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Farm Review and Forecast

Proposed Soil Bank Cause Of Concern Among Farmers As Well As Congressmen

By BILL WHITLEY

SOIL BANK. Most lawmakers in Washington feel that the idea of a soil bank to cut farm production and yet hold soil in readiness for cultivation is a good idea.

Under plans outlined, the government would pay a farmer for taking a certain percentage of his acreage out of production of basic commodities.

There is one big question still unanswered, however. The Department of Agriculture isn't ready to say yet how much it is willing to

pay per acre to take such land out of production.

If a farmer grows 100 acres of cotton, he would be allowed to take 20 acres, for example, out of cotton production. He would still produce 80 acres of cotton and the government would pay him a percentage of what he could expect to, make on the other 20. It probably would be in the form of a direct check from the government.

QUESTION. The big question is, however, how big a percentage of what the farmer could "expect to

Survived Fire



SAVED from a fire that swept through a Milwaukee building, claiming six lives, an elderly woman is removed by a fireman. An undetermined number of others leaped from windows into rescue nets. (International)

Farm Labor Migrating To Industry

The migration of much labor from North Carolina farms to industry is a matter of concern to many farmers, according to D. G. Harwood, Jr., extension farm management specialist at State College.

Harwood says that farmers are disturbed over two things: the shortage of farm labor, and the high wage rate which available labor demands.

He says that many farmers are wondering whether or not it will pay to purchase machinery to take the place of labor, and also, how to use the labor they now have most efficiently. He adds that this concern is justified since labor is the most expensive production cost on the farm.

Three recent bulletins designed to help answer farmers' questions concerning mechanization and labor are: "Will It Pay To Mechanize Tobacco?"; "Saving Labor In Stringing Tobacco"; and "Should I Buy or Hire a Cotton Harvester?" These bulletins are available at county agents' offices over the state.

make" on the 20 acres would the government be willing to pay.

If it's 100 per cent, then any farmer would be foolish to plant any basics so long as the government would pay the full load.

If it's 50 per cent, then small family size farmers couldn't afford to take part.

A farmer raising five acres of cotton, for instance, couldn't afford, moneywise, to raise only three acres and let the government pay him 50 per cent of what he could expect to make on the other two.

As Secretary Benson told the Senate Agriculture Committee last week, "That is a crucial point and a critical percentage we must work out."

He said he'd offer a definite "percentage" to be used at a later date. Meanwhile, many lawmakers are withholding judgment on the soil bank plan for this reason.

BANQUET. Tar Heel Democrats in the Nation's Capital are whipping together final plans for their annual banquet honoring North Carolina's Democratic Congressional delegation.

It'll be the 20th such affair, and it's scheduled to come off Saturday, March 24, at the newly decorated Sheraton-Park Hotel.

This year, according to Democratic Club president Walter Pittman, plans are being made to handle many more than the 600 people who turned out for the affair last year.

LAFF-A-DAY



"Marry me, Linda, I need you!"

Hotbeds, Coldframes Useful For Growing Early Plants

By ROBERT SCHMIDT

It is not difficult to grow your own plants if you have a hotbed or coldframe available. A few plants could easily be grown in a shallow box in a kitchen window. It usually takes from five to 10 weeks to grow plants from seed ready to set out in the garden, depending on the kind of crop and on the temperature and growing conditions.

Hotbeds and coldframes are structures used to grow early plants from seeds for transplanting in the garden after danger of frost is over,

or in some cases to give sufficient protection to certain kinds of plants to allow them to mature during the late fall or winter seasons. A coldframe is built like a hotbed but has no source of heat except the heat from the sun's rays.

A hotbed is supplied with some artificial source of heat such as electricity, steam, hot water, hot air or horse manure. The frames may be covered with glass sash, cellophane, glass cloth, plastic materials or heavy muslin cloth. Glass sash are the most efficient covers, but they are rather expensive.

However, if given good care they will last for many years whereas the other materials will have to be replaced every two or three years. The kind of heat to be used will depend on what is most easily available.

Electricity is the most efficient and dependable source of heat because it can be controlled by means of a thermostat.

Control of temperature, watering and ventilation are the important operations in the care of hotbeds and coldframes. Temperatures should not be allowed to go too high, and watering should not be

excessive if you wish good plants. Bulletins on construction and management of hotbeds and coldframes may be obtained by writing the N.C. Extension Service, Department of Horticulture, N. C. State College, Raleigh, North Carolina.

The milk flow has started to increase seasonally, and is likely to be above 1955 levels through this winter.

Stocks of wheat stored in all positions on October 1, 1955, were the largest for the date in the comparable series beginning in 1955.

Legislative Production

PHOENIX, Ariz. (AP) — State Rep. Enos Schaffer gave his fellow legislators a birth announcement they could understand when he became the father of a son:

"Announcing a candidate for the Legislature in the year 1980 (25 is the minimum age), Richard Enos Schaffer. Produced through the cooperation of Garnett J. Shaffer, chairwoman, Planning and Development Committee; Enos P. Schaffer, chairman, Ways and Means Committee, and Dr. Brainard and Dr. Scott, Co-chairmen, Labor Committee."

Rhode Island, the smallest state, has the shortest motto, "Hope."



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TIME SAVED BY WEANING HEAVY PIGS

Weaning Weight	Time to Reach 200-225 lb. Market Weight
25-30 lbs.	8 1/2 Months
30-40 lbs.	6 Months
40-50 lbs.	5 1/2 Months
50-60 lbs.	5 Months

Time is money to the hog man!

Last year was a good example of how important it is to start pigs fast. Hogs that hit the early market brought up to \$5.00 per cwt. more. The chart above shows how important it is to wean heavy pigs.

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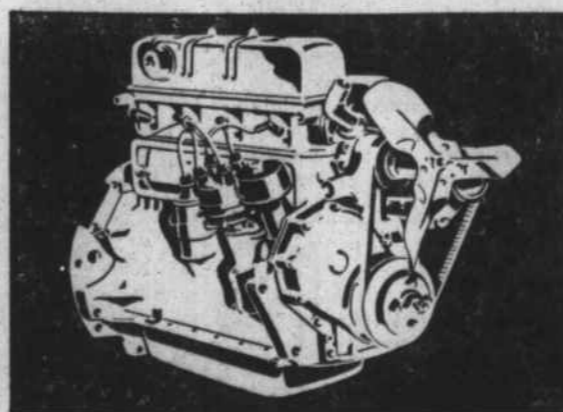
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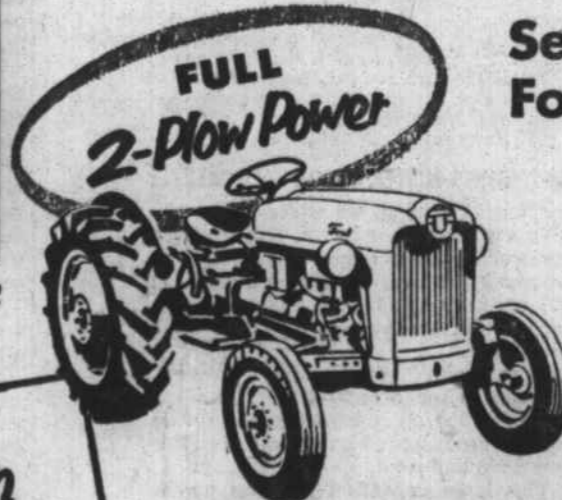
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