

Tractors Continue To Supplant Horses, Even in War Period

Number of Work Animals On Farms the Lowest In Fifty Years.

Although gasoline is rationed, repair parts are hard to get, and new machines scarce, tractors are steadily displacing horses and mules during the war period, thus continuing a trend that has been going on for 25 years. There are fewer work animals on farms today than at any time in more than 50 years, according to the department of agriculture.

With production needs at their present high level, it is estimated that it would be necessary to place 20 million head of work stock on farms in order to have as much power in relation to cropland as was the case in 1910—were it not for the tractors and other machine power.

The number of work animals has declined about nine million head since 1920, or 45 per cent, government figures show. In their place are some 1,700,000 farm tractors, plus the influence of about two million farm automobiles and about 900,000 farm motor trucks added to farm equipment since 1920.

Tractors are believed to supply around 50 per cent of the total farm draw-bar work, although only about 30 per cent of the farmers in 1944 will own tractors. Government figures show that in 1939 there were about 400,000 fewer tractors than are now on farms, with 53 per cent of the farms in the country depending principally upon animal power. Nearly 24 per cent had neither tractors nor work animals. The remaining farms reported tractor power, most of them also employing some work animals.

Tractor farms are large farms, however, it is pointed out, and in 1939 when they totaled about 23 per cent of the farm numbers, they contributed about half the value of products sold, traded, and used in the farm home.

Larger Acreage Harvested.

Surveys in 1942 showed that the harvested cropland per farm where tractors were employed was on an average more than three times that of farms relying on animal power for draw-bar work. While most of the tractor farms also utilize animal power, the tractors at the same time contribute to the power needs of other farms.

Wide variations were reported in the displacement of work animals by tractor power. While average displacement on 10,000 tractor farms included in the 1943 survey was 4.4 head per tractor, numbers of work animals actually displaced ranged from about 2 head to somewhat more than 10 head in different state groups. These fluctuations reflected mainly differences in tractor size and the effectiveness of tractor use.

How hard animals work on farms appears to be dependent upon the region in which they are located, government reports show. Average time worked per head for all reporting farms was 835 hours in 1942, but in the southeastern and Delta states, more than 60 per cent of the work stock were used 1,000 or more hours. At the same time, less than 25 per cent of the animals in the Pacific coast and Mountain states worked 1,000 hours or more. Variations were observed not in regions and states,



Sturdy draft horses like these are losing out to tractors and other machines, although the war has slowed up their displacement somewhat.

but among mechanized farms using animals.

Feed supplies for horses and mules have been good, in general, with corn and oats accounting for more than 90 per cent of the total concentrates in 1942. Corn alone amounted to about 55 per cent of the total, and oats 37 per cent. Seventy-five per cent or more of the grain fed to these animals in the Southeast, the Appalachian and Delta states, eastern Texas and Oklahoma and along the Ohio, Cumberland and Potomac rivers was corn. In areas such as the Pacific states, most of the Mountain states, and in New England and the northern Great Plains, where corn production is less

important, little of this grain was fed.

Heaviest oats feeding was found in the northern areas, where 50 per cent or more of the total concentrates were oats. This grain was fed pretty generally throughout the country, however.

What to Do

By PHYLLIS BELMONT



The popularity of the Telephone Bridge has grown since the war. It is a good way to hold a "benefit" for some worthy charity—it makes the least possible work for the greatest returns and permits each hostess to gather together a group of her friends.

A group of prospective hostesses from various parts of the city meet and plan their party. A price is fixed for the admission fee, the date is set, the house prizes are chosen and the grand prize is picked. Each hostess then invites her own friends for bridge on the set night. Each guest pays the admission price, and when the evening is over the highest scorer at each house wins the house prize. Each hostess telephones the highest score at her home to headquarters and the highest of all the scores wins the grand prize.

The proceeds, or the individual admissions, go to charity and each hostess foots the bill for her entertainment and refreshments.

Ledger Syndicate.—WNU Features.

"GAY GADGETS"

Associated Newspapers—WNU Features

By NANCY PEPPER

HOW D'YA VOTE—SMOOTH OR SLOPPY?

