

## Expect Farm Prices To Remain Steady But Costs May Drop

### Hopeful Note Sounded At Agriculture Outlook Conference

A hopeful note was sounded at the recent Agricultural Outlook Conference to the effect that there may be some further drops in farm production costs next year, in addition to slight reductions this year according to C. W. Overman, County Agent for the State College Extension Service. Prices received for farm products, on the other hand, are not likely to fall much below their present levels, except for normal seasonal variations.

The fall in prices of farm products and farm incomes this year has been due largely to two factors, says Mr. Sasser. These are bounteous harvests and a sharp curtailment in foreign demand for United States farm products.

Total crop output next year may be reduced somewhat by acreage restrictions for wheat, corn, and cotton, though supplies are again likely to be larger if weather is favorable. An improved foreign gold and dollar situation may strengthen export demand if official policies on the use of the gold and dollar reserves permit. Domestic demand, which has been at a high level throughout 1953, is expected to continue strong in 1954. Price supports will cushion the effects of large carryover supplies. Taken together, these factors spell a probable stabilization of farm prices near their present levels, according to Overman.

The general level of prices paid by farmers ran about 3 per cent below the 1952 level in the first 9 months of this year, the county agent explains. Most of the decline was due to lower prices for feed and feeder livestock, and prices of these major items are not expected to change much from present reduced levels. Prices of industrial products will probably change very little, but price concessions are likely to be more general than in 1953 for those commodities produced primarily for the farm market.

### Home Power Failure Adds Fire Hazards

Winter storms which cause electric power failure can bring added fire hazards into homes which are temporarily without electricity, warns the National Board of Fire Underwriters. At such a time, many families use candles or kerosene lanterns for illumination, and those with electric stoves may turn to cooking in their fireplaces. Gas appliances may also be overworked.

Extra fire safety precautions should be taken until power is restored, the National Board emphasizes. Best procedure is first to use flashlights instead of candles or lanterns. If no flashlights are available, however, make sure that candles or lanterns are not set near curtains and other flammable materials, and do not brush against them in moving from place to place. Keep candles, oil lamps and matches well out of reach of little children.

If cooking must be done over an open fire, keep the fire screen partially closed at all times, and replace it tightly as soon as possible. Be sure to provide sufficient ventilation if gas appliances are used at an extraordinary rate.

Turn off all electric motors and appliances. When the current comes on again, it may not be strong enough to make the motors run properly. This may cause serious overheating.

#### A Warning

Patient—I'm in love with you, nurse. I don't want to get well.  
Nurse—You won't. The doctor saw you kissing me, and he's in love with me, too.

**William Penn**  
Blended Whiskey

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\$2.10 Pints  
\$3.35 Fifths

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### GARDEN TIME ROBERT SCHMIDT N. C. STATE COLLEGE

Growing shrubs and trees by planting seeds is not always the quickest way to do it but sometimes it is the easiest way to get results. There is usually a great deal of interest, at this time of the year, in propagating holly shrubs or trees—such as hollies, nandina, and dogwood—by seeds.

Since some of these plants do not come true to variety from seeds there is usually some variation from the original plant. For instance, if you wanted to propagate pink dogwood, you should do it by grafting and not by seeds because the seedling probably would not be pink. The same would be true of many other trees and shrubs. To be certain that you get the same as the parent plant you must propagate it by vegetative plant parts such as cuttings, layers and grafts.

To propagate the holly plants by seeds, collect mature berries or fruits and remove all the pulp material from the seeds. Thoroughly wash the seeds and then air-dry them. If you have an outdoor seed bed prepared they may be planted immediately. The planting medium should be a sandy soil or a mixture of sand and peat. Otherwise you may stratify them over winter by placing them in a box of moistened sand or sand-peat mixture and keeping them in a cool place until planting in spring. The seeds are usually placed in layers in between layers of the sand. Peach pits may be stratified in this same manner.

Do not be discouraged if germination is slow. Holly seeds, for instance, often do not germinate until the second season. Nandina and dogwood usu-

ally germinate easily.

Southern magnolia is difficult to propagate. The usual method is by seeds. Although it does not produce a berry, the seeds are encased in a pulpy material which must be removed. Seed should be gathered as soon as they begin to break out of the fruit in the fall. The pulp may then be removed and the seed washed and stratified in sand until the next spring when they may be planted out in the nursery row. Keep them cool until you are ready for them to germinate.

In propagating the hollies by seeds, it must be remembered that most hollies are dioecious—that is, they have male and female plants. The female plants are the only ones that produce berries. A large percentage of the plants produced by planting seeds will be male and, therefore, will not produce berries. Other horticultural plants of this nature are persimmons and Muscadine grapes.

### GOVERNMENT NOTES USE OF RED TAPE FOR STORAGE

The federal government has reported exactly how much red tape it used last year—366 miles of it. It is made of cotton and costs 53 cents for a 72-yard spool.

The government bought 8,950 spools at a cost of more than \$4700. According to the latest federal supply service catalog, it is the only kind of tape that the government uses.

Federal agencies use the tape almost exclusively for tying up documents for storage.

### Strange Facts About Polio

...MAN'S FIRST ATTEMPT TO ALTER THE COURSE OF A POLIO EPIDEMIC!  
250,000 CHILDREN IN U.S. AND ALASKA TOOK PART IN MASS GAMMA GLOBULIN INJECTIONS IN 1953.  
FIRST REPORTS ON USE OF THIS BLOOD FRACTION INDICATE BENEFICIAL RESULTS.

