

The News-Journal



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YOU and YOUR CONGRESS



WASHINGTON—This is the season when chartered buses with license plates representing every state in the Union may be seen parked row on row in the broad plaza behind the Capitol building in Washington.

Together with trains, airplanes and automobiles, they bring thousands of school students and others here each spring and Capitol corridors teem with visitors eager to see Congress in action.

And a great many of them, having looked, go away disappointed. That is because these dismayed visitors do not understand how Congress works.

"Another misconception of a Congressman's activities is that his most important job is to attend daily sessions," Rep. Charles A. Halleck R-Ind., House Majority Leader, said recently in discussing lack of general knowledge regarding Congressional operations.

"Time and again visitors to the Capitol have expressed their resentment that so few members were on the floor of the House or Senate on a given day," Halleck continued.

"Actually, in terms of hours spent, sessions themselves occupy a small part of a member's week. And if the business at hand is of a minor nature, as is often the case, it may be handled by a

quorum (at least 218 members), releasing many members for more necessary work on committee assignments."

The lack of general public knowledge about Congressional operations, of which Halleck complains, is not new. In fact, when Halleck was a child, Woodrow Wilson, a close student of government, was explaining: "Congress in session is Congress on public exhibition, whilst Congress in its committee rooms is Congress at work."

The Congress of the United States has developed a committee system that is unique among the world's national representative legislatures.

The House of Representatives has 19 standing committees that handle legislation; the Senate, 15.

Every bill introduced in the House or Senate is assigned to the committee having jurisdiction over the field the bill concerns.

Whether the bill is acted upon or dies in committee is, with rare exception, up to the committee. The committee can change the bill almost any way it sees fit. By holding public hearings on the bill, it can give the pros and cons of the matter involved a broad airing before the measure ever reaches the floor debate stage.

Committee work on a bill is far more important than the floor debate, which, while interesting to visitors in the House and Senate galleries, seldom changes many votes. That explains why Sen. Wayne Morse (Ind.-Ore.) recently incurred the great displeasure of many of his colleagues when, by exercising his Senatorial prerogative, he insisted that Senate committees with heavy work

schedules not be permitted to meet during the days-long tides-lands oil filibuster.

While the committee system unquestionably is the legislative backbone of Congress, the odd thing about it is that it developed quite haphazardly and was solidified only through a series of delayed reorganizations.

In the early days, a special, or select, committee was appointed for almost every new bill introduced. For example, the Third Congress (1793-1795) had 350 select committees. As the legislative load grew, that system broke down and Congress switched to select committees on subjects instead of separate bills—but the standing committee remained a rarity. The 13th Congress (1813-1815) had 70 select committees and only 13 standing committees.

Ultimately, the second system also broke down and in 1921, for instance, the Senate reorganized its 73 committees into 29. The present setup, reducing the number of both Senate and House committees, emerged from the 1946 reorganization.

Consumers' Food Cost Remain The Same

Farm prices of food products declined in 1952, but all advantage to consumers was offset by increased costs of marketing.

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture, reports that the average retail price of the foods in the family market basket was the same in the final quarter of 1952 as it was in the same period of 1951, even though their farm value had fallen approximately 7 per cent in the interim. The explanation lies in the fact that the charges for marketing the farm-produced foods rose approximately 7 per cent in the same period.

With marketing charges higher and farm prices lower, the farmer's share of the dollar consumers spent for food shrank to 46 cents in the last quarter of 1952 as compared with an average of 50 cents a year earlier.

Higher wages for food marketing employees, higher transportation costs, and increased rents were all responsible for the increased marketing costs, according to BAE. Average hourly earnings of employees in food marketing enterprises were 5 per cent higher in November 1952 than a year earlier. Transportation rates of both rail and motor carriers were raised during 1952, and rents and other costs of firms marketing agricultural products advanced during the year.

Since no reduction in these costs is anticipated in the near future, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics considers it reasonable to assume that the present level of food marketing charges will be at least maintained in 1953.

Tips For Freezing Dairy Products

Did you realize that you could successfully freeze many of your own dairy products. You can, says Nita Orr, State College extension specialist in marketing and food conservation.

To freeze cream, separate the cream in a mechanical separator to a fat content of about 30 per cent, or skim the milk very carefully so the fat content of the cream will be as high as possible.

Pasteurize the cream by holding it at 155 degrees for about 30 minutes. Cool at once by putting the container of cream in cold water. Pasteurization gives cream much better keeping qualities in storage. Put the cream in a good frozen food container so there will be no moisture loss.

