

HOME-GROWN FOOD FOR AMERICANS



Where Japanese farmers raised foodstuffs before their evacuation, the job of providing even more food for wartime America goes on. At one of the units of Farm Management, a corporation of business men farming without pay, rhubarb is being graded, trimmed and weighed by a group of women shown in the photograph at the left. Mrs. Myrtle Haugen, left, lifelong resident of the Auburn area, is supervising the job. Others, reading from rear to foreground, are Mrs. M. A. Ranney, who came from Missouri a year ago; Mrs. M. Albert, Kent resident for 12 years; Mrs. Amelia Brennan, also a longtime resident of the valley, and Mrs. Alice Cain, who came to Washington from Nebraska in July. In the picture at the right, Mary Ducatt, whose home was formerly North Dakota, holds a big "bouquet" of the crisp rhubarb which Caucasian operators of former Japanese farms are now harvesting. The fat stalks come from the forcing sheds a vivid crimson, the color extending in heavy veins in the pale leaves.

Vegetable Shortage? Jap Evacuees' Farms Are Producing Plenty

Local Farm Management Group Is Formed; Forgets Profits; 'Society Women,' Children Assist in Production Program

By HELEN REYNOLDS BECK

Pessimists predicted gloomily that there would be a vegetable shortage in the Seattle area when the Japanese were evacuated. No one else, they declared, had the patience and the willingness for back-breaking work to bother with truck farming.

Today, 97 per cent of the 983 evacuated Japanese farms in Oregon and Washington are in production, the actual crop acreage exceeding the former 23,669 figure, according to Edward M. Joyce, district supervisor of the evacuee property division of the War Relocation Authority.

No one group of people can be credited with this satisfactory state of affairs, Joyce said. Caucasians, singly and in groups; some old-timers, some newcomers from the Midwest, have taken over some of the farms; Filipinos have taken others, particularly those on Bainbridge Island; Indians from Canada and from Washington reservations will help with some of the crops; "society" women have become ideal farm hands, and hundreds of school children are counted on for other work.

Group Is Formed

Particularly interesting is the Farm Management Corporation, which came into being this way:

In the face of government appeals for more foodstuffs, Roy Ingalls, manager of Washington Packers, Inc., at Sumner, began to fret last year over the dozens of Japanese farms not yet occupied. He talked about it to Harold Foster, grower and poultryman, and treasurer of the Washington Co-operative Egg & Poultry Association; Willard Young, Sumner automobile dealer, veteran of the First World War, and now engaged in building huts for the Army, and J. C. Nettain, retired grower, for many years associated with a mail-order house.

The result was Farm Management, in which none of the five incorporators draw any salary or other compensation until their preliminary \$11,713 indebtedness is cleared. They are just in the business to provide food, and they devote their week-ends and some evenings to dirt-farming when their other work is finished. Foster was chosen president of the group, and Nettain is the treasurer.

The 600 acres which they have leased directly from Japanese owners, or on which they have taken over leases held by the Orientals,

FIRST LADY DECORATES FIRE HEROES

(See Page 5 for photograph)

Band music fluttered on the afternoon breeze, flags flew colorfully and ranking officers and four companies of soldiers stood stiffly at attention yesterday afternoon as Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt pinned medals on five enlisted men here.

The awards were Soldiers' Medals, given to the men for their part in saving the lives of at least ten persons last February 18, when a Boeing bomber crashed into the Frye packing plant, causing the death of 32 persons.

Mrs. Roosevelt made the awards in the County - City Building Square, presenting the medals to Corp. Kenneth J. Cristner, Port Huron, Mich., and to four Negroes: Pvts. Lonnie Ancrum, Greensburg, N. C.; Sam Morris, Webster, Fla.; Bruce Singletary, Mullins, S. C., and Charles E. Whiteley, Smithfield, N. C.

Corporal Cristner and his detail, who were nearby when the plane crashed, were cited for "heroism" and "utter disregard of personal danger." The Soldiers' Medal is awarded men who have performed outstanding acts of bravery not on the actual field of battle.

Accompanying the wife of the President were Brig. Gen. B. L. Milburn, commanding anti-aircraft troops in this area, and Col. G. F. Heaney, Coast Artillery executive officer. Reviewing officers included Col. C. M. S. Skene, anti-aircraft group commander under whom the five men serve.

