

## Peanut Representatives Seek Increase In Acreage For 1955

### Likely That Domestic Supplies Will Not Satisfy Demands

Representatives of the Virginia and North Carolina Peanut Growers Association, along with representatives of the shellers of the Virginia-Carolina area, appeared before J. E. Thigpen, United States Department of Agriculture, on March 23rd, in an effort to secure an increase in the 1955 peanut acreage allotment, according to Joe S. Sugg, Executive Secretary, North Carolina Peanut Growers Association.

Mr. Sugg pointed out that in view of the short national supplies of peanuts that increased imports from foreign countries had been authorized recently by the President. It now appears that the available domestic supplies, plus the authorized increase in imports, will not be enough to satisfy the domestic needs. This condition has been brought about, said Sugg, by an increased consumption of peanuts and peanut products within the last few months. He further pointed out that reports from the southeastern and the southwestern peanut producing areas of the United States indicated that due to condition of seed and continued drought that it is evident that these areas will not be able to plant and harvest their full allotments. Mr. Sugg states that in view of these developments that the North Carolina and Virginia peanut growers felt that an increase in the allotments of the Virginia-type peanut, as produced in North Carolina and Virginia, would help guarantee the domestic peanut supplies, which will be needed by the consuming public in 1955.

According to Mr. Sugg, farmers should not get their hopes too high for increased allotments but should know that the associations are making an effort in this direction. The Department of Agriculture indicated that it would announce a hearing immediately to determine whether or not such an increase could or should be made.

Mr. Sugg stated that announcement would be made through the press as soon as it could be determined whether or not an increase in the 1955 allotments would be made available.

Mr. Sugg stated further that Department of Agriculture officials

agreed that the American peanut farmer should produce all the peanuts needed for domestic consumption and that imports should be allowed only as a last resort in case of a disastrous crop failure as occurred in certain areas in 1954.

### Prospects Bright For Laying Flocks

Prospects for profits from well-managed laying flocks appear very good for next fall, according to C. P. Libeau, State College extension marketing specialist. Long-run competition in laying flocks point toward lower income per bird but also lower costs per hen and flock of 1,000 hens or more over the next 10 years.

Price outlook for future months may be used in making farm plans for higher incomes and profits. The present strength in egg prices is related to the expectation of a smaller supply of eggs next fall, he adds.

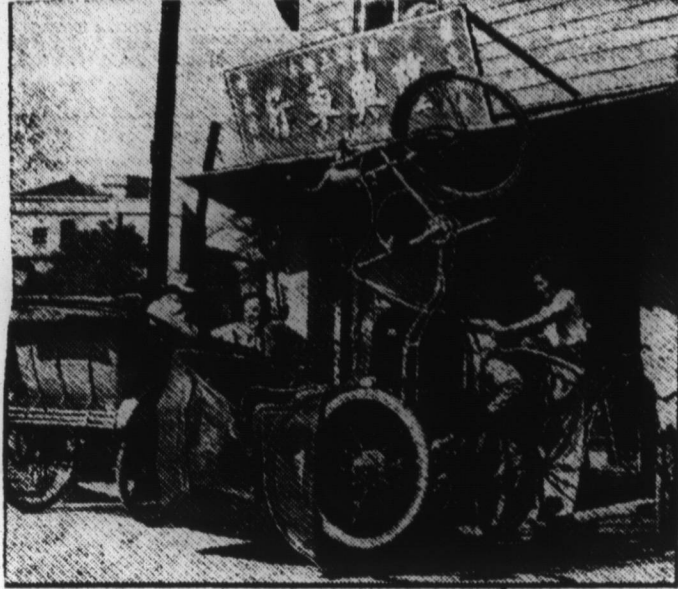
Libeau points to the fact that in the past five months, fewer pullets have been started than last year at the same period. Greatest reduction in potential layers for next fall has been in the surplus egg producing states of the mid-west that send many eggs to North Carolina.

