

1946 Agriculture Prospects Given

Raleigh—Gross farm income, cash receipts, expenses of production and net income to farmers, which have risen each year since 1938, are expected to decline from the peak levels established this year, the State Department of Agriculture has been informed by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

"Net income of farmers in 1946 may decline as much as 15 per cent from 1945—although the indicated total would still be more than double the pre-war average and higher than in any year prior to 1943, including the peak years immediately after World War I," said the report.

Cash receipts from farm marketings in 1946 are expected to be a little over 18 billion dollars, with Government payments bringing total receipts up to about 19 billion dollars, 10 per cent less than in 1945. Income from crops during 1946 probably will decline almost 15 per cent below 1945 and cash receipts from livestock and livestock products may be down about 5 to 10 per cent. With average crop conditions, the total volume of marketing in 1946 probably will be about 5 per cent below 1945. The volume of 1945 crops carried over and marketed during the first half of 1946 may be nearly as great as the large quantity of 1944 crops sold in 1945, but, with only average crop production in 1946, total crop marketings for the calendar year will be less than in 1945. Also, a slight decline is expected in the volume of poultry and eggs sold.

Total cash receipts from farm marketings in 1945 probably will be about \$29,400,000,000, 7 per cent above the receipts of \$19,800,000,000 in 1944. In addition, Government payments are expected to total about \$800,000,000, about the same as in 1944.

Timely Hints

By RUTH CURRENT

Whether a houseplant grows to foliage or to bloom may depend on the size of its pot. Plant scientists say that plants grown in homes for decorative foliage, such as the bright-leaved coleus, need large containers with plenty of space for expanding roots to favor heavy leaf growth. Flowering plants, on the other hand, give more bloom in small pots which cause roots to be "pot bound" but a plant needs to be repotted occasionally to provide fresh nourishment.

Nutritionists tell us cranberries add considerable vitamin C to the diet when they are served in generous portions. Science explains that vitamin C tends to be destroyed by heat and by exposure to air. In other words, the food value of cranberries varies according to the way you prepare them. Most of the vitamin C is available when you use the berries raw—as in a freshly made relish or molded salad. Some vitamin C is lost when you make cranberries into sauce. Even more is destroyed when you strain the sauce, or make the juice into jelly.

When buying nuts in their shells, homemakers sometimes are uncertain as to how much "meat" they will yield. This yardstick will help eliminate guess work: one pound of unshelled almonds yields about 1 cup of shelled kernels; 1 pound of filberts, about 1-1/3 cups; 1 pound of peanuts, about 2 cups; 1 pound of pecans, almost 1 1/2 cups; 1 pound of English walnuts, a little more than 1 1/2 cups halved kernels; and 1 pound of black

Rules for Sending Cards to Personnel Of Armed Forces

With so many of our friends still in service, the code of military etiquette is quite important in signing and addressing Christmas cards again this year.

When sending greeting cards to commissioned officers, the rank must be designated. However, when sending a Christmas card to an enlisted man, the use of the rank is optional. The best thing is to follow the form the serviceman or woman used as a return address.

In sending Christmas greetings when the husband in service is not at home on furlough, a simple note may be added to the greeting, saying, "John's wishes are included with mine and we hope to see you when next he is home on furlough." Be certain both names are on the card.

Whether the card is sent to a person in service or to someone in the immediate circle of friends and relatives, it is always wise to be



Address mail properly to reach all servicemen everywhere.

certain that the card chosen reflects the degree of intimacy that exists.

Using first names, or even affectionate nicknames is permissible on Christmas cards for close friends and relatives. Some married couples still retain the formal "Mr. (or Captain) and Mrs. Jones. Most younger couples, however, prefer the friendlier "John and Alice Jones." It is perfectly proper to include the children's names and even the name of the family Scottie. Or make the signature all-inclusive and simpler by writing "The John Lanes."

Because Christmas cards are the personal expression of your regard for the person to whom they are sent, you should double check to be certain that all cards are correctly signed and addressed. The best etiquette directs that they be mailed with first-class postage. When you use first-class postage on your Christmas cards, you are, in effect, saying to your friends, "I'm not taking any chances that this greeting will be delayed on its way to you."

Bean Winner Rules On Twelfth Night

Epiphany, or the Feast of the Kings, is the great homecoming day in France; servant girls would rather lose their positions than miss the family reunion and expect to receive an extra month's pay to wit. The elaborate dinner features a cake in which a China bean has been hidden; the cake is cut into as many pieces as there are persons in the party. Whoever finds the bean in his or her piece of cake automatically becomes King or Queen of Twelfth Night and proceeds to choose his or her partner. The King and Queen reign over the ensuing festivities — each member of the party being obliged to obey their ridiculous commands.

Clerical employees expect a bonus and tradespeople anticipate Christmas boxes on Epiphany and Christmas trees are set up in stores and public places around which patrons pile heaps of gifts to be distributed in hospitals and among the poor.

By planting both Blakemore and Massey strawberries, the bearing season can be lengthened

Superstitions Told About New Year's In Many Lands

Good Luck Offered in Many Ways to 'Believers.'

