ESTIMATORS RARELY MISS SIZE OF CROP

Experts Compile Information From Averages of 215,000 Reporters.

REPORT EVERY MONTH

By FREDERIC J. HASKIN.

WASHINGTON, July 27.—The government soothsayers, prophets of the future, revealers of things that are to be, are just now coming to the end of a stressful season.

They have again been asked to give the answer, far in advance of a normal deveiation of the facts, to the vital question, "How much food will America contribute to a hungry world?"

They are the men who operate the bureau of crop estimates of the department of agriculture, and it is no small task to tell in advance the likely yield, year by year, from all the farm lands in the United States.

The government, month by month, as the season advances, compiles all the information that it can get, and from that information draws the best conclusions that its experience and wisdom make possible as to the amount of wheat, corn, cotton and other crops that are to come from the soil.

It gives this information to the Wall street broker, to the dealer, the consumer, the farmer, to everybody.

It does this that the sophisticated among the hundred million may not have an advantage over the unsophisticated, that markets may not be juggled on false information, that whoever buys or sells these staples may have the facts upon which to base a judgment of their value.

Every month during the spring and summer the bureau of crop estimates issues a statement in which it reviews the crop situation and figures from these facts what the yield should be.

It finds out as nearly as it can how many acres have been planted to the different crops and the conditions under which these crops are growing.

It compares the acreage and conditions with similar reports from past years.

It reaches the conclusion that the logical yield under the circumstances should be this figure or that.

It shows how the estimate compares with the crop of last year and with the crop of the average year.

This is necessary because the consumption of a product like wheat is constant and a yardstick must be furnished by which to measure prospective prices.

It is an infinitely difficult thing to find out in April, for instance, just how many acres have been planted in wheat between Maine and Oregon.

DEPARTMENT HAS 215,000 REPORTERS.

The department, however, has about 215,000 reporters.

Each of these is a man who is close to the soil in his community. Each makes up a statement in which he estimates that the acreage in his community is normal, 10 per cent above, 15 per cent below, or whatever he believes it to be.

Three estimates come in from every community, and the average of these three is likely to be a nearly correct estimate.

If this estimate is too high it is likely to be counteracted by an estimate from another community which is too low.

The average of all estimates from all sources is likely to be quite close to the facts.

With the acreage determined as nearly as possible, the department asks for reports, month by month, on the condition of the crop.

Is it normal, or better or worse than normal?

Its 215,000 reporters send in details on this subject.

Acreage and condition being determined, the crop probabilities are figured out.

The man in a township, having a bumper crop or a poor one, might conclude that the nation would be overfed or starved according to his prospects.

The county agent might draw different conclusions from his outlook.

The field agent representing a great state might register gloom or optimism according to his lights. But the individual reckoning of any one of these is on too narrow a plane.

Even the prospective yield of this most productive nation might be counteracted by world conditions.

ALL RECORDS ARE COMBINED.

So the reports from the townships must be combined with counties, counties with states, states with the nation.

The whole program must be repeated every month.

Judgment and knowledge must be applied to the process at every step.

And it has to be done on schedule time.

The bureau must not go far wrong because the crop will soon be harvested and the actual figures revealed.

For twenty years the estimates have, on the average, been within 1½ per cent of the crop.

Thirteen times the department has underestimated the crop, and seven times it has overestimated it.

When the estimates are ready for announcement an event of importance is staged.

The government announcement of the probability of a poor yield of cotton or a good yield of rice will have a definite influence on the market—will send the price of a particular staple up or down.

If an interested party knew the facts in advance he could make a fortune.

Therefore, on announcement days, the workers in the bureau in Washington must bring their lunches because they are locked in until the figures are finally announced at a quarter after 2 in the afternoon.

All telephones are disconnected.

The sealed reports from various states have been arriving for days.

They are brought by special messengers from the postoffice and are locked in the safe with their seals still unbroken.

On the final day they are carried in state to the office of the crop estimator.

There they are opened by the board, on which the secretary himself is sitting, and the computors set to work making up the averages.

BOARD MEMBER GAVE OUT TIP.

About twelve years ago a member of this crop estimate board conspired with a confederate to tip information in advance that they might profit in the market.

Sitting in a locked room with the secretary of agriculture and his associates he managed to send forth the signals.

This was done by raising or lowering a curtain.

At a certain point in the window the curtain indicated an average crop of cotton.

When raised it meant the crop was above the average, and when lowered, that it was under the usual yield.

This code was quite simple and it worked.

A large sum of money was cleaned up, but eventually the ruse was discovered and its perpetrators were exposed and prosecuted.

At a set moment the secretary of agriculture and Leon M. Estabrook, chief of the bureau, come downstairs with the monthly estimate.

Reporters for the various press associations, newspapers and brokerage houses are waiting tensely for the word.

