months. He had picked up odd jobs here and there and managed to make a go of it, but in the last few days there had been no income. All day yesterday the family went without food, and by night Tilton was desperate.

Coy, the farmer, was arrested a short while after the shooting. He told police that he had been lying out in the potato patch, waiting for thieves, for four nights.

"People have been stealing my potatoes for six weeks," he said. "Altogether, I guess they've taken more than \$200 worth."

Three weeks ago I borrowed Charley Munday's shotgun and kept it around the place. I started lying out in the potato patch at nights so I could catch them. One night two men and a woman came and were digging up my potatoes. I fired into the air and they ran away.

Early this morning I was lying flat between two rows of potato plants, with the shotgun beside me. Two men came up and walked back into the field. They passed just a few feet from me. They dug potatoes for about 45 minutes. Then they hoisted their sacks up on their shoulders and started away.

"I hollered at them to stop. They started to run, so I fired. I aimed at their legs—I didn't want to kill anybody. I couldn't see anything for a minute on account of the smoke, and then I saw the older man still running. I fired again and saw him fall."

Coy then ran to a neighbor's home and telephoned the sheriff. Officers found Elmer Tilton and his son lying face downward, within twenty-five feet of each other, both dead.

The two sacks of potatoes were worth, Coy said, about \$2.



Seventeen-year old Dorothy Dell Goff of New Orleans, winner of the international beauty contest held at Galveston.

Sossamon's Sayings

By LEROY SOSSAMON

SNAKESOUP AND BOOZE
AN EDITORIAL FOUND
TWO ATOMS OF PHILOSOPHY

Federal prohibition agents made a raid on moonshiners' haunts in Piedmont North Carolina a few weeks ago and, incidentally, stumbled upon a bit of information which may or may not be of interest to those who are wont to patronize these "blind tigers" for their personal booze. A word to the wise on the merits of this time, but we merely pass the incident along for what it is worth. However, we advise you to give it full face value at least.

In a heavily wooded section near a small branch these officers came upon a sizeable cache of fermenting mash awaiting its turn at a nearby distillery. No owner was in sight and the officers proceeded to do their obvious duty. The still was duly demolished and they turned their efforts to disposing of the mash. But sufferin' snakes! The officers were dumfounded to find a queer greenish snake-like creature, resembling a baby alligator, happily snoozing away in the mash. The animal was very much alive and apparently thriving on his peppy environment. Yes, sir; a regular old moss-back, hill-bill; hootlegger, he was!

In lately attendance upon his majesty, the imbibing alligator, were twelve crayfish and . . . But the officers went no further. Besides, they didn't draw government money for taking the census of bootleg mash colonies, even if this is the regular census year.

Bringing the snake back to town as their captive, the officers related that they made a mental note of the look of consternation on the faces of several fellows who frequently visited that part of the country, presumably on very legal business.

The most plausible theory as to how this motley colony got into the mash is that the dry weather had put water at a premium, and it was hastily scooped up from some nearby half-dry puddle, frogs, snakes, leaves, filth and all.

DEMOCRAT WANT ADS PAY!

This is only one illustration of the careless manner in which it is modern "five water" is concocted. Every manner of filth and unsanitary condition is present during the process of manufacture. Very often the manufacturers make no effort whatever to keep the still clean. And the fellow who purchases this filthy stuff is the one who suffers—because the makers themselves will very often not drink the stuff from their own plant! Why? Simply because they know the conditions under which it is made.

From all this, we do not wonder that the Southern States have reported in such abundance the strange "jake" malady caused by drinking bad booze. Our only suggestion is that someone second our motion for the disease to be henceforth called "snake soup" malady, with due apologies to the incident just related from Piedmont North Carolina.

We sincerely hope that our suggestion will meet with popular approval and that by a public boycott we finally brand obsolete the term as well as the related product. For, until the public stops consuming the hellish stuff, there can be no relief. But, take it from us, if there was none consumed, except by those who now turn out this inferior product—with in six months there would be no danger from this source. The product would improve or get off the market one.

Men, if you must drink, why not at least drink something that will give the required kick without the addition of snake broth and other queer concoctions? Think, fellows, think! We are of the opinion that after due consideration you will decide that it is wise to leave off the entire thing. Still, if you must drink, why not at least start a consumers' union, or what have you, to raise the standard of what you purchase?

philosophy:
The first was probably written under very peculiar conditions, as we may get from the text. It is a definition of Love, as follows: "Love is a feeling that we feel when we feel that we have a feeling we have never felt before." Probably the writer, in his own way, knew what he was talking about; but the only impression that we get from his treatise is that Love must undoubtedly be the feeling that was experienced by that writer once upon a time, as Dr. Crother's definition of a tuffet in Little Miss Muffet.

The other bit of wit was in the form of a jingle. It goes thus:
"My face ain't no shining star;
I only know how ugly I are—
But why should I mind it?"
"I'm always behind it—
You folks in front get the jar!"