It's the big issue at fashion shows for the sweater 'n skirt set all over the country. No doubt about it, chicks, there's a change in the air. Maybe it won't click with you 100 per cent, but it's a promise of better things to come. Yes, the "sloppy" party is still in power, but the opposition from the "smooth" party gets stronger and stronger.

Tuck-In vs. Sloppy Joe — Go on shrouding yourself in that oversize sack you call a sweater if you want to, but it's smoother to wear a jersey shirt or blouse-like sweater tucked inside your skirt.

Boys vs. Girls' Socks — Go on amplifying your ankles with boys' heavy sweat socks if they fascinate you, but it's smoother to wear girls' socks that bring out the Betty Grable in you.

Sports vs. Dress-Up — Go on dating in sweaters if you think you look your best in them, but it's smoother to dress up to your dates in flattering dresses that inspire those low, long whistles.

Coats vs. Jackets—Go on frightening children in those knee-length boys' coats if you're a die-hard, but it's smoother to look slick in a blazer or loafer jacket really made for you and not for your favorite six-footer.

JITTERBUG JOOLERY

Whether the wind blows "smooth" or "sloppy" in high school fashions, you still cast your vote for jitterbug joolery. Try out these new ideas to dress up your sweaters.

Pen Point Pick-Up — Collect old pen points until you have enough for a necklace. Wash them thoroughly, color with nail polish or shine up with colorless polish — then string into a choker length necklace. Points down.

Big Deal in Peels — Bet you never knew that orange and lemon peels make droolsome necklaces if you let them dry out first, then coat with colorless polish and string into long necklaces. Alternate them for a two-tone effect.

Match Makers — Make a job picture frame for your O.A.O.'s dime store photo by covering an empty match case with red polish and pasting his photo inside. Let it dangle from your lapel or belt. Paste your O.A.O.'s initials and yours in alphabet noodles on the outside flap.

JABBERWOCKY DAFFYNITIONS

Blotz the dirt — Give with the gossip.

Ain't it the so?—Isn't it the truth? Bootlegger — Boy who takes another boy's date home from a party, or gal who does vice versa.

What's up, Doc? — The newest way to say, "What's new?"

Odd ball—Queer character.

Ferdinand, go smell your posies — Stop slinging the bull.

R.O.T.C. — Right off the cob.

Rough, Tough and Unrefined — Instead of "Tall, Dark and Grewsome."

Widespread Vogue Predicted For New Bolero and Cape Suits

By CHERIE NICHOLAS



ALWAYS in advance of the times, fashion's calendar is dating spring surprisingly early this year. Gay new prints as refreshing as spring itself have been peeping from under fur coats for quite some time and the lovely little flower hats that are being so smartly worn these midwinter days work like magic in uplifting spirit and morale.

However, the message that fashion brings of smart suits "on the way" is undoubtedly the most significant for word of all, for standing at the threshold of a new spring season, it's the suit that becomes a fashion-first urge with every woman who is planning a perfectly appointed wardrobe of timely style-right apparel.

The importance of a suit as the mainstay in every wardrobe is the big reason why it should be given deliberate consideration, for it is your suit that you'll "live in" for the most part during midseason and on through the days to come. Speaking in general, the outstanding feature of suits newly designed for spring is that their style technique stresses a soft handling that is distinctly feminine and flattering. Fashion seers predict a tremendous vogue for cape and bolero suits that tune right into the new soft-styling program.

The bolero suit here shown stresses two important details that are being played up in a big way for spring. The conspicuous use of buttons is one. Color contrast is the other. Note the wide skirt band in striking contrast, as are the bands at the wrist. In this instance buttons are seen on the bolero only, but another model has a side-fasten skirt with buttons (large ones at

that) all the way down from belt to hemline, thus continuing the button technique on the brief bolero jacket.

Watch for the new-style cape-suits this spring. Not only will you see stunning styles as pictured to the left, but there's going to be a veritable landslide of cape-suits styled in most intriguing and versatile ways. The cape suit pictured is proving a big style success, being an outstanding favorite for about-town wear, styled as it is of fashionable wool check with monotone contrast. A charming new gesture is the cape and skirt of navy, black or brown, or whatever smart color is to your liking, the hipshot being the cape lining which is in vivid color contrast.

