

# SPUD CROP SAID STILL VALUABLE

### Despite Prices Received By Growers In Carolinas And Virginia

BY GUY A. CARDWELL  
General Agricultural Agent  
Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Co.

In spite of the fact that South and North Carolina and Virginia are not growing Irish potatoes in the great quantities that they were in the past, the prices received during recent seasons, this is still an outstanding valuable crop.

There has been a substantial increase in per capita consumption of potatoes due to the substitution of other foods and in some measure to the belief on the part of some people that potatoes are fattening. Although the fattening theory has been discredited by reliable and scientific authorities, consumption has not increased and probably will not until a superior product goes to market backed by a good reputation and some advertising.

Lower prices paid for potatoes in recent seasons has probably been due in part to surplus supplies and to active competition between producing sections for a reduced volume of business. It has therefore become more and more necessary for the producers and buyers of this section to produce and ship potatoes of superior quality.

In handling potatoes in the field, at the packing house and on the shipping platform, growers and shippers should remember that the early potato is a highly perishable commodity. It is not fully matured. Its skin is very tender. It has an excessive natural moisture and skins and bruises very easily. Since each potato bruised is a potential rotten potato, all potatoes should be handled as carefully as one would handle peaches and eggs.

It is a well known fact that attractiveness of appearance is a leading factor in marketing any commodity. If you believe this, dress your potatoes in their best "dull rags" and send them to market in plump, sound condition with smooth, clean faces. If you are careful to see that this is done you should find yourself up among the leaders in disposing of your crop and in holding your customers.

According to a recent Truck Crop News Report on commercial early Irish potatoes, irregular stands are reported in Baldwin and Mobile counties in Alabama as a result of excessive rains early in the season, which caused considerable rotting of seed pieces. Poor stands are more noticeable in the south half of Baldwin with better stands around Loxley and Robertsedale. Replantings were extensive and these are now coming up.

Movement is expected around the 10th or 15th of May with harvest lasting longer than usual. Louisiana potatoes, although late, have made fair progress. Condition of plants ranges from poor in some areas to good in others. Stands are irregular in some sections as result of too much rain at planting time. Growers are expecting a slightly reduced yield.

In Mississippi potatoes are somewhat late but are making good progress now. Harvesting in the main producing (Marion county) area is expected to begin around May 15th. Weather in Arkansas during early April continued unfavorable for germination and growth of early potatoes. Stands are generally spotted. With the improved growing conditions the last few days of the period, the crop is now making better progress.

In Georgia potatoes are looking good in all early producing counties. The crop, however, is late because of late plantings and cold, wet weather in March. The South Carolina crop is some ten days late but recent weather has been generally favorable and the condition of the crop is fair to good. Potatoes are coming up to good stands in all North Carolina areas except in scattered lowland sections and in the Tabor City area where some seed damage occurred. Growing plants are reported in good condition and present prospects are for a fair to good crop if weather conditions continue favorable. In Virginia potatoes are coming up in the Norfolk section and the Lower Eastern Shore. Growers are expecting good stands.

# Farmers Seek Substitutes For Top-Dressing Nitrates

Top-dressing cotton and corn with nitrate of soda about this time of the year is the farmer's way of giving his crops that "extra boost" that produces high yields of quality lint and grain. But the war has created a serious shortage of nitrates.

Dr. E. R. Collins, Extension agronomy leader at N. C. State College, says his department and county farm agents have been literally swamped, of late, with requests from farmers about substitutes for customary top-dressing materials. They also want to know, naturally, if additional supplies of nitrate of soda will be made available.

In answer to these queries, Dr. Collins says: "Only 50 to 70 per cent of the usual nitrate of soda supply will be available this year. Consequently, the War Production Board has taken charge of allotting the nitrate."

"The WPB has promised to allot the nitrate where and as it is needed," the agronomist continued. "The War Production Board has assured growers that they will receive their fair share of the available nitrate of soda supply. Therefore, we have reason to hope that additional supplies of top-dressing material if farmers will make their needs known."

