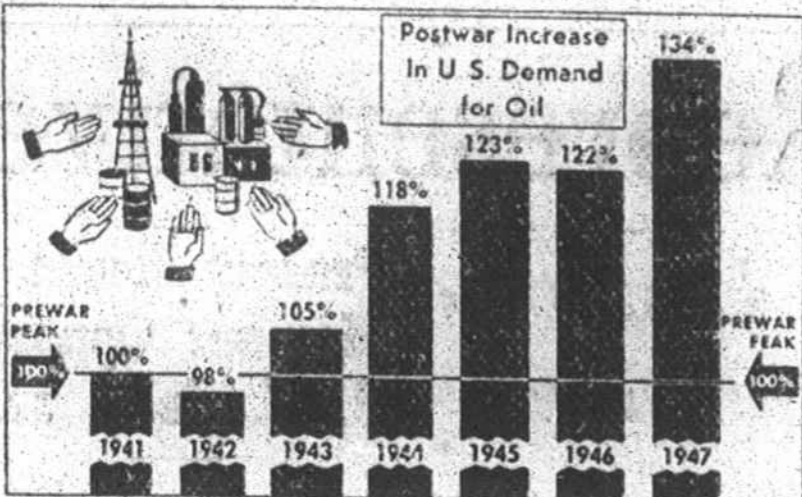


Record Increases Hit Fuel Supplies With Weather Adding Local Problem



America's demand for oil hits all-time high, surpassing even war years, as above chart shows.

AMERICA'S use of oil rose to its all-time high in 1947 as a result of increases as high as 511 percent since 1941, the last prewar year, in the number of oil-consuming units, the Oil Industry Information Committee said today in a statement commenting on the factors that have contributed to a critical fuel situation in this area as abnormally cold weather swept the nation.

The committee warned local residents that even with an early break in the winter, it will be important for consumers to continue to save oil in view of the record demand and the depletion of stocks in storage caused by the weather already experienced. In the Mid-West the first half of the winter ranged from 7 percent to 22 percent colder than last year, while in the East it was from 18 percent to 29 percent colder.

The increase of 511 percent was in the installation of Diesel engines, the committee explained. In the home oil burner field, the committee said, the postwar yearly installation rate of burners has more than tripled that of any prewar decade, amounting to more than half a million a year as compared with less than 150,000 in the decade 1931-1940. The result has been an increase of 69 percent since 1941, in demand for the type of oil used in home heating.

Where the overall demand for oil was only 23 percent above the prewar peak at the height of the war, it has been 34 percent above that peak in the post war, the committee explained.

Other factors, in addition to Diesels and oil burner installations, cited as increasing the demand for all types of petroleum products, including gasoline, kerosene and the heavy oil used in industry and on ships, include an increase of more than two million motor vehicles in 1947 as compared with 1941; a 51 percent increase in the number of tractors on farms; and a jump of 174 percent in the number of liquefied petroleum gas users.

Since last May the industry, through its information services, has sought to keep the public aware of the situation that was developing, and companies in the industry have informed the public that they should install oil burning equipment only when an assured oil supply was available.

Some of the methods undertaken by members of the industry to meet the critical situation include: adoption of a seven-day week loading and unloading of tank cars; increasing the amount of fuel oil produced per barrel as compared with other products; and sustained operation of processing plants by shortening scheduled shutdowns for repair and cleaning.

Despite postwar shortages of steel and other materials, the committee said, the industry is striving to complete a four billion dollar expansion program by the end of 1948. In the meantime, it is embarked on a program of promoting efficient use of petroleum products.

Luxury Bus Is On Road Tests

CHICAGO. — Revolutionary new design and mechanical features that will bring greater comfort and luxury to bus transportation were disclosed today as an experimental model of the Greyhound Highway Traveler compartment coach began road tests.

The new bus seats 50 passengers, as compared with 37 passengers in Greyhound buses delivered in 1947. The greater capacity is achieved through an entirely new arrangement of seats in three sectional compartments. The floor space of the bus is increased one-third.

The improved design also provides for wider, roomier seats, deeper and more restful cushions, and more space between seats to allow for greater relaxation. Two short stairways, with illuminated risers, facilitate the movement of passengers between passenger compartments.

A pillow type of radio speaker, which can be heard only by the occupant of the seat, is built into each seat headrest. By means of an individually operated switch, the passenger may listen to either one of two radio programs. In addition, there is a public address system for announcements by the driver. Each passenger also has an individually controlled reading light.

Double panes of glare-resistant heat-absorbing safety glass are used in the windows, which are 50 percent larger, and all seats are arranged to give passengers greater visibility. The driver's compartment is practically a glass dome and, since scenery is a major attraction of highway travel, a majority of the passengers are seated above the traffic level so as to have an unobstructed view.

The Sedan Lounge Lower compartment provides space for 12 passengers with seating accommoda-

Seven Cases Heard In Recorder Session

Seven cases were heard in regular session of City Recorders court held at City Hall last Monday with Judge O. C. O'Farrell presiding.

The plaintiff paid costs and withdrew the warrant against Lewis O. C. Pruitt, charged with beating a board bill.

J. Andrew Lovelace, for public drunkenness and possession of tax paid whiskey, was sentenced sixty days, suspended on payment of \$10 and costs. Bill Beatty, charged with drunk and disorderly, paid \$5 and costs and J. E. Davis, for assault on a female, paid costs.

