

# Lack Of Freight Cars Will Bring Rail Crisis

## Fall Crops And Factory Production Expected To Be Tied Up

WASHINGTON—The nation "is facing the greatest transportation crisis in 29 years," explains ODT Director J. Monroe Johnson.

The real pinch will begin about October 1 and continue until May, he said, with such results as:

1. "Some factories will be compelled to close down or reduce operations during periods of the fall and winter."
2. "The movement of crops will be strung out over a longer-than-usual period. The railroads still will be moving this year's wheat crop when the next crop ripens."

Johnson said in an interview that "the railroads simply cannot handle all the traffic which will be offered them during the coming months. So when the storage facilities of industrial plants are filled, they'll just have to close down or curtail operations until they can move their goods."

### No Let-Up

Normally, Johnson said, the peak demand for railroad freight cars begins about October 15 and continues several weeks. But this year, he said, the high demand will continue well into next year.

"We shall be in a terrible fix in transportation until May," the ODT director said.

"Right now the railroads are hauling more freight than at any time during the war. For the week ended July 30, the carloading figure was over 921,000, the highest weekly loading since the week ended Oct. 12, 1941."

But demand will reach 1,000,000 cars a week by fall, Johnson said, with the result that 75,000 cars of freight will back up each week for an indefinite period.

**Mounting Production**

Johnson attributes the high traffic demand to mounting industrial production, the movement of bumper food crops and the stockpiling of winter supplies such as coal and ore, by homes and factories.

Another big factor is an acute shortage of railroad freight cars. Six hundred thousand fewer cars are now rolling than during the first World War, Johnson said, and the total supply of serviceable box cars has decreased 25,000 since Aug. 1, 1943.

The ODT head said freight cars are being constructed a little over half as fast as in 1944. And over 33 per cent of all freight cars are now over 26 years old.

Johnson said the ODT's goal of 80,000 new freight cars this year will not be achieved. He attributed the lag to strikes, the terrific demand for critical materials and to "the reluctance of freight car manufacturers to rush output until they have a big backlog of orders."

**Could Build Cars**

Johnson asserted 90,000 new freight cars could be constructed by March if the government would finance construction of 50,000. He said he suggested this July 30, but that the proposal is tied up in inter-agency discussions.

As another measure to ease the situation, Johnson said freight cars

## REA

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the old Cruso Mutual Electric company, and 3) To authorize an increase in the borrowing power of the cooperative from \$1,500,000 to \$4,000,000 from the Federal government.

In the drawing for free prizes that concluded the meeting, the following were winners of many attractive gifts: Jim Singleton, Mrs. William Messer, Marie McGaha, W. C. Worley, Frank Davis, Scotty Ferguson, Bid Harris, Mrs. Jessie Caldwell, Nan Pressley, Tom Terrell, Will Bradshaw, Taylor Medford, Mr. Ferguson, Carl Francis, W. B. Ledford, Mrs. Marie Allison, Ira Cogburn, H. W. Davis, Furman Davis, Emerson McCracken, Mrs. T. A. Cathey, and Mrs. Will Henry.

## Greeks Vote King To Rule Rather Than Red Puppet

WASHINGTON—Return by plebiscite of King George II to his Greek throne did not surprise Washington, but neither did it particularly please Washington.

American officials would prefer to have had Greece become a moderate democratic republic than to put back on the throne a discredited King who in pre-war days helped saddle Greece with the Metaxas dictatorship.

But this was not a choice, as the Greek people apparently well recognized, between an ideal and possible reaction. Perhaps to oversimplify it, it was a choice between an unpopular king and an unwanted commissar.

**Communist-Made King**

For, it has been all too clear in the pressures and propaganda that in the past fortnight have been concentrating on Greece from all directions, that the Greek contest was really over whether or not Greece would continue a friend of the Western Allies or be swallowed up by the encircling Soviet Bloc.

It is very doubtful, it is believed here, that the Greek people would have wanted the King back in a plebiscite conducted free from these outside overwhelming forces. In that sense King George II can, with some justice, be considered Europe's first communist-made King. The fear of Soviet domination is understood to have driven thousands of Greek republicans into the royalist camp.

The choice, however, appeared to be between the lesser of two evils, between two militant minorities, with the Greeks preferring their mediocre monarch to a Soviet-supported puppet.

He declined to specify its nature but said the effect of the order will be to make available an additional 25,000 freight cars a week.

## FAWN AND ITS 'ADOPTED PARENTS'



THESE TWO WISCONSIN YOUNGSTERS, Joyce Mayo and David Wagoner, feed a young fawn they adopted which they found near death in northern Wisconsin's Vilas County. The animal was accidentally separated from its mother. "Bambi" follows the children around. (International)

## World Food Supply In Coming Year To Increase But Not Reach Normal

WASHINGTON—The Agriculture department reported that world food supplies for the consumption year ending next July are expected to be slightly larger than those of the past year, but considerably below pre-war average.