Farmers received an average of 23.7 cents per pound live weight for chickens (farm chickens and commercial broilers) in mid-February, compared with 22.4 cents a year earlier. Farm chickens averaged 18.8 cents and commercial broilers 25.2 cents, compared with 21.7 and 22.6, respectively, in mid-February last year. Farm turkey prices on February 15 averaged 28.1 cents a pound live weight, compared with 33.2 cents a year earlier.

Since the February egg-feed, farm chicken-feed, and turkey-feed ratios were less favorable than a year ago, some producers will drop out. Farmers that go into production when others are getting out very often find themselves with higher profits.

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### Trees Make Money From Poor Land

Trees can make money on land that wouldn't produce any other "money crop".

H. D. Godfrey of the State ASC Office is stressing the fact that trees can make money on land which now produces little or nothing. Land that isn't good enough to grow crops will not grow enough grass to deserve the name of pasture, can grow enough wood each

year to bring considerable income to the owner of the land, according to Godfrey.

Godfrey cites the experience of a farmer who divided his 150-acre undeveloped woodlot into five 30-acre units. He harvests the wood on one of these units each year when there is little other work. His pulpwood thinnings from old stands for the first five years on each of the units have brought him nearly \$2,000. Each unit looks like it will bring even more at the



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end of the second five-year term.

Not only will these woodlot plantings pay in money, but they help in the conservation of soil and water. On steep or shallow land, they will help slow down the flow of water off the land and lead it into the ground, thus reducing erosion. The water is available for crop production or becomes a part of the underground supply that maintains the flow of streams during dry weather and furnishes water for wells.

It is because trees are such useful crops in saving soil and water that their planting and growth is encouraged through the Agricultural Conservation Program, Godfrey points out. In North Carolina assistance is available to farmers to make tree plantings and to care for such plantings after they are made. Complete details about that assistance can be obtained from the County ASC Office.

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### Vets' Question Box

Q—I am going to school under the Korean GI Bill. As a member of the organized reserves, I am called to active training duty for brief periods of time. Will my GI allowance stop when I interrupt my schooling for training duty?

A—Your allowance will not be discontinued, so long as it is the practice of your school to grant exemptions for these periods without requiring formal interruption of your training.

Q—I received an administrative discharge from the armed forces to give up my enlisted status and become an officer. On the basis of that discharge, would I be eligible for Korean GI Bill training?

A—No. Korean GI training may not be taken by persons on active duty. You must be a veteran—out of service—in order to train.

#### Explained

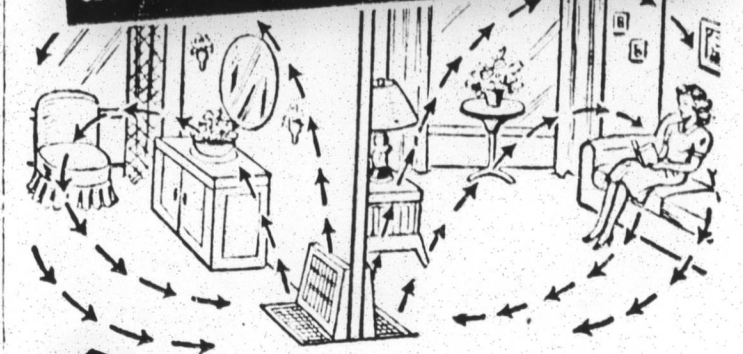
First Comedian—I had the audience in the aisles last night.  
Second Comic Speaker—Yeah, on their way out.

#### A Husband Spared

M. R.—Do you tell your wife everything?  
M. Z.—It isn't necessary. She knows everything.

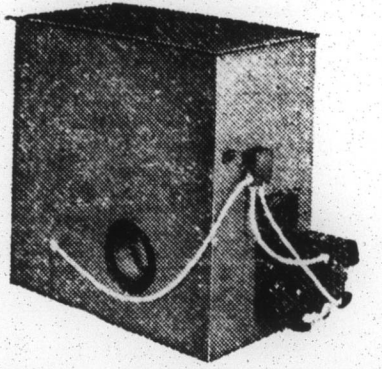
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