

## Border Belts To Open Soon; Large Poundage

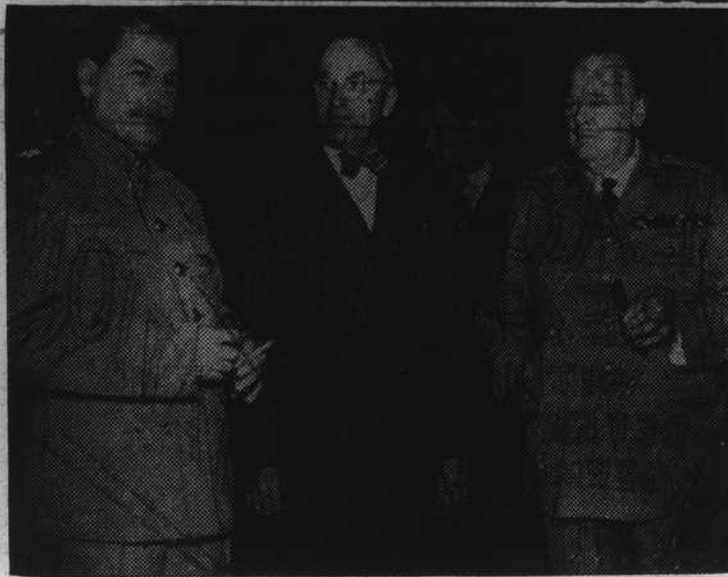
With the largest acreage of tobacco since 1939 warehousemen on the South Carolina and North Carolina Border markets are again expecting a successful marketing season. The United States Department of Agriculture Crop Reporting Board has estimated this year's crop as of July 1 for the Type 13 area to be 227,450,000 pounds as compared with 221,950,000 pounds produced last year, an increase of about 2½ per cent.

According to the United States and North Carolina Departments of Agriculture, this year's crop was raised under very unusual weather conditions. Because of an early spring, growers began transplanting two to three weeks earlier than usual and obtained almost perfect stands. Later, cool weather in May retarded normal-growth. Dry weather and high temperatures in June caused considerable "buttoning out" and some of the earlier planted fields were topped four to five leaves lower than for the past few years. Weight per leaf is expected to be heavier, largely offsetting the lesser number of leaves per stalk. Favorable weather during the latter part of June and early resulted in good quality lugs and cutters, but excessive rains during the remainder of the harvesting season adversely affected the quality of the leaf. Due to these climatic conditions, the crop is expected to have a smaller percentage of smoking tobacco and a much larger percentage of leaf.

Harvesting this year is about two weeks more ahead of last year. At the present time, about 90% has been harvested and by opening day, August 1, very little tobacco will be left in fields. Because of the earlier curing season, growers are well advanced in preparing their tobacco for market. In some sections, however, labor problems have come up, but war prisoners were used to aid in relieving the situation. A noticeable amount of tobacco has been lost in some fields, due to labor shortage and insufficient housing room caused by the large acreage; also it has required from one to two days longer to cure a barn this year. The selling time will be the same as last year, three and one-half hours per set of buyers except on markets which lost a set last year. These markets are compensated by being allowed additional selling time. The speed of sales has been increased from 360 to 400 baskets per hour with a tolerance of not more than fifteen baskets to prevent stopping in the middle of a crop. Maximum weight of each basket will be limited to 2550 pounds. The 1400 pile limit does not include purchases made by warehousemen and speculators. Several warehouses are already booked up for the entire opening week and block sales are expected over most of the belt.

Office of Price Administration has established this year on overall weighted season's average purchase price of \$40.00 per hundred for both tied and untied flue-cured tobacco. A provision is included, however, permitting each purchaser a deduction of 4½ cents per pound on all tied flue-cured tobacco purchased before computing his season's weighted average purchase price. The season average producers' sale for Type 13 flue-cured tobacco for 1944 was \$43.25 per hundred pounds.

Federal Tobacco Inspection and Market News Service is being extended to the Fairmont, N. C., tobacco market this year. This is the first market in the North Carolina Border markets to be included under the Federal Tobacco Inspection Act.



THE 'BIG THREE' IN BERLIN—Shown, left to right, are Marshal Joseph Stalin, USSR; President Harry S. Truman, USA, and Prime Minister Winston Churchill, Great Britain, pictured together for the first time just before the opening of the Big Three conference in the Potsdam, Germany, area.

## Exchange Labor Is Expected To Save Tobacco

Winton. — "By the exchange labor method set up in the county now for priming tobacco, the farmers will save all their tobacco unless it begins to ripen too fast," H. L. Harrell, farm labor assistant declared this week.