Telegraph and telephone connections are already made to New York, Chicago, New Orleans and London.

The word is given, copies are grabbed and the scramble against time begins.

Around tickers in a thousand offices, in stock exchanges all over the world, are many individuals waiting nervously for this information.

Fortunes are made and lost on it.

It speeds men and women on the road to wealth or brings about their impoverishment.

Once in the last few years the report was a half minute late because something got the matter with the multigraph at the department.

An anxious crowd was waiting about the cotton exchange in New Orleans.

One of the receiving telegraph operators leaned over to another and asked him what he thought the figure representing the estimate in bales would be.

The telegrapher wrote his guess on a piece of paper.

A broker, craning his neck, saw that figure.

He thought it was one that the operator had just received, and he hurried onto the floor of the stock exchange and played his supposed information.

His mistake cost him a lot of money.

MANY CHANGES IN PASTORATES

Bishop Chartrand Announces Pulpit Assignments.

Numerous changes in the pastorates of Indianapolis and Indiana Catholic churches have been announced by Rt. Rev. Joseph Chartrand, bishop of the diocese of Indianapolis.

Rev. Joseph F. Byrne, pastor of St. Anthony's church, will become pastor of the Holy Cross church.

He will be succeeded by Rev. Albert Busald, pastor of St. Mary's church.

Father Busald will be succeded by Rev. John H. Sheefers of Vincennes.

Other changes announced follow: Rev. John Schenk, who has been in charge of Holy Cross church since the death of Rev. James Wade, is appointed pastor at Branch, Ind.; Rev. P. H. Griffin, formerly chaplain in the United States army, is appointed pastor at Columbus, Ind.; Rev. James B. Delaney of Columbus is appointed pastor of St. Patrick's church, Terre Haute; Rev. Edgar C. O'Connor, recently ordained, is assigned for duty at the cathedral; Rev. Pierre Dixon, who for two years has been assistant priest at St. Anthony's church, is transferred to Terre Haute as assistant at St. Patrick's church; Rev. Albert Schad, assistant at St. Mary's church, is transferred to St. Anthony's church; Rev. J. G. Laupert is appointed pastor at Bloomington in the place of Rev. M. H. Bogemann, who has resigned after thirty-five years as pastor; Rev. Urban Sondermann, recently ordained, is named assistant at Holy Cross church, Indianapolis.

The Rev. Leo Creeden of Indianapolis, recently ordained, is made assistant at the Church of Assumption, Evansville; the Rev. Thomas Mattingly, recently ordained, is made assistant at Evansville; the Rev. Edward Bockhold, recently ordained, is appointed assistant at St. Mary's church, Indianapolis; the Rev. F. W. Wolf is transferred from Poseyville to Troy; the Rev. Henry Verst is transferred from St. Phillip's to Poseyville; the Rev. Theodore J. Vollmer is transferred from St. Joseph to St. Phillip, Posey county; the Rev. Edward L. Quade, from North Vernon to St. Joseph, Vanderburg county; the Rev. Edward Bauer, from Fort Branch to North Vernon; the Rev. August Sprigler, from Sullivan to North Vernon, as pastor in place of the Rev. G. L. Widenin, who died recently; the Rev. F. X. Sheer, from Terre Haute to Sullivan; the Rev. Pierre Brisse, recently of Evansville, to Terre Haute, as assistant at St. Patrick's; the Rev. Clement Thienes is to organize a new parish in the south part of Terre Haute, to be known as St. Margaret Mary parish; the Rev. J. H. Honnigford of Napoleon and the Rev. Henry Dugan of Evansville are appointed professors in the Woman's college at St. Mary-of-the-Woods; the Rev. Henry Hunger of Hayden, is appointed pastor at Napoleon.

PUSS IN BOOTS JR.

By DAVID CORY.

You remember in the last story that Puss had made a visit on the dusty rusty miller, who ground his corn at early dawn for the farmers to make nice pies and cake. Well, after he had stayed a litttle while under the great willow tree that stood by the old mill he walked away, and by and by he came to a hill. And right here I must tell you that Goosey Gander wasn't with him. You see, that old goose grew tired of flying with Puss on his back, and so decided to stay with the miller and eat corn for the rest of his life.

Well, when Puss came to the foot of the hill he said to himself: "Shall I climb this hill or shall I turn off into the meadow and follow the brook?" Aha while he was wondering what to do an old woman flew by in a basket. And she was the old woman who went up to the moon to see the man who came down too soon.

And then a little yellow bird began to sing:

"There was an old woman tossed in a blanket
Seventeen times as high as the moon.
But where she was going no mortal could tell
For under her arm she carried a broom.
Old woman, old woman, old woman, said I,
Whither, oh, whither, oh, whither, so high?
To sweep the cobwebs from the sky.
And I'll be with you by and by!"