## 7-POINT PROGRAM STUDIED BY AGENTS

### To Explain President's Control The Cost Of Living Plan

May 17.—A state-wide educational program to fully acquaint every farm family with President Roosevelt's seven-point program to control the cost of living will be started this week with district meetings of farm and home agents, and assistant agents. The State College Extension Service has been assigned this war-time educational job by the United States Department of Agriculture.

Dean I. O. Schaub, Extension director, announced that the meeting of the county Extension workers will be held as follows: Monday, May 18, at Albemarle for agents of Lee, Moore, Montgomery, Richmond, Anson, Union, Stanly, Cabarrus, Davie, and Rowan; and at Kinston for agents of Carteret, Craven, Duplin, Johnston, Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico, Pedner, and Wayne counties.

Tuesday May 19, at Lumberton for agents of Robeson, Scotland, Hoke, Cumberland, Harnett, Sampson, Bladen, New Hanover, Brunswick, and Columbus counties; and at Shelby for agents of Cleveland, Polk, Rutherford, Gaston, Lincoln, Catawba, Alexander, Caldwell, Mecklenburg, and Iredell.

Wednesday, May 20, at Raleigh for agents of Wake, Caswell, Alamance, Chatham, Durham, Franklin, Granville, Orange, Person, Vance, and Warren counties. Thursday, May 21, at Rocky Mount for agents of Edgecombe, Nash, Northampton, Halifax, Wills, Greene, Pitt, Beaufort, and Martin.

Friday, May 22, at Edenton, for agents of Hertford, Hyde, Tyrrell, Washington, Bertie, Gates, Dare, Currituck, Camden, Pasquotank, Persimmon, and Chowan; and at Winston-Salem for agents of Forsyth, Rockingham, Guilford, Randolph, Davidson, Stokes, Surry, Wilkes, and Yadkin.

Dean Schaub said that the agents will be expected to return to their counties and conduct the educational program through neighborhood leaders.

# THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson  
IN MANORUM, INDIA, 264 INCHES OF RAIN FELL IN A SINGLE MONTH!

SWELL WEATHER FOR DUCKS!

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WE CAN PROVE IT!  
WE CAN SHOW YOU A SPECIMEN 33,000 YEARS AGO!  
BECAME EXTINCT ABOUT 60 MILLION YEARS AGO.

ANSWER: It is the Blue Whale, a recently captured specimen of which measured 109 feet.

# 'RAMBLING DAYS' OVER FOR SCRIBE

### But Joseph Hufham Swears To Keep An 'Ear To The Ground'

BY JOSEPH HUFHAM  
DELECO, May 17.—Well, it looks like my rambling days are about over. But we still have our "ears to the ground," so we'll be watching. You had better beware of how you call your sweetie Sugar, the rationing board might misunderstand.

During our "fringe" in the jury box we conceived the idea that at least once an hour the court ought to pass around a coffee pot. And the court must have been somewhat sympathetic with us: we sat to pass judgment on only one case.

In looking up the analysis for the writing of a good serial story we found: 99 per cent perspiration, 1 per cent inspiration. We looked only the one per cent. Hence, no story.

You see, sometimes a fellow labors in vain, or at least when it is not necessary. For instance, we were just informed that a man's boat turned over in Lake Waccamaw one exceptionally dark night recently, and he swam nearly all night, without finding land, and so, finally, he became so exhausted he gave up and began sinking.

He sank about two feet and then struck bottom! He then stood up, did a little quick calculation, and concluded that he had been swimming for hours with his tummy all but scrubbing the bottom! He was so angry he almost forgot that his life had been spared!

Have had a few letters from old pals in uniform. Said that our column seems somewhat like a letter from home. One called it the "stock-yard" column. We take pleasure in writing these old buddies. The net is gathering around us, closer and closer every day, and soon we might be in uniform. So, if any of you khaki-clad boys happen to see something setting up in a trench that might look like a big muskrat caught in a steel trap, don't shoot until you investigate. It might be us!

Hush, little gas tank. Don't you cry. You'll be rat bed. Bye and bye!

And so this gas rationing has some fellows hitting the ceiling! One merchant-farmer said that he was going to have to sell his horses and quit farming. Another farmer said that he had a thirty acre farm. He says that he is going to sell it and join the colors. Another said that he was going to have to let the crops on the most of his 100-acre farm go to waste.