The plan used in the county is for about three medium-sized families or two large families to help each other. The members of all families work in one man's field until the work is his field has been done and then they move on to the other fields, said Mr. Harrell.

Most farmers are cooperating in exchanging labor but there are a few stubborn ones that will not use this method, said Harrell, adding that those farmers are just hurting themselves.

"There is very little labor for hire and what there is I'd say is no good," Harrell explained.

The German prisoner labor is used for priming tobacco only where the need is critical.

## Peanut Digging Has Started in Texas

Ahoskie. — Peanut digging in south Texas has started and began fairly general the latter part of last week. Some runners have been dug in north Florida and southern Alabama, and an occasional small lot has already been picked, according to the United States Department of Agriculture marketing services report.

Where the digging is general in Texas the sections are not especially adapted to peanut production with the result that quality yield on this very early digging will be poor, the report states.

It is still too early to determine whether excessive rains in the Virginia-Carolina areas have resulted in any permanent injury to the crop, but indications are that if these rains continue much longer some damage will be suffered.

### TO RENEW RAYON

Rayon dresses will have a crisp new look if they are soaked in a solution of water and gelatin, according to Iva Byrd Johnson, clothing specialist.

To achieve the best results in using this gelatin bath to give new life to old rayons, Miss Johnson suggests the following procedure. Soak two tablespoons of gelatin in one-half cup of water for five minutes, then dissolve this mixture in a pan of boiling water. When it is cool dip the freshly washed garment into the gelatin mixture, squeeze it gently and then roll in a thick towel. When the garment is dry and ready to press be sure to iron it on the wrong side.

## RATIONED NOTES

PROCESSED FOODS (Blue Stamps): Y2, Z2, A1, B1, C1, expire August 31, D1 through L1, M1, N1 expire October 31. P1, Q1, R1, S1, T1 expire November 30.

MEATS AND FATS (Red Stamps): Q2, R2, S2, T2, U2, expire August 31, V2 through Y2 expire September 30. A1, B1, C1, D1, E1 expire October 31. F1, G1, H1, J1, K1, expire November 30.

SUGAR: Sugar Stamp No. 36, good for five pounds, expires August 31.

SHOES: Airplane Stamps No. 1, No. 2, No. 3 and No. 4 now good.

FUEL OIL: 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 coupons from this season, all valid for 10 gallons each. Period 1 coupon (new season) valid for 10 gallons.

GASOLINE: A-16 coupons valid June 22 through September 21.

Rationing rules now require that every car owner write his license number and State on all gasoline coupons in his possession

## New Food Stamps Are Validated

Raleigh. — Five more red stamps and five more blue stamps, all in War Ration Book Four, were to be made good for the purchase of rationed foods on Wednesday, August 1, OPA District Director Theodore S. Johnson has announced.

Each of the stamps will be worth 10 points, making a total of 50 red points, which will be good for the purchase of rationed meats, butter, margarine, cheeses, lard, shortening and salad and cooking oils, and 50 blue points good for the purchase of rationed processed foods.

The new stamps, all good through November 30, are:

Red, for meats-fats: F1, G1, H1, J1 and K1.

Blue, for processed foods: P1, Q1, R1, S1 and T1.

The following stamps, previously validated, also may be used in the purchase of rationed foods during August: Red Stamps—Q2, R2, S2, T2, U2, V2, X2, Y2, A1, B1, C1, D1 and E1; Blue Stamps—Y2, Z2, A1, B1, C1, D1, E1, F1, G1, H1, J1, L1, M1 and N1.

Sugar stamp 36, in War Ration Book Four, will continue to be good for five pounds of sugar through the end of August.

### SAFETY

Last week was National Farm Safety week but the dangers still remain unless the hazards to health and safety have been removed or corrected.

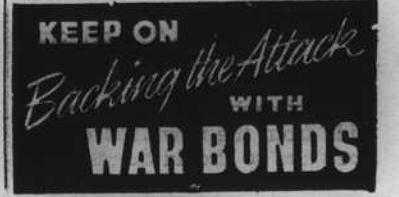
## Outlook for More Lard Next Year

Raleigh.—Housewives will be able to purchase more lard next year, for lard production will be about 100,000,000 pounds larger in the spring and summer of 1946 than this year.

Basing his prediction on reports of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, D. S. Coltrane, Assistant Commissioner of Agriculture, pointed out, however, that lard production will be less this winter than last winter. He said the national fall pig crop is expected to be about 13 per cent more than a year earlier. Markings of 1945 fall-crop pigs will

begin in late April, 1946.

Hogs now being marketed are from the 1944 fall pig crop, which was 34 per cent smaller than the record fall crop in 1943. Hogs to be marketed from October to April will be from the 1945 spring pig crop, estimated to be seven per cent less than that of the spring crop of last year.



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