

EMPLOYMENT IS INCREASED BY 509,000 LAST MONTH

Washington, Dec. 5.—The number of Americans regularly employed rose by 509,000 in November. Reporting this today, the Census Bureau said unemployment declined 167,000.

Secretary of Commerce Sawyer commented, "The job picture in November was perhaps more favorable than at any previous time this year."

The Census Bureau explained that the drop in unemployment was smaller than the rise in employment because of "an increase in the number of seasonal workers looking for jobs."

The bureau's report showed employment totaled 59,510,000 in November, compared with 59,001,000 in October and 59,893,000 for November, 1948.

The number of jobless was listed as 3,409,000 in November, compared with 3,576,000 in October and 1,821,000 in November, 1948.

Under the bureau's statistical methods, anyone who has a regular job is counted as employed whether or not he is working at his job. Coal miners on strike, for instance, are counted as employed.

Nonfarm employment jumped 350,000 in November, reflecting the pickup in factory operations which had been slowed in October by effects of the steel and coal strikes.

Nonfarm employment at a

total of 51,640,000, was "back to the 1949 high recorded in the late Summer months," the bureau said.

It was, however, nearly 300,000 below November, 1948, just as unemployment was close to double the figure of a year ago.

Farm employment itself scored a gain of 168,000 in November, a month when the number of farm workers usually declines.

"Good weather in the early part of November in most areas permitted completion of harvesting operations which last month had been delayed by heavy rains," the bureau reported.

State College Answers Many Farm Question

QUESTION: What is the purpose of smoking meat?

ANSWER: The purpose of smoking is to add flavor as well as to give a more desirable appearance to the meat. Smoking also improves the keeping qualities of meat.

The procedure that is generally recommended for smoking meat is as follows: After the meat has been removed from the brine or dry cure it should be soaked in cold water for several hours, scrubbed with a clean stiff brush and then hung to dry over night in the smoke house. Care should be taken to prevent the cuts of meat from touching since this will cause streaking. It is possible to smoke meats by either of two methods. It may be smoked 24 to 48 hours at a temperature of approximately 125 to 135 degrees F. This will give a light mahogany colored smoke. If the meat is to be stored for summer use it is generally more satisfactory, however, to smoke it at a temperature of 80 to 100 degrees F., at intervals of approximately 5 to 10 days, over a period of several weeks. After the meat is smoked many people like to season it heavily with black pepper.

QUESTION: Is it all right to can meat in half gallon or larger jars?

ANSWER: Meat should not be canned in any jar larger than a quart. Pints are even better than quarts. It takes so long to process meat packed in half gallon jars that some meat is over cooked while there may be "cold spots" within a jar. In these "cold spots" spoilage bacteria may survive.

QUESTION: How can I recognize fowl pox in my laying flock?

ANSWER: External pox is recognized in the early stages by the appearance of blister-like nodules on the exposed surface of the body, particularly the comb and wattles. These areas later develop into hard scabs. The internal type of infection, sometimes called wet pox, forms white to yellowish patches or false membranes in the region of the mouth. When these patches are removed a raw bleeding surface is exposed. Mortality is usually not high, but egg production may be markedly decreased.

Broiler chick placements in the Chatham and Wilkes commercial broiler-producing areas during the week ending November 26 declined by about 12,000 birds. Placements in the Chatham area totaled 220,000 while the Wilkes area reported a total of 107,000.

Byrnes Challenged To Lead New Party

Washington.—Americans for Democratic Action challenged James F. Byrnes today to accept leadership of a new conservative political alignment of Republicans and Southern Democrats.

The challenge was made in a letter to Byrnes from the Americans for Democratic Action's director, former Representative Charles M. La Follette, who described Byrnes as "a logical choice for the job." La Follette is a former member of Congress from Indiana.

The group usually is in sympathy with the New Deal wing of the Democratic party.

La Follette's letter came on the heels of a week-end proposal by Senator John W. Bricker (R-Ohio) that Republicans and con-

servative Southern Democrats unite in a new party. Byrnes, former Senator, Supreme Court justice, war mobilizer and Secretary of State, was Bricker's choice as leader.

La Follette wrote:

"As a Republican who quit his party to work for liberalism, I address this letter to you as a Democrat who has left his party to work for conservatism."

He said there was "a very real kinship" between many Northern Republicans and many Southern Democrats.

"A great number of Republican party leaders are in reality Northern men of Southern principles," he said. "Scratch a Dixiecrat and you will find a Northerner or Easterner."

He said there was "a very real kinship" between many Northern Republicans and many Southern Democrats.

Urging that the coalition in

Congress be "formalized," La Follette said Byrnes was the logical man for leadership because he was "a man of great public stature who has left no doubt where he really stands."

Bricker's proposal meantime met with a cool reception from Senator Owen Brewster (R-Me), chairman of the Republican Senatorial Campaign Committee.

He told reporters that disagreement with President Truman's program already has cut across regional and party lines until there is "a great deal of realignment going on."

But he doubted if a new party was in prospect, noting that American history shows it is difficult to form them. He believed there would be "a gradual realignment of voting groups" with the Republicans gaining new strength in the South.

Trade At Home and Save!

World peanut production is expected to establish a new record in 1949, according to preliminary information available to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Total output is forecast at 11,460,000 short tons of unshelled nuts, about 20 per cent above the prewar average of 9,550,000 short tons. The expansion over 1948 is attributed to the sharp increase in India, the world's largest peanut producer.

A per acre yield of 111 bushels is forecast for the 1949 sweet potato crop in North Carolina.

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