A survey of the situation indicates, the department said in a report, that increases in production this year apparently will offset reductions in stocks.

The department said that since deficit areas abroad account for a major part of the expected increase in output, international shipments required to maintain emergency levels of consumption will be smaller than during the past consumption year.

"But if the present difficult food situation in many areas is to show some improvement in 1946-47 as a whole, there will be continued need," the department said, "for large imports even though wartime economies in the utilization of domestically-produced crops are still practiced."

The increase in food production results, the report said, mainly from larger crops of wheat, sugar and potatoes and a larger fish catch. It said some increase also is likely in supplies of rice and vegetable oils.

### Animal Fats Shorter

Supplies of meats and dairy products are not likely to be any larger than they were in the past year and animal fats will be somewhat shorter, especially in the United States, the department said.

Conditions for growing and harvesting this year's wheat crop were

said to have been satisfactory in the principal producing countries of the northern hemisphere and, except for drought in parts of Australia, an expanded acreage was reported to have been planted under generally favorable conditions in the southern hemisphere.

The department said that should favorable growing conditions continue in the latter area during the coming months, the world output of wheat may nearly equal the pre-war average of 5,000,000,000 bushels, or 700,000,000 more than was produced last year.

However, total supplies of wheat will be little, if any, larger, the department said, because stocks remaining from previous crops are much smaller this year than last.

### Greatest Increases

The survey indicated that the areas of greatest increases in food production this year apparently are in southern and western Europe and French North Africa. Substantial increases were said to be in prospect in the Philippines and Japan.

The report said that as a result of favorable crop prospects in the United States and Canada, production in North America may equal the record of 1944.

"The outlook for production in continental Europe as a whole remains much better than a year ago," the report said. "Total food output in terms of food energy, for the 1946-47 consumption year may still be forecast at nearly 90 per cent of the 1933-37 average, as compared with 80 per cent or less for 1945-46."

The department said mass death

## Cecil News

By MRS. J. EDGAR BURNETTE

Mrs. Ella Singleton is confined to her home on the Little East Fork with a broken ankle.

Harry Good has been taken to the County Home for care.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Earl Reece have moved to Clyde where Mrs. Reece has been elected to the position of Educational Director of the Clyde Baptist church.

A community library, with the books brought in from the Haywood County Public Library at Waynesville, is located for the Cecil Township at the home of Mrs. Edgar Burnette.

Any news of interest to the Cecil community or Haywood county, may be sent in to Mrs. Edgar Burnette, Route 3, Canton, N. C., for publication in this paper.

Mr. and Mrs. Shirley Francis and children of Waynesville, were visitors of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Francis, over Labor Day.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Grooms and children of Asheville, spent the Labor Day week-end at the home of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Harrison Grooms.

At the monthly business meeting on last Saturday night at Riverside church, the members voted to make plans to have an aluminum furnace installed as soon as available.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Burnette have been appointed assistant choir leaders for Wednesday night practice. Mr. Burnette was also elected as assistant B. T. U. director.

Mrs. Lillian Hines is confined to her home with the flu and Mrs. Floyd Burnette is teaching in her place at Cecil school.

Mrs. Mildred Hudson was hostess to her Ladies Circle of the Canton M. E. church at the camp of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Clontz. A pot-luck lunch was served at noon.

from starvation in India has been successfully forestalled to date, but the most critical, final quarter of the crop year is yet to be faced—that is, September-November. The department said there can be no general relief from the food shortage until the main rice harvest is gathered in December.

## YOU'RE TELLING ME!

By WILLIAM RITT  
Central Press Writer

THE FIRST ROCKET to be sent to the moon will contain mice, predicts a jet-propulsion engineer. We wouldn't know why unless it's to prove or disprove that old legend that the satellite is made of green cheese.

Brazil has a new super-luxurious hotel atop a 2,700-foot mountain. This must be what they mean by high living.

Residents of Flat Rock, Ind., report seeing a 20-foot python. Zadok Dumkopf wanders if it isn't that Loch Ness serpent on a round-the-world tour.

Junior is spending his vaca-

tion listening to Cozens of broadcast programs daily. In fact he's almost as full of radio-activity as an atom bomb.

It's easy to get your picture in the papers these days. Just attend a party given by the Garssons.

When a South American lad develops ambitions to become president he first joins the army.

A silent vacuum sweeper has been invented, we read. This is going to be tough on nosy neighbors who'll have a hard time finding out if the lady next door is working or loafing.

## SYMPATHY AS WELL AS FIRST AID



IT SHOULDN'T HAPPEN to an umpire, let alone their pal, agree Jackie, 5, and Jimmy Sewell, 8, who watch sympathetically as Dr. Charles Jorgensen, Pirate trainer, gives first aid to Frankie Gustine. The lads are sons of Pitcher Rip Sewell. The scene is the Pittsburgh dugout. Gustine was spiked after he collided with centerfielder Jim Russell. (International)

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