Opinions



Soviet grain deal is important

By John Sledge N.C. Farm Bureau Federation

When the United States and the Soviet Union announced a new grain pact at the end of July, it committed to paper what was pret-ty much expected -- that we will supply the Soviets with about a third of their import needs.

That's better than the 25% level we had dropped to after the grain embargo, but far less than the 60% of the market we held previously.

In securing the agreement, it is likely that the U.S. had to relieve

Soviet fears that the PIK program would be an ongoing part of American farm policy.

If the Soviets thought the U.S. was banking the fires of production and exports, then they would continue to look elsewhere to meet their import needs.

A policy of exporting our surplus is better not only for a customer like the Soviet Union, but better for American farmers. There is no way the U.S. Treasury can match the prosperity for agriculture that exports bring.

The criticism of bilateral grain

agreements is that they tend to be restrictive.

In this case, the Soviets are limited to purchases of 12 million tons without prior consultation. They also inject more politics into agricultural trade.

However, when you consider our tenuous relationship with the Soviet Union, this grains agree-ment, which will run for five years, give farmers some reassurance that they will have this market. And, in that sense, it's im-

World War on minds in 1945

By Sherry Matthews

About this time 38 years ago President Harry S. Truman was serving his first term of office, having taken the helm after President Franklin Roosevelt died.

It was also during this time that American bombers dropped the first atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki during the closing of World War II. Not quite a month after the bombings, Japan sur-rendered unconditionally on September 2, 1945.

The United Nations was also launched in San Francisco during

In Hoke County, the effects of the second world war were also be-ing felt through food and fuel shortages.

In June 1945 The News-Journal reported that a popular "soft drink" was in large demand with little supply.

" 'The supply of Coca-Cola in Raeford definitely will be affected by the further curtailment in the supply for sugar after July 1, because the manufacturer of that popular drink will not compromise with the use of substitutes.

" 'However, an equitable system of rationing will be main-tained in Raeford during the shortage," according to G.C. Seymour, manager of the Aber-deen Coca-Cola Bottling Com-

" 'The O.P.A. announced today that the allotment of sugar to industrial users would be cut to 50% of the sugar used in the third quarter of 1941.

'I am informed that this sugar shortage is world-wide and not merely national and is directly attributed to the confusion in the production and distribution of sugar occasioned by the war,' said Seymour.
"Sugar is absolutely necessary

in the manufacture of Coca-Cola.

About This Time

We cannot and will not use sweetening substitutes and therefore will not compromise with the integrity of Coca-Cola, but you can be certain that the quality of the drink will remain unchanged.

"My company is committed to play fair with the government and obey its regulations in both the letter and spirit; to maintain an equitable distribution system to serve all our customers equally, and that we do.
""We still have a war to win and

that comes first, but we will at-tempt still to get you all the Coca-Cola that is possible and what we have will be available to all."

In the same issue of The News-Journal, Editor Dougald Coxe reported that area women were volunteering to visit the homes of families who had lost relatives dur-

ing war action.

"A group of Hoke County women, at least one from each community, has been selected to act as representatives of the War Department to make an official visit to each home which has sustained a casualty. It was stated yesterday by Mrs. H.A. Cameron, who has been named chairman of the county committee.
"In that it is quite difficult for

the Army to make these visits as quickly as should be when a family has been notified of a casualty, Capt. E.A. Zelnicker of the per-sonal affairs office of Camp Mackall has requested this cooperation so that the immediate needs of a stricken family may be supplied by the War Department much quicker than if a personnel attache were to have made the visit.

"Mrs. Cameron stated that notification of casualties would be sent to the family as is now being done, and that she would also be

notified. A member of the committee is then to go to the home as a representative of the Army for a 'condolence visit to the members of the families of the soldiers killed in action,' to be first contact between the family and the army in such instances.'

In August of 1945, when the war was winding to a close The News-Journal reported a victory meeting and Thanksgiving service in celebration of the "final surrender papers being signed in Tokyo."

"At the time the final surrender papers are being signed in Tokyo Bay at 8 o'clock tomorrow evening, the people of Hoke County are asked to assemble in the Raeford Methodist Church for a program of Thanksgiving, which is sponsored by the Ellis Williamson Post of the American Legion.

'Commander W. L. Poole, who will preside, has asked that all residents and especially servicemen and families of servicemen and all veterans of both World Wars be present at the service."

In the same issue of the paper it was reported that a "local" hen had done her share for the recent

"A little bit late for the war effort, tis true, but right in the nick of time during one of the greatest egg shortages in Hoke County, a local hen has shown what hens can

do to help out in an emergency.
"An egg she produced last
Saturday weighed 6 ounces, while common varities of hen eggs usually come in the 2-ounce size. Hers measured nearly 4 inches in diameter. When broken it was found to contain a full size yolk, an extra quantity of white, and another regular size egg and a perfectly formed egg to boot.

"The hen is owned by Mrs. David Smith, and the egg was displayed at the Smith Radio

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It's easy to have a closed mind

By Lucien Coleman

I once had a colleague who was awfully backward about going for-ward. He would never support a new idea unless it was exactly like an old one. Whenever he had to miss a faculty meeting, he would send word by somebody, "Whatever comes up, I'm against

The world is full of people who approach everything with a closed mind. If you happen to be one of them, this column will help you do a better job of being contrary.

On the other hand, if you aren't practicing holder-backer, the following catalog of excuses most often used by closed-minded people will help you recognize one when you hear one.

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Things That Matter

Here are some noises most often made by contrary committee members, business associates, and other wet-blanket types:

•"We've never done it that way before."

"It's gonna cost too much." •"We don't have enough time."

•"We tried that before."

·"They'll never buy it.

"It's against our policy." "We're not ready for that."

"The budget won't stand it." "You can't teach old dogs new

•"It's a good idea--but imprac-

"Let's give it more thought."

The others will never go for

A.A. Meetings Wed. 8 p.m. **Nursing Home** Dining Room

"I'd understand it better if you would put it in writing."

"'Let's put it on the back

burner for a while."

"'It might work somewhere else, but not here."

• "What you are really trying to

say is . . ."

•"We would be setting a dangerous precedent."

"'Let's look into it further before we act.

"Better appoint a committee to

"Let's all sleep on it."

•"It sounds all right in principle, but .

"'It can't be done." •"I know someone who tried

All of which goes to show that if you're agin' it, any old excuse will

Al-Anon Meetings Wed., 7:30 p.m. **Hoke County Health Center**

