

What About Our Food Supply?

The winning of the war and the production of ample food are two pressing problems around which many other present day problems revolve. Inasmuch as the Secretary of Agriculture is responsible for food production, any interference of his on the subject is of interest and importance. I am, therefore, confident that the following statement (February 25th) credited to Mr. Wickard will interest you.

"Secretary Wickard said in a statement that from this time henceforth to make public the facts about the supply of food for civilians. He feels that the American people if they knew the facts could be induced to help make their food supply. The fact is that we are today producing more food than we need. It is going to be necessary for them to begin food buying and saving habits. With the beginning of rationing of processed foods and vegetables, we enter a new phase of wartime living. By careful management we shall all have all that we need to eat, even if we have to forego some of the food that we would like to eat. The announcement of the point values of canned vegetables and fruits has made it clear how much - or how little - of these products will be available in the next month to each family, about half as much as the large amounts we have been getting in recent years. This is because these products are required to feed our fighting men.

In the month ahead, those who depend on processed vegetables that they may buy when their points and the fresh vegetables in the market, should be careful to stretch their buying over the month. With the exception of carrots, vegetables will not be plentiful during March. The fruit situation is more favorable.

"The over all food picture for the year ahead looks about the same as it has for some time. The most notable change has been in dried peas and beans. We started 1939 with a record supply, but it soon became apparent that the needs for shipment to fighting fronts, and for accumulating reserves of these easily stored foods against future contingencies would take more than we had calculated in early January. Our Russian allies need 5 million bags of beans out of our total of 23 million bags

for their troops. Civilians will receive about 10 pounds less per person of these foods than they did last year. It makes sense to ration beans and peas to Russia and to ration our civilians at an adequate level. We must see to it that there is enough food left to ration to give our civilians an adequate diet. Even if we rationed to give our own armed forces the same ration, civilians could buy and eat all that could possibly be produced of many basic foodstuffs. As a whole the American people are better fed now than they have ever been. Even though we ration, we will all the difficulties and we will be able to produce more food than we need. The rationing of these products will be a new phase of wartime living. By careful management we shall all have all that we need to eat, even if we have to forego some of the food that we would like to eat. The announcement of the point values of canned vegetables and fruits has made it clear how much - or how little - of these products will be available in the next month to each family, about half as much as the large amounts we have been getting in recent years. This is because these products are required to feed our fighting men.

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STATE COLLEGE ANSWERS TIMELY FARM QUES.

QUESTION-Will the spray treatment successfully "cure" blue mold after the disease has infected tobacco plant beds?

ANSWER-The copper oxide-sulfur spray method of controlling blue mold in tobacco plant beds is a preventive measure and is not very effective where plants are already diseased. According to Howard Garza, extension plant pathologist at North Carolina State College, the preventive treatment is effective only as a preventive or as a cure. These two treatments are recommended by State College authorities.

QUESTION-Can I change an old plow on my farm into a tractor plow?

ANSWER-Yes, the plow is easily adapted to tractor use. For the first time, all that is required is to attach a tractor to the plow. The tractor should be driven in the rows about one to two weeks prior to transplanting. A broad ridge, which is generally made with two furrows with a one horse turning plow and the mounds scattered with a sweep, gives an opportunity for a better stand and quicker growth.

QUESTION-Should feeder pigs be placed in a flooded pen?

ANSWER-No. Feeder pigs in a flooded pen or a small woodlot often fail to show proper gains because of a lack of green feed, minerals and sanitation. A simple type of shelter should be provided to protect them from cold rains in winter and the hot weather during summer. Pigs should be given plenty of clean drinking water at all times. An efficient, flat bottomed trough with narrow strips across the top at 12-inch intervals will hold more water than a "V" type trough and will prevent the wasting of water. Used kerosene oil is suggested for the control of lice and mange.

The North Carolina Holstein Breeder's Association will hold a consignment sale at Thomasville on April 14, offering 21 heifers and 1 bull. Catalogs may be secured from Dr. C. L. Rankin, Morganton.

"Alfalfa Yellows" can be cured by the application of 30 pounds of borax per acre. The disease is caused by a deficiency of boron.

QUESTION-Do dairy cows need bulky feeds?

ANSWER-Yes. According to J. A. Arey, dairy Extension specialist at North Carolina State College, a loose, bulky grain mixture is more easily penetrated by the digestive juices than is a heavy mixture, unless the latter is fed on silage. Bulky grain mixtures are especially desirable for heavy producing cows since they, of necessity, consume large quantities of grain. A grain mixture containing bulky feeds such as corn and cob meal, wheat bran, ground oats, ground barley, or heat pulp and weighing about one pound per quart, has sufficient bulk.

QUESTION-How should land be prepared for tobacco?