The explanation to this is the shortage of farm labor. These farmers were used to taking their motor vehicles and hauling farm hands back and forth to do their labor. Now, not sufficient gas. And the most of these hands are so far away, should they walk to work it would take them until noon to get to their jobs, and by that time they would have to starve back in order to be home in time for supper. Who is going to be able to solve this problem? Who is going to "keep 'em plowing!"

Last Sunday evening we were in church. Many of those gathering for worship were yet in the yard. Seeing that the time had arrived to begin services, we picked up a humn book and started walking over to join the choir. "That's right, Brother Hufham," said the minister, "sing us a hymn to draw in the crowd." Whereupon a layman admonished: "But be careful, or these already inside might get up and leave!"

Anyhow, gasoline shortage might have some good phases. People, used to going, and with nothing to go with, other than their mud-splatters, might get so lonesome that they will again start going out to church. And who knows but what this "catastrophe" might lead to some old-fashioned revivals!

# Cabarrus Poultrymen To Produce More Eggs

CONCORD, May 17.—Poultrymen of Cabarrus county have pledged to produce more than 40,000 dozen eggs this year than requested by the government, reports W. H. Williams, assistant farm agent of the N. C. State College Extension Service.

According to a check-up, Cabarrus farmers have promised 103,630 dozen eggs, while the goal set by the government was only 60,704 dozen.

Both commercial poultrymen and small flock owners are responsible for exceeding the county goal.

Curling-irons heated to about 202 degrees will curl hair without damaging the hair or its color.

# Polk County Gardens Said Best In Years

COLUMBUS, May 17.—Old timers say spring gardens in Polk county are the best in years.

S. H. Dobson, assistant farm agent of the N. C. State College Extension Service, says the gardens are larger and have a greater variety of vegetables than in the past. In some cases, families are growing a garden for the first time.

Provided with good weather, Polk families will be well fed this year, Agent Dobson said.

# MOUNTAIN LAUREL KILLS LIVESTOCK

### Sheep And Goats Are Especially Susceptible To Poisoning

COLLEGE STATION, RALEIGH, May 17.—Mountain laurel and sheep laurel, both plants which are prized for the beauty of their blooms during May, June, and July have their deadly aspects, warns Dr. A. O. Shaw, head of the State College Animal Industry Department. The laurels are poisonous to livestock, he reported.

The toxic effects of these plants have been known since 1770, Dr. Shaw stated. Losses of cattle, sheep, and goats may be expected when the animals are kept in any considerable numbers in localities where the laurels grow. Animals poisoned by these plants become weak and walk with a staggering gait. There are frequently symptoms of depression and nausea.

The animal husbandman says that sheep and goats are especially susceptible to laurel poisoning. Young cattle also are often poisoned but older cattle appear to be less sensitive to the toxic poisoning.

Dr. Shaw explained that mountain laurel is also known by the following names: Calico bush, broadleaf laurel, mountain ivy, high laurel, wicky and great laurel. Names which have been applied to the sheep laurel include: Calf-kill, Lambkill, spoonwood ivy and wicky.

"Animals normally develop symptoms from 14 to 16 hours after feeding on laurels," Dr. Shaw declared. "The average duration of sickness in cattle is about 20 hours. The most practical remedy is the administration of 4 ounces of linseed oil, repeated at intervals or two to three hours. The use of lard is also recommended. The animals should be drenched with equal portions of melted lard and sweet milk, containing one to two eggs per quart of the mixture."

# PERSON FARMERS RE-TOPSOIL HILLS

### Fertility Of Hillides Restored With Soil From Bottom Lands

COLLEGE STATION, Raleigh, May 17.—Farmers of Person county have adopted a unique system of restoring fertility to their hillides. O. F. McCrary, northwestern district farm agent of the State College Extension Service reported today that he is faced with a program last year, it was announced today by E. Y. Floyd, state AAA executive assistant.

A report from W. G. Finn, director of the East Central region, AAA, at Washington, shows that 95 per cent of North Carolina's cropland was under the conservation program last year. Percentages in other states of the region are Kentucky, 93 per cent; Tennessee, 91 per cent; Delaware, 89 per cent; Virginia, 87 per cent; Maryland, 78 per cent; and West Virginia, 70 per cent.