**GE** **Now** **FOR POLIO PREVENTION**

ALONE!  
1954 MARCH OF DIMES NEEDS:  
\$2,000,000 FOR GAMMA GLOBULIN  
\$1,500,000 FOR VACCINE TESTS  
TOTAL: \$3,500,000

NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR INFANTILE PARALYSIS—LARGEST SUPPORTER OF MARCH OF DIMES—\$1,000,000 A YEAR—USED FOR MAKING THE TEST VACCINE AND IN OTHER POLIO RESEARCH.

SIT-UP IRON LUNG BENCH DEVELOPED WITH MARCH OF DIMES FUNDS TO FREE POLIO PATIENTS FROM LONG HOURS ON BACK!

MISS VIRGINIA—ANN CEBELAK, OF NORFOLK, WAS FINISHED THIRD IN THE MISS AMERICA PAGEANT—A RECOVERED POLIO VICTIM!

THE FIRST CHILD TO GET GG IN MONTICMERY, VA., WAS INOCULATED, ARMED AT PREVENTING POLIO CROPPING—WAS—EDDIE CRIPPLE

100 LANS OF 100 BACILLI CAN GEL 1000 REGULATION TRACY HIGH DIVE—HIGH DIVE—LENSETHS OF THE POOL!

—SHE IS 59 YEARS OLD—TOOK UP DIVING AT 27 TO HELP HER RECOVER FROM 4 YEARS OF POLIO!

### PEDAL-PUSHERS WIN VOTE OF FASHIONABLE ATTIRE

At-home clothes are more popular now than ever before. Hit of the season are gay and comfortable corduroy pedal pushers or bullfighter pants.

College girls, career girls and young homemakers alike have taken to the fad. The soft cotton corduroy pants are ideal for dormitory lounging, at-home television sessions, and for the young homemaker to wear when she's on duty.

### Glamorous Hanky New Fashion Accent

Handkerchiefs have gone glamorous.

They have become important fashion accessories, for they may be tailored as tweed or as delicate as the sheerest formal.

For tailored costumes, cotton handkerchiefs in colored woven fabrics in such shades as wedgewood blue, grape,

red, apricot, and sea-foam are ideal. They can be tucked into the pocket for a dash of color, worn at the neck kerchief style, or placed at the belt.

Besides the solid colors, there are subtle ombred shadings and bolder plaid effects in the cotton handkerchiefs.

Some designers have dotted their kerchiefs with hand-clipped motifs, tiny diamonds, four-leaf clovers, and chic polka dots.

For sheer glamour to accent evening ensembles there are beautiful squares of translucent delicate chiffon. These gossamer delicate squares, about 18 inches in size, make an eye-catching neckline filler or waistline accent, when pulled through a belt buckle and allowed to hang freely.

Another handkerchief for holiday glamour wear at evening parties is of cotton chintilly lace scrolled and sprinkled with rosebud medallions on a fine net background. These lace handkerchiefs are seen in shades ranging from pastels to jewel tones to accessorize gala evening dresses.

#### Musical Calendar

Manager (in music store): How long did you work in the last place?  
New Pianist: From "Dardanella" to "Red Sails in the Sunset."

#### WANT TO CHANGE YOUR HAIRDO—HERE'S HOW

Ladies! Now you can change your hairdo to make you more attractive than ever. Beauty expert Anita Colby has designed three simple diagrams for three new coiffures. Look for this feature in the January 17th issue

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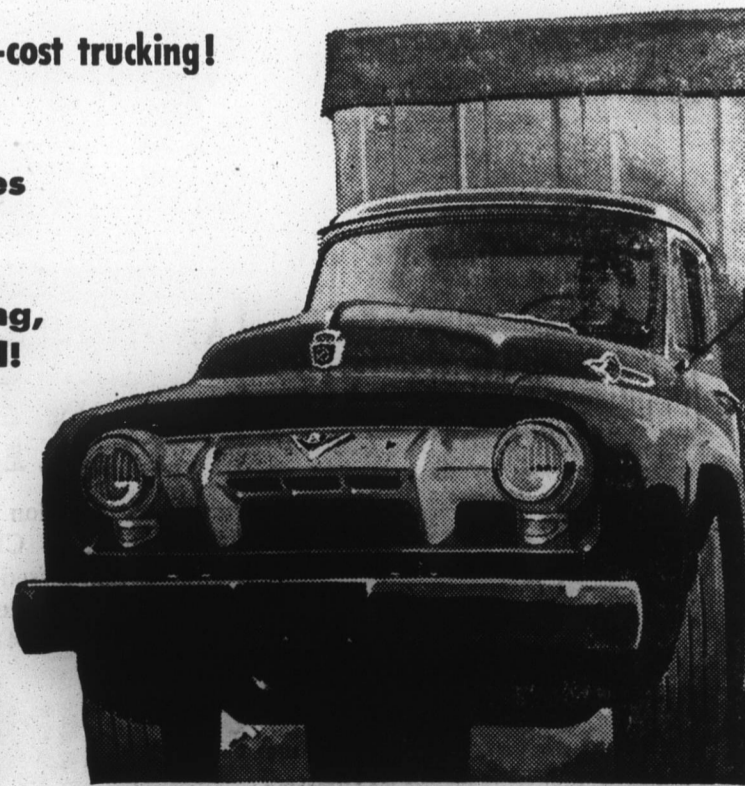
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