ANSWER-The tobacco land should be broken in the early spring. Otherwise in the fall, if the soil is harrowed after it has been broken, following heavy rains, the soil will preserve the moisture. The harrow should be driven in the rows about one to two weeks prior to transplanting. A broad ridge, which is generally made with two furrows with a one horse turning plow and the mounds scattered with a sweep, gives an opportunity for a better stand and quicker growth.

QUESTION-Should I treat my cotton seed before planting?

ANSWER-Yes, you ought. Dr. Luther Furr, experiment station plant pathologist at North Carolina State College, says that North Carolina growers lose about 150 million pounds of seed cotton every year from pest attacks and that an important factor causing pest attacks is the disease known as damping off. It can be controlled through proper seed treatment. Materials for treating may be secured at local seed, hardware and drug stores.

Germs of the damping off disease are usually present on all cotton seed less than two years old. Boll rots and rainy weather during the harvesting season lead

to a high degree of seed contamination. By all means treat your cotton seed in 1940.

What May We Hate?

There are some people today who are saying that what is lacking in this war is a good hate - that until we begin to hate, we won't begin to fight. They want our propaganda keyed to a horror theme, so that our people will be mad with rage. They forget that mob hatred is just a step from mob hatred - and that no one can predict on whom the mob will turn next.

But if we cannot hate a people - what may we hate?

We may hate the war. We can hate war so much that we will fight with every ounce of our ability to wipe it from the earth forever - not in a servile pacifistic withdrawal from the fight, but in a supreme battle against those criminals who bring desolation and destruction upon the peaceful people of the world. We can hate war so much that we will gladly put aside our way of life for a while so that we may speedily put an end to war.

We may hate intolerance. We may hate intolerance so intensely that we will try to stamp it out wherever it exists, in any place in the world, toward any group, whether that group be majority or minority. We may hate intolerance so much that we will set a seal upon our own lips and see to it that no intolerance act or speech of ours adds flame to this funeral pyre of unity.

We may hate discrimination. We may hate it so vehemently that we will demand equal rights for all people. We may hate discrimination so intensely that we

will insist that all people be judged upon their individual merits and not as a group. We may hate discrimination so sincerely that we will never demand special privileges for ourselves as part of any group.

We may hate cruelty. We may fight to the bitter end to wipe out organized cruelty to any people anywhere. We may hate treachery, deceit, dishonor. We may hate it so that we ostracize from our lives all those who live by these practices. We may hate injustice. We may hate it enough to give our lives for the cause of freedom and fair play.

"Ye that love the Lord, hate evil," spake the Psalmist. "These things may we hate and against these things do we fight."

WE BELIEVE

"There is no atheism in the fox holes." To my mind that ringing sentence which came out of the battle fields of the South Pacific is one of the most soul-stirring slogans of the war.

Years ago I heard it phrased slightly differently. One day in mid-ocean when there was a heavy sea rolling steely gray to meet a slightly paler sky, a ship's doctor said to me: "No man who follows the sea can be an atheist. Those who live amid storms cannot help but believe in God."

If this war, to which we are giving all that we hold dear, were but a struggle between rival nations for power and land - an enlarged gang warfare - there would be no hope for the future. The darkness would cover the earth and it would be as it was before the beginning of time.

But it is not that kind of a war. This is warfare between those on the one side who believe in God and in the God-given rights of man and those on the other who deny both the sovereignty of God and the free will of man.

In this world there is not sufficient room for those who believe in the dictatorship of the few and the enslavement of the many, to dwell side by side in amity with those who believe in a monotheistic doctrine - whether they be called Protestant, Catholic or Jew. The two methods of life are diametrically opposed to one another and there is no common meeting ground.

We will win this war because "we fight on God's side", to use the great phrase contributed by an American Negro. All of us have been brought up to say, whether it be in cathedral, church or synagogue - "The Lord is my light

and my salvation, whom shall I fear?" We are not fighting from desperation, with secret police dogging our footsteps and a firing squad ever ready for its hapless victims. We are fighting voluntarily that we may live as free men - free to carry out the will of Him whom all of us worship through in diverse ways.

We are a God-fearing nation - not fear in the sense of terror, but in a spirit of reverence. We owe allegiance to a God of mercy, to a God of justice. We fight on His side for the liberation of the oppressed and subjugated people. We fight that peace may come again to earth and that children of the world over may have a chance to grow strong and healthy in both body and mind, learning to put God before man made rulers, to obey His Commandments and to put into practice that other commandment, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

No, there is no atheism in the fox holes. And when the powers of evil are at last vanquished, God grant that the great apostrophe of faith will show us the way to make an everlasting peace in which all men will live as brothers acknowledging the fatherhood of God!

SWEET POTATOES

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has announced that it will support the prices of U. S. No. 1 grade sweet potatoes in 1940 at \$1.15 to \$1.45 per bushel, depending on seasonal differences.

J. O. U. A. M. MEETING MONDAY NIGHT

The regular meeting of the Edison Council No. 270 Junior Order United American Mechanics will

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