"Please take me with you," cried little Puss Junior. So the old woman came down close to the meadow and Puss jumped into her basket, and pretty soon they were flying high up in the air. And every time they came across a cobweb she brushed it away with her broom, for she wanted the sky bright and clear, you see, and perhaps that is why the sky is so bright on Monday, for that is the day, so they tell me, she likes to do her sweeping.

"What do you do on rainy days?" asked Puss.

"Shine the rainbows, dearie," said the old woman.

"Dear me," answered Puss, "and did you ever find the pot of gold that is hung at one end?"

"No, not yet," she replied, "for the fairies are ever on the watch, and before I can get there they take it away and hide it in the woods."

"She Brushed the Cobwebs Away With Her Broom."

"Well, I think you ought to be paid for keeping the sky so bright and clean," said Puss. But the old woman did not reply, for just then a strong wind blew the basket into a tree top where a robin had a a nest full of pretty blue eggs. And when he saw Puss he was frightened to death, for he was afraid of cats, you see, and so are all birds that I ever knew.

"Don't worry," said our little traveller. "I won't steal your china blue eggs." And the old woman said, "Neither will I," and after that the robin felt so happy that he sang his song just as if nothing had happened."—Copyright, 1920.

(To Be Continued.)

AUTO HITS BOY ON BIKE.

Joan Wilde, 10, of 2354 Kenwood avenue was slightly injured yesterday when his bicycle was struck by an automobile driven by Frank Lawson, 1306 North Capitol avenue, at Capitol avenue and Sixteenth street.

Marion Man to Head the Milwaukee Home

Special to The Times.

MARION, Ind., July 27.—Col. Fred E. Bury, former quartermaster of the Marion branch of the National Military home, has been appointed governor of the Northwestern branch, N. H. D. V. S., at Milwaukee, Wis.

Col. Bury was connected with the quartermaster's department of the Marion home from 1900 until 1907, when he returned to active service during the world war.

He served on the general staff of the Second army, American expeditionary forces, and was chief-of-staff to the commanding general, A. E. F., at Archangel, Russia.

He was decorated by the Russian government with the military cross of St. Anne, and was recommended for the United States distinguished service medal for his services in Russia.

AMUSEMENTS.

RIALTO
VAUDEVILLE—PICTURES
A Downtown Beach
THE COOL JOY SPOT
Willard and Daisy Singing and Talking. Stine Trio Novelty Entertainers. Shepard and Dunn, Two Classy Boys. Scott & Lewis, Singing and Dancing.
Leonard and Jermaine, Dance Revue. Buck Jones, "The Square Shooter."
Ladies get coupons at this theater good at the Broadway matinees Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Broadway VAUDEVILLE
CONTINUOUS VAUDEVILLE
NOW SHOWING
8 BIG FEATURES 8
NOON TILL 11 P. M.
Ladies' Bargain Matinee, Mon., Wed. and Fri.

MURAT ALL THIS WEEK
EVES. 8:30
Mats. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2:30
THE STUART WALKER CO.
—in—
BABY MINE
Margaret Mayo's Comedy Classic
PRICES Eves., 50c, $1.00, $1.50. Mats., 25c, 50c, 75c.
—NEXT WEEK—
A LITTLE JOURNEY

CONTINUOUS VAUDEVILLE
Lyric
Going All the Time—1 Until 11 P. M.
MARION MUNSON The Quickest Woman in the World
Powell Troupe, Thornton Sisters, Louis Hart & Co., Christy & McDonald, Smiletta Brothers, Melville & Stetson
Johnny Ray in "JIGGS IN SOCIETY"
Dancing in the Lyric Ballroom Afternoon and Evening

MOTION PICTURES.

THE CIRCLE
BEN TURPIN in
Married Life
A Five-Reel Mack Sennett Comedy,
A Scream from the start, and
MABEL NORMAND in
The Slim Princess
A George Ade Comedy

ENGLISH'S CONTINUOUS 1 Until 11 P. M.
THOMAS MEIGHAN
IN WM. C. DEMILLE'S PRODUCTION
"THE PRINCE CHAP"
WITH LILA LEE, KATHLYNN WILLIAMS, ANN FORREST, THEODORE KOSLOFF AND A NOTABLE CAST.

OHIO THEATRE
ALL WEEK
"THE 3rd WOMAN"
WITH
AN ALL-STAR CAST

Alhambra
DOUGLAS MACLEAN And DORIS MAY
"Let's Be Fashionable"
CHRISTY COMEDY
FOX NEWS WEEKLY

AMERICAN CENTRAL LIFE

Home Office Monument Place
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
ESTABLISHED 1899

About
25,000
widows and children are being cared for through funds paid out under life insurance policies carried in this Company.