New Year's Day affords everyone the opportunity to bring himself good luck throughout the year. At least that is supposed to be true according to several old superstitions concerning the beginning of a new year.

The "First Foot"—the first person to enter the house on New Year's morning — plays a significant role in the family's future fortunes. He must be a dark man to bring good luck, but if he also brings a gift and "carries in" more than he "takes out," then the house is assured peace and plenty for a whole year. The most auspicious gifts as luck-bringers are a lump of coal and a red herring.

Unmarried persons are advised to look out of the window on New Year's morning. If you see a man, it is a sign that you will be wed before the year is out. Should you see a horse, you can have a wish, and it will be realized within the year. To see a dog is lucky, but a cat foretells worry.

A little care will make it possible to bring oneself good luck for the entire year. Wear something new, if possible, on New Year's Day, but the garment must be put on when you first dress in the morning. Receipt of a gift is certain to carry luck. Wish everyone you meet "A Happy New Year," but remember when the greeting is given to cross your fingers for luck. Be sure to say "rabbits" as the first word when you wake before anyone has had a chance to speak to you. Love's progress will be aided on New Year's Day if you are careful to put on the left stocking before the right. The potency of this charm is supposed to be increased if you do all things as far as possible left-handedly during the day.

To open a bank account on New Year's Day was considered lucky in Old England, the custom growing probably from the belief of many centuries that whatever you do on the first day of the year will be an indication of what will happen during the months that will follow.

In some parts of England and Scotland it is supposed to be unlucky to leave a house until some outsider has first entered it.

New Year's Blessings Ancient Swiss Legend

According to Swiss legend, the Holy Family is abroad during the hour of midnight mass on Christmas Eve.

Therefore, a bowl of fresh milk is placed upon the dining table and each member of the household carefully lays his spoon upon the table cloth.

The person who, returning from church, finds his spoon has been moved may anticipate special blessings during the coming year: for surely Mary and Joseph have rested within the abode during their flight into Egypt and the Virgin used that spoon to feed the infant Jesus.

Miracle Plays Still Held

Among more tradition - observing communities of the world, old-time miracle plays are still performed, often in the form of elaborate dances, in solemn, but lavish, settings against the colorful background of tropical foliage.

By planting both Blakemore and Massey strawberries, the bearing season can be lengthened

Make Your Own Yuletide Wreaths

It's Fun for All and Offers Chances for Clever Designs.

COLORFUL homemade decorations that lend gaiety to the Christmas tree and help out any lack of store trimmings can be made from such commonplace things as egg shells, peanuts, pine cones, squashes and colored paper.

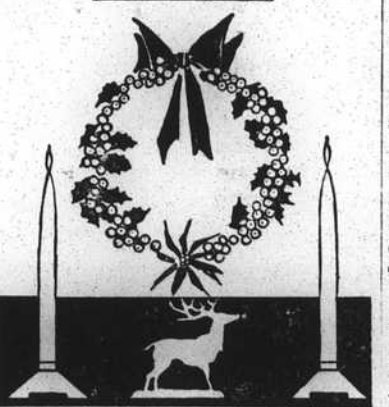
Eggshell trinkets offer a variety of decorative possibilities. The shells can be salvaged from family baking days by running a darning needle through the shell at both ends and blowing out the contents. If necessary the holes can be enlarged so that a brightly colored string with a knot in the end can be run through the egg, so that it may be strung

gaily on the tree. Before stringing on the tree, shells may be colored all the hues of the rainbow, as at Easter time. Or designs in pencil on the shell may be made in the form of scrolls, leaves or figures. The designs may be filled in with colors, outlined with black crayons. Christmas seals pasted on white eggshells will be bright and shiny. Colored confetti dots can likewise be used on the eggs.

Peanut dolls to hang on the tree can be made by stringing suitable sizes together and tying the cord tightly to keep them in shape. They can be painted gold or silver or any other color that will live on the tree and give the little folks a part in the decorative scheme.

A half-dozen star Santas swinging from the tree will add interest. Make some five-pointed stars from heavy paper. Paste a Santa head onto the top point and design white mittens on the next two, draw a belt and it's done. Run a string through Santa's hat and tie to a branch. Small green squashes painted with shellac or varnish so they will retain their freshness can be either tied to the tree or arranged around the base.

Pine cones tied with ribbons and perhaps a bell and painted white or silver for make-believe frost are perfect for suspending from the tree.



Potted Yule Trees Can Be Used for Several Years

The record of using the same Christmas tree for the last five holiday seasons is held by Mrs. H. R. Yount of Brunswick county in North Carolina.

Mrs. Yount planted a small cedar by her farm house and the first Christmas it was about 15 inches high. She placed it in a pot and used it as a table tree with appropriate decorations.

After the first Christmas, she replanted the small tree by the house, then dug it up again and placed it in a bucket on a table for its second holidays.

Again it was replanted and the third year it took its place on the floor with the children adding the necessary decorations. It was very carefully treated and again reset by the house. For the last two years it has been used as an outside Christmas tree to carry all the lights and decorations.

Mrs. Yount and the other members of the family have made special preparations for decorating the traditional Christmas tree again this year.