A Coast Artillery flag fluttered beside the Stars and Stripes, several dozen ranking officers stood rigid, two companies of white soldiers and two companies of Negro soldiers stood smartly and a military band played as the medals were affixed to the tunics of the heroes. Then all troops passed in review before Mrs. Roosevelt, the officers and the recipients of the awards.

AIR RAID WARDENS:
The Seattle Civilian Protection Division calls your attention to the front page of today's Rotogravure Section and advises that you study it, then save it for future reference.

\$100 Worth of Extra Bonds For All Is Goal Of 13-Billion Campaign

Newspapers Pledge Full Support in Pacing Drive; Opens April 12; Curb On Inflation One of Major Aims

By JAMES D. WHITE

WASHINGTON, April 3. (Special) — The nation's newspapers are coming to you for \$13,000,000,000 more—for Uncle Sam.

It's the second-year loan drive, due to begin Monday, April 12. Newspapers have been assigned a leading part in conducting it.

The government calls it the biggest war-financing operation in history.

Its initial stages will last about three weeks, and it is designed to sell the American public \$13,000,000,000 worth of war bonds.

Divide that figure by the number of people in the United States, and you arrive at the conclusion that—on the average—about \$100 worth of bonds will have to be sold for every man, woman and child in the country if the goal is met.

Secretary Morgenthau and Frank E. Tripp, president of the Allied Newspaper Council, said in a communication to all newspapers:

"The people of your community look first to the newspapers for leadership when united action is needed, and this loan can only succeed through such action. Speaking for the Treasury and the Allied Newspaper Council, we ask you, therefore, to give this drive your enthusiastic support both in your news and editorial columns and by

enlisting sponsored advertising support."

The Treasury is floating the second war loan to:

1. Finance the war.
2. Help avoid inflation.

To meet the \$13,000,000,000 goal, the Treasury says you can help if you:

1. Divert into the purchase of extra bonds every cent not absolutely needed for food, shelter and other necessities of life for the three weeks beginning April 12.
2. Buy at least one extra bond each week for that period.
3. Forego some of the things you have been planning to buy.
4. Buy bonds beyond those you may be buying through payroll savings or regular bond purchases.

Both the Treasury and the newspapers are getting set to put over

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Eager South Wind Tosses Youngsters' Kites Aloft

In a rampaging south wind which weeded out the spindling entries with a ruthless hand, Seattle's young kite enthusiasts sent their air-borne flyers aloft yesterday in a stirring renewal of the annual Times-Park Board kite contest.

Grim but happy was the battle as those of the crowd of several hundred who were contestants pitted their frail contrivances of wood and paper against the blustering breeze which boomed through cloudless skies above Lower Woodland Park.

Confusion Reigns

The scene, as the contest got to rolling, was one of some confusion. Parents were blowing the noses of youthful contestants who were loaded down with paraphernalia. Other parents were bawling last-minute advice at their harassed offspring. One father, showing his son the best way to get his kite off the ground, regrettably lost control and allowed the kite to crack up.

Dogs scurried and tumbled about the field, tangling strings. Spectators dodged frantically as diving numbers swooped at them out of the blue.

Before long the field was marked with little heaps of debris. To parents the sense of loss was of numbing proportions. Youngsters accepted disaster philosophically.

To a "jinx" box kite larger than its owner went the first of the five \$25 war bond prizes donated by The Times. Entered in the strongest pulling classification by Linn Emrich, 11 years old, of Mercer Island, it exerted a tug of 30 pounds.

"I'm glad it won," Linn said joyfully, "because I've sure had trouble with it."

Yesterday, he explained, the huge red and white affair got away from

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MEDICAL GROUP URGES 200-BED HOSPITAL HERE

By J. W. GILBERT

Relief from Seattle's acute shortage of hospital facilities was in prospect yesterday with announcement of the plan of the 450 doctors in the King County Medical Service Corporation to construct an \$800,000 hospital with federal aid.