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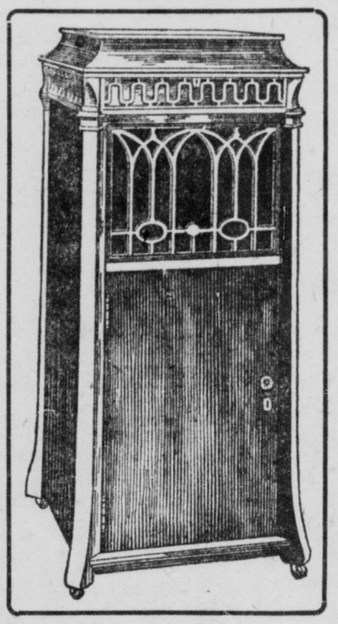

Plays All Records

An Opportunity to Get the
NEW EDISON
"The Phonograph With a Soul"
On Exceptionally Easy Terms of Payment

Pay Nothing Down on the New Edison: Just Buy a Few Records

Select any model you want; pay us nothing down on it; merely pay for a few records. Both records and instrument will be delivered at once. This is a special offer made only to readers of the Daily Times and may be withdrawn at any time. Take advantage of it now.

THE EDISON SHOP
122 North Pennsylvania St., Opposite Keith's
A NEW STOCK OF Q-R-S PLAYER ROLLS NOW ON SALE

THE FAIR
STILL IN OUR OLD LOCATION
407-417 WEST WASHINGTON STREET

Boys' $1.25 Pants
Broken lines to size 10—
69c

Boys' $2.00 Pants
up to size 17
$1.00

Clean-Up Sale of
SUITS
That Formerly Sold Up to $25.00
All-wool serges in navy, plum, black and Copen. Sizes 16 to 44. Wednesday special—
$12.75

Silk Poplin Skirts
Regular $5 Value
In black, navy and taupe; way below their actual value, Wednesday at..... $2.98

Wednesday Sale of
POLO COATS
Included in the lot are a few long serge coats. Beautiful shades of navy, tan, Copen and neat mixtures. Sizes 16 to 44. Actually worth up to $12.50. Special for Wednesday at—
$5.00

Wool Velour Check Skirts
Worth Up to $10
All new spring models. Priced for Wednesday at—
$4.98

Stout DRESSES
$12.50 Values
Pretty voiles and ginghams; sizes 42 to 52—
$5.00

Stout DRESSES
Satins, taffetas, jerseys and serges; sizes 43 to 55; $30 value—
$15.00

SUITS for Large Women
All-wool blue serges, beautifully lined; sizes 42½ to 50½. Regular $35.00 values. Special Wednesday..... $19.98

Large Size Coats
Serges and silks, $25.00 values. Sizes 42½ to 54½. Extra special Wednesday—
$13.75

Large Size Skirts
Silk poplins in navy, black and taupe. Sizes 32 to 38—
$3.98

Women's Underwear
75c WOMEN'S UNION SUITS—Women's fine ribbed cotton union suits, in pink or white; extra sizes, 59c. Regular sizes..... 49c
KAYSER'S UNION SUITS—Kayser's fine lisle ribbed union suits; suits in the loose or tight knee; pink or white; extra sizes, $1.25. Regular sizes..... $1.00
KAYSER'S LISLE RIBBED UNION SUITS in the band top or strap top, in loose or tight knee; pink or white; $1.98 and..... $1.48
KAYSER'S LISLE GAUZE VESTS; in regular or extra sizes. Special... 49c
KAYSER'S FANCY LISLE VESTS—In the band top or crocheted tops; pink or white; special..... $1.00

Silk Tricolette Dresses
Values Up to $25.00

Navy, black, brown and Pekin. Sizes 16 to 44; extra special Wednesday—
$10.75

Voile and Gingham Dresses
Values Up to $7.50
Cool, summery dresses reduced for Wednesday—
$2.98

Boys' All-Wool SUITS
$15 and $18 Values
Blue serges, cashmeres and green and brown flannels. Extra quality. Sizes up to 18 years.
$9.95

Boys' 2-Pants Suits
$12.50 Values Reduced to
$11.95
Wool serges, cashmeres and cheviots; green, brown and gray mixtures; pants full lined.

$7.50 and $10.00 Boys' Suits
Cashmeres and tweeds in brown, gray and fancy mixtures; extra fine quality. Pants full lined. Sizes to 17 years—
$4.95

Men's Genuine Palm Beach SUITS
Cool, serviceable and comfortable summer apparel. Special Wednesday—
$10.75

Men's Underwear
MEN'S ATHLETIC UNION SUITS, fine checked and cross-bar materials; $1.25 value, special—
75c

Men's SHIRTS
MEN'S SHIRTS and DRAWERS, short sleeve shirts, ankle length drawers; $1.00 value, garment—
39c