In the report, Mr. Finn pointed out that farmers of these seven states also planted 609,000 acres of nitrogen-gathering legume crops which are particularly valuable at this time since much of the commercial nitrates formerly available for fertilizer now are going into manufacture of munitions.

North Carolina's winter legume acreage was listed as 193,000 acres which was exceeded in the region only by Tennessee with 200,000 acres last year. Acreage of winter legumes in other states in the region was listed as follows: Kentucky, 80,000; Virginia, 60,000; Delaware, 33,000; Maryland, 28,000; and West Virginia, 17,000.

A large percentage of this acreage now is being turned under to add nitrogen and humus to soils to increase production of crops needed in the nation's war effort," Mr. Finn said. The agricultural conservation program of the AAA is encouraging farmers to grow more winter legumes to furnish nitrogen to crop production, it was pointed out.

In addition to the winter legumes East Central Region farmers participating in the farm program last year planted other legumes and mixtures of legumes and grasses totaling nearly 7,000,000 acres. The report also showed there were 1,750,000 acres of summer legumes planted in the region.

# TODAY and TOMORROW

BY WALTER LIPPMANN  
No Reason To Feel Hurt

No doubt there is always much to be learned from our mistakes, but it is now true also that we can learn a great deal from our successes. We can learn particularly, I think, not to be stumped by apparent difficulties. For we have seen how right was William James when, speaking of "the energies of men," he said that "as a rule men habitually use only a small part of the powers which they actually possess and which they might use under appropriate conditions."

There is not one of us who has not in the past two years grossly underestimated the true capacity of the country to do what it actually sets out to do.

Therefore we must always ask ourselves whether the bottlenecks about which we hear so much are real or are due to lack of vision and of will power. Two years ago there were few, if any, who thought aircraft could be built by mass production, or that automobile manufacturers could manufacture them, or that ships could be built by mass production, or that any one who had not been a shipbuilder could build ships. With what we know now, we have every right to challenge any one who tells us that there is not enough raw material to supply the great war facilities which have been created, or enough transportation to move the weapons where they are needed.

It may be that at some time we shall reach the point where we must choose between more tanks and more cargo ships, or between more cargo ships and more warships. But there is nothing like conclusive evidence that we are at that point, and there are very strong indications that once again we are under-estimating our true capacity.

Experience has shown, I think, that the tendency to underestimate capacity arises from inertia, from the almost universal human habit of preferring to do things in the usual way. In the field of manufacturing capacity this inertia has been brilliantly overcome—so brilliantly that our capacity to manufacture weapons is now greater than the available supply of materials. We are, therefore, told by some that we are faced with a shortage of materials. But by others, and these are the men who do

# N. C. LEADS EAST IN SOIL PROGRAM

### Ninety-Five Per Cent Of Cropland Under Program In 1941

COLLEGE STATION, Raleigh, May 17.—North Carolina led all other states in the East Central Region, AAA, in percentage of cropland participating in the national agricultural conservation program last year, it was announced today by E. Y. Floyd, state AAA executive assistant.

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# REVENUE CODE FAR-REACHING

### All Places Where Music Is Provided May Be Affected, Says Christman

Those who operate roof gardens, cabarets or other similar places of entertainment, are all liable for federal taxes stated Raymond D. Christman, United States deputy collector of internal revenue upon his return from Greensboro Sunday, where he has been for the past week in a tax conference with other deputies throughout North Carolina.

Deputy Christman states that the decisions rendered in connection with Regulations No. 43, of the Revenue Act of 1941 as amended has a most far reaching effect upon all places where dancing and other entertainment facilities are provided.

"The tax may affect every place where music is provided, either mechanical or otherwise, even to filling stations, cafes and other places of assemblage," Mr. Christman pointed out "and it would be advantageous to all coming within that category to look into the matter that they may be appraised as to the status, because not only the tax might apply but likewise heavy penalties would attach to those not reporting in the proper manner."

He said that there was no change that he knew of relating to admission taxes, which act became effective October 1, 1941, which repealed all former acts relating to exemptions from the tax. The deputy stated that no exemptions are available where an admission charge is made even though the admission is to an entertainment for charity or educational purpose.

