

BUSINESS

If the Killing Frosts Hold Off Central Indiana May Have a Bumper Tomato Crop

By ROGER BUDROW

INDIANA'S TOMATO HARVEST THIS YEAR is about three-fourths as big as usual, according to Purdue University. The drought spoiled the early crop, particularly in southern Indiana, and the recent killing frost finished off those in northern Indiana.

But in the central Indiana section there is a possibility that the tomato crop will be bigger than ever—provided there are no killing frosts soon.

Purdue says the average over the State is 3½ tons per acre on the

70,000 acres devoted to tomatoes. But yesterday at the Stokely Bros. packing plant here, was reported the tomatoes in this section are running 4½ tons to the acre and may reach even six tons.

Roger Budrow The quality of the tomatoes is much better than normal. Last week the Stokely plant was canning a very high quality tomato, the ones that set on the plants at the time of the rains that broke the drought.

The situation for the canning factories is pretty bright, according to Purdue. The killing frosts extended over Michigan, Wisconsin and northern Ohio. There will probably be a good demand for the crop this year and prices, too, are expected to be good. Purdue believes the canning industry will be in better shape this year than it has been for several years.

WALL STREET gives these reasons for the stock market's rise this week: England appears safe for the winter which may mean she'll win the war; increasing popularity for the Willkie candidacy; and record highs in prospect for industry.

ODDS AND ENDS—Detroit designers are already working on next year's automobile plans, but Rupert LeGrand, Detroit editor of American Machinist, thinks these plans will just accumulate cobwebs unless the war ends by next spring.

The auto industry will be so busy making tanks, aircraft engines and machine guns that it won't have much time to make many changes on 1942 models. . . . Du Pont today cut the price of cellulose sponges, the ones made from cotton and wood pulp. Streamlined chemistry may partially solve Brazil's chronic coffee surplus problem by making plastics from coffee.

Chewing gum companies will be aided by falling prices of chicle and sugar. Poors' says and silk hose manufacturers are benefiting from low raw material costs. But sluggish demand and lower prices have restricted earnings. . . . A. Z. Hopkins, Western Railways publicity man, told a Hammered audience that competition had cut one billion dollars out of railway operating revenues in the past 10 years.

Container Corp. of America is working on a rubber container to replace barrels and tin cans. It

may be introduced later for packing meats, vegetables, eggs and liquids. . . . 191,381 electric refrigerators were sold in August in this country, a new peak, according to the National Electrical Manufacturers Association.

PROFIT-TAKING LOWERS STOCKS

Industrial Average Down About a Point; Trade Slackens.

NEW YORK, Oct. 4 (U.P.)—Profit-taking brought stocks down about a point in the industrial average today with volume smaller. American Can, du Pont, Johns-Manville, Sears Roebuck, Youngstown Sheet & Tube and U.S. Gypsum lost a point or more, but elsewhere there was sufficient resistance to selling to hold losses to fractions.

Ward's report that automobile production this week totaled 165,153 units, the highest since March 16, sustained motors. Chrysler rallied after a decline of more than a point. General Motors held at a ¾ point loss.

Oils eased fractions to a point. Mercantiles were off a point or so. Rails, utilities and coppers showed insignificant changes.

LOCAL ISSUES

The following quotations by the Indianapolis Bond & Share Corp. do not represent the approximate market level based on buying and selling quotations of recent transactions.

Stocks Bid Ask

Agents Finance Corp. com. . . . 7½

Belt RR & St. Yds. com. . . . 52

Bendix Avn. . . . 32

Bent & Co. . . . 25

Beth. Knob. . . . 61

Blaw-Knox 61

Bon. Ami. . . . 61

Bon. Ami. B. . . . 61

Bon. Ami. C. . . . 61

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