HAYWOOD CATTLEMEN WILL LOSE OVER \$50,000

Waynesville. — Haywood County cattlemen face an estimated loss of \$50,000 because of shrinkage in herds due to parched pastures and the depressed market for cattle.

James L. Robinson, county farm agent, has called a meeting of the Haywood agriculture committee here to discuss relief measures.

Robinson said he hopes to work out an arrangement with Eastern Carolina whereby Haywood cattle will be wintered in the east. Feed crops in that section are bountiful, Robinson has heard.

Haywood, banner cattle and apple growing county, had anticipated a short apple crop due to frost, blight and drought, but the situation facing the cattle raisers was not generally known.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as administrator of the estate of F. M. Maltby, deceased, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to present the same for payment one year from the date hereof, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of its recovery. All persons being indebted to the estate of said deceased will come forward and pay the same immediately.

This August 18, 1930.
W. D. FARTHING,
Administrator.

LAST SURVIVOR OF BATTLE OF MERIMAC-MONITOR DIES

Captain William Francis Drake, 91, the last survivor of the famous battle between the Merrimac and the Monitor, the first two iron-clad war vessels, died last Thursday at the Confederate Soldiers Home, Raleigh, where he had been an inmate for 28 years.

Captain Drake was not only the last survivor of the famous sea battle, but he was also the oldest inmate of the Home. His passing gives renewed emphasis to the rapid thinning of the "Gray Line," 58 years ago when Superintendent W. T. Mangum took charge, there were 96 inmates of the Home. The departure of Captain Drake leaves only 26 and 11 of that number are in the hospital.

Although his principal engagement was at sea, Captain Drake served in the Army rather than the Navy, being a member of the United Artillery of Norfolk and Portsmouth, which was called upon to man the guns on the Confederate gunboat Merrimac, the first "sea monster."

Captain Drake, whose home was in Northampton County, served throughout the war as ensign on April 13, 1861. The famous clash between the Merrimac and the Monitor, prepared by Federal forces to meet it, occurred in Hampton Roads on March 9, 1862. All of those who were aboard the Monitor predeceased Captain Drake.

Captain Drake, who was a teacher until he entered the Home, was a deeply religious man. He was an active member of the Methodist Church and the Masonic Order and served for a number of years as chaplain at the Soldiers Home.

NORTH CAROLINA RANKS FORTIETH IN EDUCATION

Raleigh.—Based on a composite ranking of five educational items for 1927-28, North Carolina ranks fortieth among the states in public education. It is learned from "State School Facts," publication of the Department of Public Instruction.

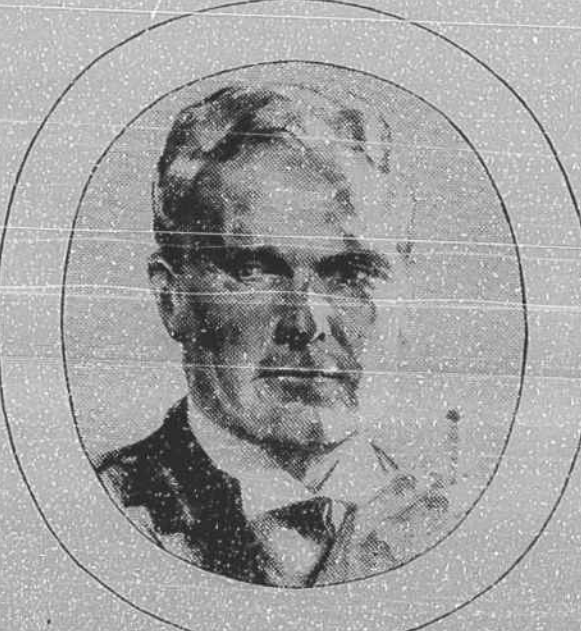
The five items upon which the states are ranked are: (1) number of pupils attending daily for each 100 enrolled, (2) average number days schools were in session, (3) average annual salaries of teachers, supervisors and principals, (4) per cent of total enrollment in high school, and (5) average value of school property per pupil enrolled.

The current number of School Facts concerns itself with public education in the States, the data presented being taken from Bulletin, 1930, No. 5, giving statistics for state school systems for 1927-28 and recently issued by the Office of Education of the U. S. Department of the Interior.

This paper shows that based on the five items mentioned North Carolina has a higher rank than the following States: Oklahoma, Kentucky, South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, Arkansas, and Mississippi. North Carolina held 41st place among the states on the basis of identical facts for 1925-26. This state took fortieth place in 1927-28, according to School Facts, by ranking 39th on item 1, 42nd on item 2, 40th on item 3, 36th on item 4, and 38th on item 5. This State's lowest rank, that paper further points out, is on item 2, the average length of school term.

On the basis of these five items, Virginia is just ahead of North Carolina at 39th place. South Carolina ranks 43rd in this respect, and Tennessee 45th. On the basis of these five items the State of Massachusetts has the best school system, while Mississippi ranks lowest in this respect.

"What did you pay for your watch?"
"Six months."



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