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Columbus Ranks 56th In Nation In Strawberry Acreage

Strawberries were harvested for sale from 80,365 acres on United States farms in 1954, with 58,449 acres, or 72.7 percent, in 100 leading counties, according to 1954 Census of Agriculture figures for ranking counties released today by the Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce. Strawberries harvested for sale amounted to 206,464,381 quarts, with 174,763,687 quarts in the 100 counties which led in strawberry acreage.

Columbus county ranks 56th in the nation in number of acres and 60th in number of quarts harvested. The 1954 Columbus acreage was 261 and 43,671 quarts were harvested. The number of acres and production has climbed considerably above that figure in the last two seasons but exact figures are not available.

Only two other North Carolina counties are listed among the first 100 in the nation. They are Pender, ranking number 60, and Duplin, number 62. No South Carolina counties are among the first 100 in the nation.

Washington County, Oregon, was first in strawberry acreage with 3,694 acres—4.6 percent of the U. S. total—and was third in strawberries picked for sale, with 10,933,099 quarts. Tangipahoa Parish, Louisiana, was second in acreage with 3,383 acres, and sixth in harvest with 6,420 quarts. Marion County, Oregon, was third in acreage with 3,326 acres, and fourth in production with 9,126,723 quarts. Santa Clara, California, which ranked sixth in acreage with 2,253 acres, was first in quantity picked with 22,697,684 quarts, while Santa Cruz County, California,

was second in acreage with 1,192 acres, was second in harvest with 13,653,202 quarts.

The top 100 counties in strawberry acreage in 1954 were distributed by States as follows: Tennessee, 19; California, 11; Arkansas, 10; Michigan, Oregon, and Washington, 9 each; New York, 4; Louisiana, New Jersey, North Carolina, and Virginia, 3 each; Alabama, Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri, and Oklahoma, 2 each; Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Texas, Utah, and Wisconsin, 1 each.

PVT. WILLIAM E. DUKES
FORT GORDON, GA. — Pvt. William E. Dukes, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Dukes Sr., Route 3, Whiteville, recently completed the telephone switchboard operation course at the Army's Southeastern Signal School, Fort Gordon, Ga.

The eight-week course gave Dukes classroom and practical training in the operation and service of central office telephone switchboards.

Dukes entered the Army last March and received basic training at Fort Jackson, S. C. He is a 1953 graduate of Central High school.

MERIT SYSTEM EXAMS
RALEIGH — The North Carolina Merit System Council has announced an examination to fill an existing vacancy for the position of test technician II with the Merit System Council in Raleigh. Applications will be accepted continuously until there are a sufficient number to hold the examination. Applicants who qualify will be notified of the time and place to appear to take the examination.

Washington Report

By Bill Whitley

ELECTION. The stakes are unusually high this year for North Carolina and the South in the Congressional elections. If the Republicans gain control of Congress, it will mean that the South will lose a majority of the major committee chairmanships in both the House and Senate.

When committee chairmanships are considered in light of civil rights and other legislation in which the South has a deep interest, this year's election becomes even more important.

SENATE. In the Senate, for example, if the Republicans gain control of Congress, it will mean that Sen. James Eastland of Mississippi will be replaced as chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee by Sen. Alexander Wiley of Wisconsin. This is the committee that handles all civil rights legislation.

Just as important is the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee, which handles most of the social legislation other than civil rights. If the Democrats lose control of Congress, Sen. Lister Hill of Alabama will be replaced as chairman of this committee by Sen. Alexander Smith of New Jersey.

Other Senate committee chairmanships that would be taken away from southerners if the Republicans win Congress are:

Agriculture, now held by Sen. Allen Ellender of Louisiana would go to Sen. George Aiken of Vermont; Armed Services, now held by Sen. Richard Russell of Georgia would go to Sen. Styles Bridges of New Hampshire; Banking and Currency, now held by Sen. J. W. Fulbright of Arkansas would go to Sen. Homer Capehart of Indiana; Finance, now held by Sen. Harry Byrd of Virginia would go to Sen. Edward Martin of Pennsylvania; Government Operations now held by Sen. John McClellan of Arkansas would go to Sen. Joseph McCarthy of Wisconsin; and Post Office and Civil Service, now held by Sen. Olin Johnston of South Carolina would go to Sen. Frank Carlson of Kansas.

HOUSE. In the House, North Carolina would feel more of an immediate effect if the Democrats lose control of Congress.

Rep. Harold Cooley would be replaced as chairman of the House Agriculture Committee. Rep. Graham Barden would lose the chairmanship of the House Labor and Education Committee, and Rep. Herbert Bonner would be replaced as chairman of the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee.

Rep. Carl Durham would also lose his up-coming post as

chairman of the powerful Joint Committee on Atomic Energy.

In addition to these nine other southerners would be replaced as chairmen of House committees.

(Continued From Page 2)

cent cocktail party. "We're previewing my latest picture next Tuesday, and I'm not nervous one bit. If it's a smash hit, fine. And if it isn't so what? So I'll kill myself."

It's Art Ryan's tale about the lion hunter who took careful aim but missed the lion. Whereupon, the lion sprang at him but landed way over the hunter's head. For months, the hunter practiced shooting until he was bored to death, and then went looking for the lion. Found him, finally, and what do you think the lion was doing? Practicing shorter jumps.



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Tuesday, Sept. 11 Behind City Hall TABOR CITY, N. C. Proceeds Going To Police Radio Fund Shows Scheduled Morning, Afternoon and Night . . .