The current trend to soft grace accented with ultra chic highlights is especially reflected in the one-button cardigan suits. These are strikingly detailed with designful stitching and endless other little strategies expressed in unusual pockets and flattering self big-bow ties at the throat.

Prominent in the new showings is the suit that tops a dark skirt with a light color jacket. The long white or pastel tunic jacket worn with the weesit dress or suit makes a stunning costume.

Released by Western Newspaper Union.



SENATORIAL CIGARETTE INVESTIGATION

Senator Wibble—As I stand here doing my part in the great battle for the preservation of that thing which is so dear to America, the cigarette, I sometimes wonder if my colleagues fully appreciate the part played by it in the life of our glorious country. What, I ask, would civilization be without it? What would democracy be with no smoke-rings curling above it? What would a free world be with no ashes on the rugs?

Senator Bunkum—Does the Senator contend that the world could not survive on the old-fashioned clay pipe of our forefathers?

Senator Wibble—We have passed beyond the era of pipes. They are a relic of the days before mankind, and womankind, reached that stage of development where the very home was built around the cigarette. With the last drop of my blood I will hold the fort against those reactionaries who would plunge our wives, mothers, and sisters and kiddies back into those dark ages when nicotine-stained fingers were the privilege of princes and prelates, when the great blessing of blowing smoke through the nose was unknown to the masses, and when that great blessing to all mankind, the ashtray, was almost unknown.

Senator Toopsy—In my grandfather's time they had to use old saucers for trays.

Senator Bunkum—I remember my grandfather going around the old home looking in vain for something to empty his pipe into, and finally using grandma's ginger jar.

Senator Wibble (resuming) — My friends, this is one of the gravest hours in history. This country must face that great question, can our people get all the cigarettes they need, and upon which their lasting happiness depends. Deprive us of our cigarettes and you strike a blow at the very foundation of liberty. Would Thomas Jefferson stand idly by today and watch long lines of mothers and daughters waiting patiently before the store offering but one pack to a customer? Would Jackson submit to cigarette rationing? Would Lincoln, Cleveland, McKinley and the great Teddy Roosevelt have stood unmoved by the suffering involved when thousands of our school children were obliged to reduce their cigarette quota by as many as two smokes per day?

Senator Toopsy (getting into the spirit)—The important place of the cigarette in our civilization is plain to all. With it we conquer, without it we fail. I have a few statistics here marking the extent of the crisis now confronting us. In 11 of the northern states 60 per cent of the women and children haven't been able to inhale in weeks. In 8 western states over 80 per cent of the wives and mothers do not know where their next smoke is coming from. In 4 border states the nicotine stains are fading fast.

A strong Democratic senator—Let us here and now place the blame for the cigarette shortage where it belongs, at the door of Herbert Hoover.

A Republican—There was no cigarette shortage under Hoover!

Senator Earake—There probably was, but it was concealed by the Tory press.

Senator Bunkum—Are we sure there is a shortage? I listen to the radio and all the big cigarette companies are filling the air with sales talks for their product. Why do they do this if they are out of cigarettes?

Senator Earake—They are building up good will.

Senator Duffer—Would it be possible at this time for the senate to take up the arms shortage on the western front? It seems to me to be more important.

(Cries of "Throw him out" and "No! No!")

Senator Duffer — Is it not advisable that we look into the matter of getting more shells to General Patton, stopping the drift of workers from war factories and focusing the attention of the American public on the more vital aspects of the world situation?

Chorus of Voices—What! And make cigarettes a secondary issue! (The session ends in disorder.)

The Gotham Taxists Don't See: To this writer's mind one of the sights of New York worth seeing, yet seldom mentioned by the guides, is Washington Market. A combination county fair, food show, Elks picnic, carnival and home town "general store," it is one of the town's big shows. During the noon hour, when thousands crowd into it to lunch at its unique clam, sandwich, fish and quick-lunch bars, it is at its best.

Pete's Chili Bar... Hotfoot's Seafood Bar... Charlie's Oyster Bar... The Hotfoot Bakers Bar... and many others... with, in most cases, the five-cent cup of coffee still reigning like something out of bygone days!

The Rambling Rhymster

By LES PLETTNER

ORIGINALITY

He wished to look like the actor great.