T. R. Barrett and Claude Morrison each paid \$5 and costs for public drunkenness and Oscar Bollinger paid costs on a similar charge.

Flies Eat Vegetables
More than 300 species of March flies are known to exist. They feed on vegetable substances.

Steel in Automobiles
The automobile industry leads all others in use of steel.

—Prompt Service
—Work Guaranteed

GRAYSON'S
CREDIT JEWELERS

BARB WIRE—25 Rolls—4 point

BLUE-BLACK and GREEN COMPOSITION SHINGLES

POWER LAWN MOWERS—1 and 1-2 HP Continental Motors 21 and 22 inch cutting width

HAND LAWN MOWERS

DRAG HARROWS

TURN PLOWS

CULTIVATORS

STEEL and WOOD BEAM FLOW STOCKS

POULTRY NETTING

INSIDE and OUTSIDE HOUSE PAINT

Fair Assortment COMMON WIRE and CUT FINISH NAILS

2-4-6 QUART ICE CREAM FREEZERS

MORTAR WHEEL BARROWS WITH RUBBER TIRES

24 and 26 INCH BOYS and GIRLS BICYCLES

OAKES HOG FEEDERS

PHIFER HARDWARE COMPANY
PHONE 46

Southern Gets First Of 3,000 New Box Cars

Delivery to the Southern Railway System of the first of 3,000 all-steel, 50-ton box cars ordered a year ago from the Pullman-Standard Car Manufacturing Company is expected to start early next month, it was announced today by Ernest E. Norris, the Southern's president. The 3,000 cars will cost the Southern approximately \$11 million.

The new, standardized "P.S.-1" cars are being manufactured in Pullman-Standard's Bessemer, Ala., shops, and Mr. Norris said that delivery was anticipated at the rate of about 27 daily. Although similar in appearance to existing box cars, the new equipment is of welded instead of riveted construction; and through standardization the cars are produced on an assembly-line basis.

The Southern also expects to start receiving in July, at the rate of 20 a day, 1,000 fifty-ton hopper cars ordered from the American Car and Foundry Company at St. Louis, Mo. These cars, Mr. Norris said, will cost the Southern approximately \$3,200,000.

Approximately 75 percent of the cost of these 4,000 cars is to be financed through Southern's recently issued 2 1/8 percent equipment trust certificates, Series "XX," which are to be paid off in 20 semi-annual installments between September 15, 1948, and March 15, 1958. The Guaranty Trust Company of New York is trustee under the equipment trust agreement.

North Carolina's honey bees did a good job in 1947 by producing more honey than in any other recent year. An estimated crop of 6,228,000 pounds of honey was taken from hives during the year.

Central Baseballers Drilling For Opener

Baseball drills continued this week in the Central high school camp under the direction of Coaches John Rudisill and Don Parker with some 30-odd candidates fighting it out for positions on the squad.

First game on the 1948 Western conference slate is scheduled for the home-field of the Rutherfordton-Spindale nine in Rutherfordton April 2. First home game on the card is with Cherryville on April 16.

No practice games have been announced by the local team officials.

Practice sessions so far this season have been mostly hitting, with infield drills to begin soon. The six-man mound staff has been working hard getting ready for the opening game.

The squad roster will probably find Bill Caldwell, Don Ellison, Carl Moss, Bud Medlin, Jerry Cloninger, all right-handers, and Bill Howard in the pitching department; Bob Huffstetter and Curtis Wright, catchers; Horace Kiser, Boyce Huffstetter, Jim Cobb, Richard White, Jack Ruth, and Albert Tate in the infield; and Jim Lybrand, Dwight Alexander, Leroy Wright, Gene Roberts, Raymond Butts, and Steve Jones in the outfield.

Diseases and insects have caused only a minimum of damage to the 1948 North Carolina strawberry crop to date.

Practically all of the State's small beet crop is grown in the Wrightsboro-Wilmington area.

The offensive function of the Navy, in case of war, is to carry that war to the enemy so that it will not be fought on United States soil.

HOLIDAY SPECIALS

25 LBS. WHITE GOOSE FLOUR—plain or self-rising \$1.77

3 PACKAGES PAA'S EGG DYE 25c

100 POUNDS VIGORO \$3.59

HEAVY SYRUP PEACHES 10c

LARGE PACKAGE DREFT 29c

GAULT'S GROCERY
GRADE "A" MARKET
WE DELIVER PHONE 225

MYERS'

HAS YOUR EASTER SHOES

Come in and get a pair of these smart Casuals or dress shoes and be prepared to join the Easter Parade looking the best.

A few of our styles are illustrated here in smart, stylish, good quality shoes and at inexpensive prices.

We also have many other styles, not shown here, in casuals, dress shoes and oxfords and in all the popular colors and sizes up to 10, including BALLETS in all colors!

CHILDREN'S SHOES

We can fit the children, big and little, boy or girl, in their Easter shoes too. We have many styles in sandals and oxfords for them in black, red, white or brown. Red Goose, Rough Rider and other Famous Brands.

\$1.98 to \$6.50

Myers'

Department Store

Dress Shop—Second Floor

WHITE SMOOTH KID \$5.00

RED OR WHITE KID \$5.00

BLACK PATENT—WHITE KID \$5.00

GREEN-RED-WHITE \$3.50

WHITE SMOOTH KID \$5.00

GREEN SUEDE

WHITE KID \$5.00