Application of the corporation, also known as the King County Medical Service Bureau, for the \$600,000 which until recently was available to King County for expansion of Harborview County Hospital was announced by L. R. Durkee, assistant regional director of the Federal Works Agency. Although the grant has not yet been approved, it is expected here that it will have Durkee's recommendation.

In processing the application of the bureau, Durkee said yesterday that every effort would be made to make up for the time lost since a similar offer was made to the Board of King County Commissioners last October.

The firm of George Wellington Stoddard & Associates is preparing plans, and representatives of the medical bureau tentatively have selected a site.

The new hospital will have 200 beds and will be open to the general public. Conforming to wartime construction requirements, it will be not more than two stories in height, and will occupy an area a little larger than a square block.

Restrictions on the use of steel for reinforcing concrete and for elevators make it necessary to have a structure of one or two stories.

While the expansion of wartime activities in the vicinity has aggravated the shortage of hospital facilities, it is not entirely respon-

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JAP FARMS ARE STILL PRODUCING

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are scattered throughout the Summer-Auburn-Kent area. For convenience, the land was grouped in six units, with a general manager, six unit managers—all middle westerners; a mechanic to keep the machinery, pooled for all units, in condition; an office girl and two crop specialists, including a lettuce man brought from California. Manpower, too, is pooled in emergencies.

Depend on Residents

For other help, they depend on nearby residents, on townspeople, on southerners and middle westerners brought to the coastal area by the Farm Security Administration, and on school children. The F. S. A. has done a wonderful job of selection in its newcomers, Ingalls said.

"They're all people we're proud to have," he declared.

Farm buildings are being renovated to house these people, and the little "bunkshacks" erected for berry pickers and other harvest hands are being remodeled into small apartments, Ingalls said. There is sometimes a bit of difficulty obtaining materials, he admitted, "but thank goodness we can get paint, and that helps a lot."

Wives of many business and professional men, who ordinarily would not be job-seeking, turned out to help with the harvest last year. They are called "society women" by the managers, Ingalls related, but in no spirit of criticism.

"They told us to get more of those society women, that they were some of the best help they had," Ingalls said.

Despite a late start last season, weather and help difficulties, Farm Management harvested 1,218 tons of foodstuffs last year. This year they hope to top the 2,000-ton mark.

Some of the land will be doing double duty. The first spinach is coming off some of the acreage now. On many plots, early spinach will be followed by another crop of late spinach, or by beans and corn.

Most crops will be those advocated by the government, Ingalls related — spinach, beets, carrots, berries, celery, beans, peas. But one other crop, rhubarb, is serving two happy purposes.

The other crops would keep the crews busy only about nine months of the 12, Ingalls explained. And Farm Management did not want to lose its crews—they are too hard to reassemble. Hence rhubarb, which keeps everyone busy during the otherwise slack season. Besides, the crop may be worth as much as \$40,000.

38 Rhubarb Houses

The Farm Management units have 38 rhubarb houses turning out the crimson-satin stalks. To the uninitiated, rhubarb culture is like this: The plants grow outdoors two or three years. Then they are plowed up, and the root clusters, looking much like a bunch of parsnips, are packed in snug rows inside low sheds. A thorough soaking follows, and after eight or ten days, fires are built in stoves in the sheds. This warmth incites luxurious growth of the stalks, and within four or five weeks the first may be pulled. This goes on for four or five weeks before the plants are exhausted. Then they are tossed out and disced into the soil for fertilizer.

Smaller rhubarb stocks were culled out and discarded in former years, but they will be frozen this year, and income from this source alone will pay for the expense of handling the crop, Nettin said.

Other Groups Formed

A half dozen more corporations have been formed to take over former Japanese farms, Joyce said. One group has taken 36 farms at Bellevue.

Filipinos have taken all but 2 per cent of the land composing 36 Japanese farms on Bainbridge, Joyce related. Strawberries are the principal crop there, their worth in normal years about \$300,000, he said.

Three thousand Indians from Canada, permitted by an old treaty to come to this country for berrying and fishing, will help harvest these berries, Joyce said. The first will arrive in six weeks or two months, in family groups. Last year a half dozen Filipino-Indian marriages resulted from the trip. Joyce went on, a circumstance adding to the happiness of the Filipino farmers, unable to bring brides from their homeland to this country.