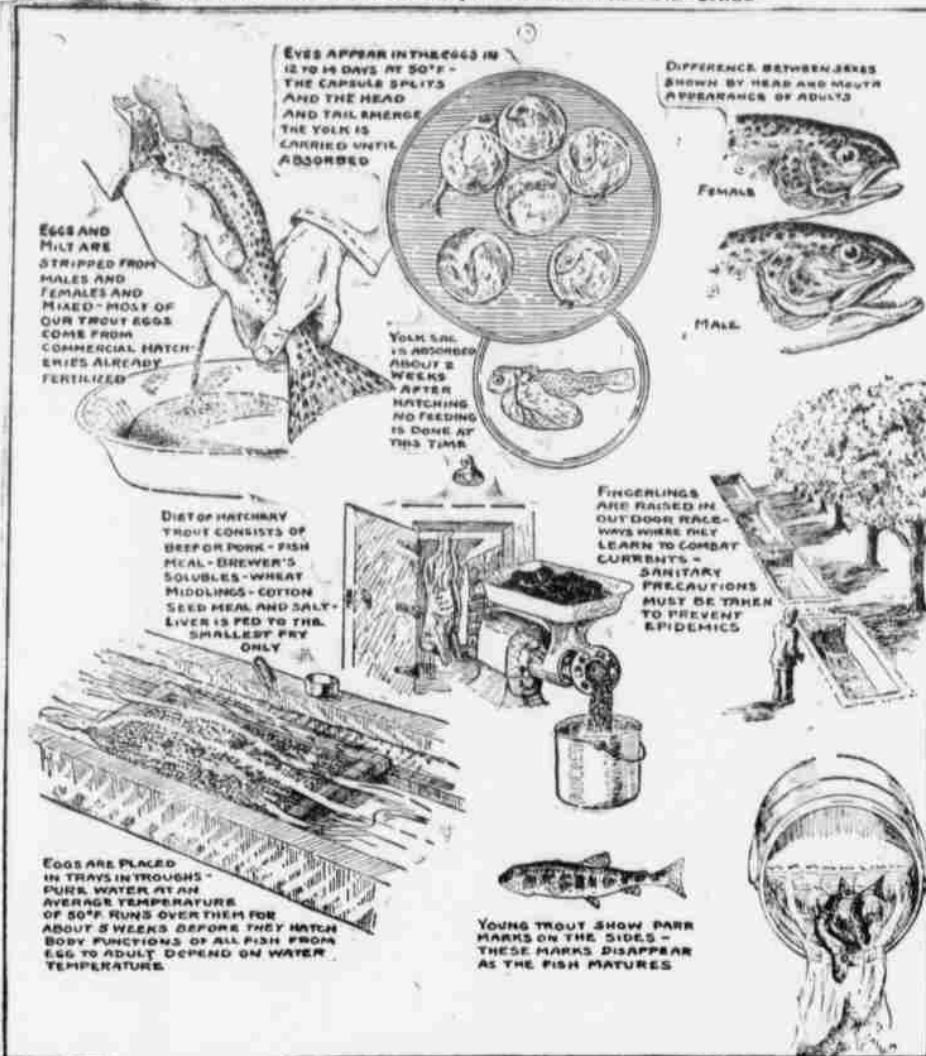
If you freeze butter, it should be made only from pasteurized cream. Butter made from unpasteurized cream turns rancid quickly after thawing. Wrap butter for freezing in good packaging material made especially for frozen foods, or pack in a fruit or vegetable freezer container, recommends Miss Orr.

Ice cream stored in the home freezer or locker keeps better for a longer period of time if it is packaged in frozen food containers rather than in regular ice cream containers. Tests show that ice cream made in a "turning" freezer has better keeping qualities. Ice cream made with fresh fruit juice keeps its freshness in storage better than does plain ice cream, says Miss Orr.

Air cured tobacco usually requires three to four weeks for the leaves to cure depending on the weather.

TARHEEL WILDLIFE SKETCHES

TROUT PRODUCTION REQUIRES SCIENCE AND SKILL



Treat Peanut Seed For A Good Stand

A sure way for farmers to get a good stand of peanuts this summer is for them to treat their seed before planting, according to J. C. Wells.

Wells, a plant pathologist for the N. C. State College Agricultural Extension Service, suggests that Tar Heel peanut growers treat their seed with chemicals prior to planting this spring—not as a means of making poor seed good, but to protect them from decay, thus insuring improved stands and higher yields.

Wells says the best materials for treating peanut seed are Arasan, 2 percent Ceresan, Yellow Cuprocide and Spergon. These materials can be purchased in all areas of the state from local dealers, the scientist says. Arasan should be applied at the rate of three ounces per 100 pounds of seed. The others are applied at the rate of four ounces per 100 pounds of seed. Wells says that Spergon is not quite as effective as the other materials.