To protect your radio, now that rationing is in effect, make sure that your set is not placed with its back flat against the wall, since free circulation of air is necessary to prevent overheating. Check electric cord and plug, connections or nearby appliances, tubes, aerial and ground. Be sure your radio repairman is reliable, and insist that he fix your set at home.

My correspondent happens to be interested in shipping, and he actually feels himself attacked and injured because I pointed out that in his war, as in the last war, the direction of control of merchant shipping, as distinguished from the operation of ships, will almost certainly be done best by men who are not in the shipping business. Yet if I had said that Mr. Murray or Mr. Green ought not be placed in charge of the draft, or of the man power mobilization, my correspondent would have had no difficulty in seeing the point.

He would have seen the point if I had said that the founders of the Republic were right when they made the President, and not a general, the commander in chief of the armed forces. He would see the point if, looking at the superb achievements of our citizen army, he had been told that what the professional soldiers have done has been promoted by the fact that there is a statesman in the War Department. How absurd it would be to think that this was a reflection on General Marshall. Grant had his Lincoln, Pershing had his Baker and Marshall has his Stimson, and that is the way it is supposed to be, and that is the way it works best.

There is no reason at all, therefore, why industrialists and business men should feel hurt at the idea that in war time they are not the best final judges of how their industry should be mobilized. If they should recognize and accept this general and fundamental principle of sound government, they could save themselves and the country no end of trouble. For demagogic attacks on the dollar-a-year men are fed by the fact, undeniable as a moral and a practical principle, that no man is a good judge of his own interest when it encounters the public interest.

And, therefore, far from resenting it, every man ought to welcome the idea that he will not be placed in the position of having to judge his own interest, of having to choose among conflicting loyalties.

# MANOR THEATRE

## TODAY-TUESDAY

GARY COOPER  
CLAUDETTE COLBERT  
IN "BLUEBEARD'S 8TH WIFE"

Features at 11:22-1:25-3:28  
5:31-7:34-9:37

### LATEST NEWS EVENTS

# TODAY AT LEADING THEATRES

## BAILEY

MIGHTY TRILLS!!  
Ablaze With Excitement And Adventure!  
"THE INVADERS"  
Laurence Olivier, Leslie Howard and Raymond Massey  
Shows 1:10 2:27 4:09  
7:04 9:10

## CARGINA

55c ALL DAY (PLUS TAX)  
LAUGH TRIUMPH!  
Lady Canning and  
"TRIE TO BE AN ARMY"  
With Allan Jones, Jerry Colonna and Ann Miller  
Shows 1:10 2:27 4:09  
5:51 7:33 9:15

## ROYAL

Story of Gandam's  
"Mad Dog" Killer  
"BULLET SCARS"  
With Regis Tooney, Adele Longstre, Howard da Silva  
Lowell Thomas News

## BIJOU

Story of An Undying Faith!  
"THEY DIED WITH THEIR BOOTS ON"  
Errol Flynn, Olivia De Havilland  
IN TECHNICOLOR!

# HIMATE!

### —A ROLLICKING MUSICAL REVUE—

Produced and Staged by The Employees of North Carolina Shipbuilding Co. Benefit Athletic Ass'n. N. C. S. Co. THALIAN HALL

Curtain Rises Promptly at 8:30  
MAY 18th, 19th and 20th  
Prices: Balcony, 55c; Reserved Seats, 85c; Box Seats, \$1.10. Tax Incl. Tickets on Sale at Sneed-York Co., 115 Market Street

# THE GUMPS

ANDY! FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE! W-HAT FLEW PAST MY H-HEAD?

AH, THERE SHE IS-NOW, MIN-DON'T GET EXCITED-

SEE? JUST A HARMLESS LITTLE DOVE-

MR. GUMP-THERE'S A MOVING VAN OUTSIDE! THE MAN HAS A LOAD OF BOXES AND JUNK FOR YOU, BUT I TOLD HIM THERE WAS SOME MISTAKE

NO, NO-THERE'S NO MISTAKE-TELL HIM TO BRING THAT STUFF RIGHT IN HERE!

JUST A MINUTE!

I DEMAND AN EXPLANATION!!!