Whom he saw on the silver screen. He wanted his ways to emulate— To copy his classic mien.

He wanted to walk in the way he walked; To sit in the way he sat. He wanted to talk in the way he talked; To wear just his style of hat. He studied his manner debonaire; His carriage straight and true.

He tried to attain his savoir faire in everything he might do. He worked for the contouring of a snail.

To be like his hero great— Became just a simple copy cat in manner and speech and gait. Nor thought that he might much better do.

And perch on a higher shelf; If he would behave in a manner true And try to be just himself.

Hybrid Trees Grow Twice As Fast as Natural Timber

America faces a lumber shortage. Because of war demands we are cutting our trees faster than they grow. None of the experts can agree on how long our wood supply will last. But they all say that the forests are being slashed down at a rate far above replacement.

The scientific answer to the problem is to make trees grow faster. The experts have discovered how to do the job two and three times faster than before.

The trick is hybridization. Through crossbreeding, it is possible to create new strains that not only develop sooner but often produce better wood.

Experts at the United States Forestry service have long been at work on new types.

They have succeeded in hybridizing poplars, birches, ash, maples and oaks. In Maine, for example, it was found that hybrid poplars grow two to three times as fast as native poplars.

If the shoots of a young poplar are cut into short lengths and the pieces planted in the ground, thousands of plants can be produced from one tree within a few years.

Ledger Syndicate.—WNU Features.

Minute Make-Ups

By GABRIELLE



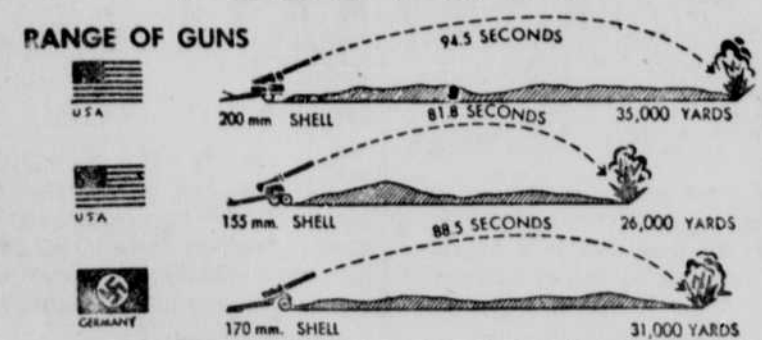
A wise old beauty saying is—"A Minute A Day Keeps The Wrinkles Away!" Just a minute spent on giving yourself a beauty mask or an application of cream and oil will give that smooth, soft look to your skin. Just try it and see the beautiful results.

Ledger Syndicate.—WNU Features.

Brother Meets Sister On Far Pacific Island

SEATTLE, WASH. — It happened on a far Pacific island — Clifford Derosia Jr., machinist's mate second class with the coast guard, was doing shore patrol and warned a WAC who was walking toward an out-of-bounds area. It was his sister. Ruth. He had returned for a res' period after service at Leyte and she had been transferred from an Australian base. They had been separated 19 months.