The best way to treat seed, Wells says, is to place the chemical and seed together inside a barrel or drum with a cloth-fitting lid and roll it slowly along the ground. When desirable to treat small amounts of seed, however, a lard tin, or similar container will do a good job. A barrel treader, commonly used to treat cotton seed, may be used if it is turned slowly. If the treader is turned too fast the seed are thrown about inside and mechanical injury to the seed coats results.

The 1952 world production of barley and oats is estimated at 133 million short tons.

Farm Questions

Question: "What kind of field is best for aromatic tobacco?"

Answer: Aromatic tobacco is probably more sensitive to the soil in which it is grown than any other crop planted in North Carolina, making the selection and preparation of the soil all important. Because of its high labor and small acreage requirements, aromatic tobacco is best adapted to small farms with large families. A farmer planning to grow a crop of this type of tobacco should determine first if his soil, labor and buildings are such that he can expect to produce a good quality leaf.

A medium topsoil containing a mixture of sand, gravel and small rock fragments is best, this rules out most of the eastern part of the state. The better quality aromatic tobacco is produced on relatively poor soils or on soils containing minimum fertility. Rich, naturally fertile soils can be ruled out to begin with because they produce large plants with heavy leaves and other undesirable features. In the foothills of the mountains the Halewood, Watauga, Clifton, Porters and Ashe soils have regularly produced satisfactory yields of good quality. These soils have only medium natural fertility and usually some stone in the top of the subsoil.

Select a field with enough slope for good natural drainage. The most suitable sites are usually near the crest of the border ridges, although areas further down slope may be used. Avoid low, flat areas and the foot of slopes because these places will be wet and often too fertile.

Addenda

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week, too. Both met on Tuesday night. The Presbyterian men had their supper meeting in the basement of their church and enjoyed hearing the Rev. Neill G. Stevens, a brother of A. K. Stevens and a former missionary in Africa, who is now living in Bladen County. Also meeting for supper on Tuesday night, the men of the Baptist church had as their speaker Dr. E. N. Gardner, pastor of the Laurinburg Baptist Church. The men had as their guests at the meeting the boys of the church from about 13 years of age up.

Ginners Official

(Continued from Page 1)

dustry to correct these inequalities and protect the full time cotton producer.

"The Cotton producers in the far west are going to spare no effort to bring about a change to increase their cotton acreage. They hope to have the proposed 1954 allotments based upon their recent heavy plantings rather than on the five year average. If this movement is successful, the old eastern cotton belt will

be cut to the barest minimum. It is becoming increasingly important for the cotton producer the ginner, and the cottonseed crusher of the eastern seaboard to pull together and fight this ever threatening competition of the western planter. Only through strong organizations and a closer cooperation of all segments of the cotton industry in the southeast will we be able to meet this powerful western menace to our future as cotton producers.

"The ginners of the Carolinas and Virginia have done their part in making the cotton produced here more acceptable to world markets, through improved preparation. Our seed breeders and state and federal agencies are striving to find better and hardier varieties of cotton for our area, yet we need to carry our work into other channels. We have The National Cotton Council of America working tirelessly in the field of cotton promotion on the national level, but we need more promotional activity on the states level to keep the quality and usefulness of Carolina's Cotton before the public eye. Our various industry associations have able leadership, but without the support of every cotton farmer and ginner in the east we will not be able to carry the story of Carolina's Cotton to the world markets.

"The Carolinas are almost daily having inquiries concerning locations for manufacturing firms. Many of these northern industries are finding the ideal location for their plants in the Carolinas. We must not sit back and see them produce products made from cotton grown in other states. Work together and advertise Carolina's cotton. With proper approach and intensive study Cotton will again be King in the Carolinas."

Seniors Take

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ford about midnight Sunday, glad to be home but ready to go again soon.

Students making the trip were: Jane Wood, Edith McNeill, Eloise Dean, Marilyn Lewis, Barbara Garrison, Pat Lamont, Jean Sherrill, Katherine MacDonald, Ellen K. Koonce, Helen McDougald, Lena Miller, Rae McMillan, June Connell, Lavinia Wade, Avey Jane Porter, Betty Jean Wood, Ann Wood, Leroy Freeman, Sidney Lovette, John McPhaul, Gerald Soperfield, Bobby Brown, Joe Colburn, L. S. Brock, Malcolm Davis, Glenn Clark, Jerry Dreene, C. J. Benner, Bobby McCall, Jerry Hardister, David McFadyen, Bobby Williams, Palmer Willeox, James Carson, Mawyer Calloway.

In North America barley production of 325 million bushels in 1952 was slightly above the 1951 output despite a net acreage reduction.

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