Don't let the boys down—buy Victory Bonds NOW!

My Daily Prayer

Author Unknown
"This coming year I'd like to be a friend to everyone; I'd like to feel each day well spent at setting of the sun; I'd like to know that I have done at least one kindly deed, Before I lay me down to sleep that I have given heed— To some one's cry for sympathy, or friendship or that I have made the day seem brighter to some chance passer-by, And that the world is better still in just some little way, Because I've tried to live the very best I could each day.

"I'd like to be a ray of light when skies are overcast, I'd like to help some one who failed to blot out all the past, To start again despite the storms, and find the skies are blue, To know that in this good old world there's lots that's fine and true, I'd like to be the kind of person everyone will love, And make the world seem just a little more like heaven above; I'd like in all my dealings to be true and just and fair, That God will help me do these things shall be my daily prayer."

NOTICE
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
NORTH CAROLINA
ALLEGHANY COUNTY
Louis N. Crouse, Plaintiff
Vs.
Vallie Crouse, Defendant.

The defendant above named will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court for the purpose of obtaining a divorce on the ground of two years' separation; and the said defendant will further take notice that she is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of the said county, in the Courthouse, Sparta, North Carolina, within thirty days after the 11th day of January, 1946 and answer or demur to the Complaint in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for relief demanded in said Complaint.
This December 8, 1945.
S. O. GAMBILL, Clerk Superior Court. 12-13-45

NOTICE OF RESALE BY COMMISSIONER

By virtue of order of resale made by the Clerk of the Superior Court of Surry County, North Carolina, in special proceeding entitled Fred Folger, Commissioner, of A. D. Folger, vs. A. D. Folger, Jr., and others, the undersigned Commissioner will resell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash AT THE COURTHOUSE DOOR IN SPARTA, N. C., ON DECEMBER 22, 1945 AT 11 O'CLOCK A. M., the undivided interest of A. D. Folger in the following described tract of land, situated in Cherry Lane Township, Alleghany County, North Carolina, being tract of land set out and described in deed from Leander Blackburn to J. V.

Attention! WORLD WAR TWO VETERAN

Would you like to learn the printing trade under the G. I. Bill of Rights vocational assistance program? If so, contact us. This program will enable you to earn good pay and learn at the same time. We have filed application to participate in this activity and will have an opening soon. Come in and let's talk things over. Prefer young man with high school education.

The Skyland Post

West Jefferson, N. C.

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12-13-3tc

EXECUTRIX' NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as executrix of the estate of Mrs. Kate Taylor, deceased, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned at Sparta, N. C., on or before the 23rd day of November, 1946, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery.
This the 23rd day of November, 1945.
Mrs. Bess Spicer, Executrix of Mrs. Kate Taylor, Deceased. 11-29-45

NOTICE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
NORTH CAROLINA
ALLEGHANY COUNTY
Guy C. Collins, Plaintiff
vs.
Cleta Collins, Defendant

The defendant above named will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Alleghany County for the purpose of obtaining a divorce on the ground of adultery; and the said defendant will further take notice that she is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of the said county in the Courthouse, Sparta, North Carolina, within thirty days after the 6th day of December, 1945, and answer or demur to the Complaint in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for relief demanded in said Complaint.
This November 30, 1945.
S. O. Gambill, Clerk Superior Court. 12-6-45

Anderson dated November 28, 1908, recorded in the Public Registry of Alleghany County, North Carolina, in Deed Book X, at page 36, to which deed and record there are references made for complete description.
Bidding will start at \$385.00.
This December 8, 1945.
FRED FOLGER, Commissioner. 12-13-2tc

TO BUY — TO SELL
TO RENT — TO FIND
Everybody Reads The Classifieds

FOR SALE: Four good stacks of hay to be fed on place. Walter Crouse, Furches, N. C. 11-29-3tp

STOP AT SWANSON'S Store for Shell products, fresh fruits, produce and groceries. Located halfway between Sparta and Jefferson on U. S. Highway 221, near Scottville. 11-29-5tp

WANTED—RADIOS to repair, all makes. We have a complete stock of parts to fit any make or model. We will do your work while you wait. W. L. Porter & Co., Furniture, Galax, Va. 11-29-5tp

Boilers, Saw Mills, Wood Working and Road Building Machinery, Well Drilling Machinery, Gasoline Engines, etc. R. P. Johnson, Wytneville, Va. 11-29-5tp

FOR SALE—Genuine Engraved Calling Cards. 100 cards and plate, only \$1.95. Alleghany News. 11-29-5tp

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J. M. RECTOR
Route 1, Galax. 12-6-2tc

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Cotton yields in Cabarrus, Mecklenburg, Iredell, Cleveland, and Rutherford counties are especially good this year, says Dan Holler, of State College.

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SPARTA, N. C.

Sparta Business Directory

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FOR Monuments SEE D. F. Sturdivant
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You may well be proud of the reputation our fireproofed pipes are earning.
Burls turned into pipes, not fireproofed, insure the recapture of the American market by foreign briar.
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We are and will keep buying all good ivy and laurel burls. D. & P. Pipe Works Sparta 15

The Middles By Bob Karp