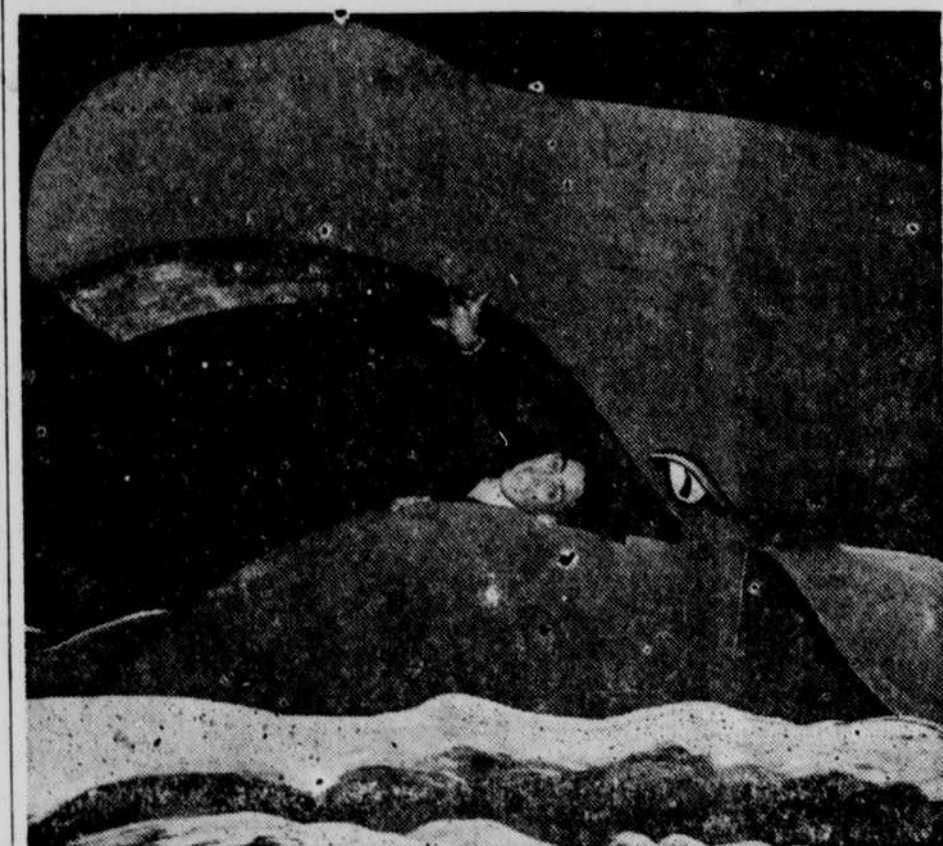
TELEFACT



Restaurateur Posts

Sign, Loses Own Coat
LAWRENCE, MASS. — When Samuel M. Freedman opened a restaurant here he was careful to post a sign reading: "We are not responsible for property lost or stolen."
Recently Freedman hung his coat near the sign, only to return a few hours later to find it had been stolen.

'The Lord Prepared a Fish to Swallow Jonah'



Dramatic presentation of Bible stories, assisted by realistic stage props, holds the interest of "tough" Chicago slum children, who sneer at ordinary Sunday school lessons. Bill McGarrahan, who calls himself a "Bible Commando," enacts all the roles himself.

Floral Trimming



Hats have gone very pretty-pretty this winter. Fashion is ever doing the unusual and this year the big sensation is that of flowers blooming atop of adorable little hats in wintertime. The idea of winter flowers has made instant appeal, especially when one or more lush roses add romance and flattery to a fetching little chapeau. The lovely little millinery confection by Lillie Dache shown at the top is a new Amaranthus (pinkish violet) shade. The delicate pink rose at the front is set in a swirl of gray velvet and pink ribbons studded with silvery pearls. The hat below, also a Dache mode, is one of the new turbans with side width. It is made of white faille embroidered with an oak spray done in gold thread.

Popularity of Black Lingerie Increases

It is with increasing enthusiasm that women are asking for lingerie in all black. The lace-trimmed costume slip is especially liked, for under sheer black frocks the lace that gleams through seems like a very part of the gown itself. You can get these slips very simply edged with black-dyed Val, or if your taste runs toward ornate effects you can find beautiful types that are simply lavish with lace. A favorite with women who covet a slender silhouette is the costume slip of sleek jersey. The strictly tailored type make widest appeal for practical everyday wear, but lace trims are also easily available. Black sheer gowns are so very attractively styled with lace, and the materials that make them are so good-looking, such as the dotted black sheers and crossbar patterning, that many women are buying them to wear with housecoats.

Exotic Flowers Trim Pasted Feather Hats

Milliners are taking special interest this season in creating little bright-color feather hats to wear with dark wintry-looking fur coats. You can get a variety of little types; the wee sailor, the pill-box, hats with narrow brims and all sorts of headdress formed of feather flowers mounted on a bicycle-clip bandeau. The new feature of the pasted feather hats is that they are trimmed with gorgeous feather flowers that are exotic in color.

Dressmaker Sweaters Are Styled Like Blouses

Something new has happened in the sweater realm. It is the dressmaker sweater-blouse, which means that these sweaters are softly styled like a blouse, having sweetheart and ruffled U-necklines and the popular high shirred-front neckline. They are variously trimmed with bows and buttons and yarn embroidery. Evening sweater blouses are starred with beads or sequins.