

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS FRUIT BELT GROWS

PRODUCTS VARIED, REPORT

Lester B. Colby of State Chamber of Commerce Tells About Visit to "Egypt"; Sees Big Crops

By Lester B. Colby

(Illinois Chamber of Commerce) Claim has been made that Anna, in Union County, Illinois, ships more package express than any other town of its size in the United States. What Anna ships is fruit and vegetables. I am traveling through southern Illinois, "Egypt," to find out about the fruit crop. When one visits this fruit belt in southern Illinois he is surprised. In Union county there are 600,000 fruit trees in bearing; more than 1,000,000 more young trees "coming on."

Other Fruits Besides apples and peaches Anna produces vast quantities of cantaloupes, tomatoes, cucumbers, spinach, asparagus, rhubarb, Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, squash, strawberries, raspberries and beans. Because this hill section of southern Illinois specializes in early apple, the yellow transparent and Duchess of Oldenburg, it has been called "the home of the green apple pie."

The peaches this year are a little late. Some of the early varieties are ripe and being picked. But the great commercial orchards are behind schedule. Ten days ago it was predicted that the growers would start shipping by August 6. The movement probably will not begin in earnest until August 13. It usually takes about three weeks to move the crop.

If prices hold, and very likely they will because the outlook is for unusually good fruit, the growers of "Egypt" will probably get \$2,000,000 for their peaches this year. And that is for less than half of a "full crop."

Ideal Year This year, the growers believe, will be almost an ideal year all around. The crop, while not large enough to break the market, is a good one. The quality of the fruit is excellent—better than average. The price, while profitable to growers, will not be high. Consumers of peaches, if they do not delay too long, will get excellent fruit at a reasonable price. It should be a good year for canning; much better than last year when the quality was off and the prices abnormally high owing to small yield.

Anna sits in the Ozark hills. Everywhere are small mountains and valleys. These hills connect the Ozark mountains of Missouri with the mountains of Kentucky. Anna is about as far south as Richmond, Va., and the people here are a mixture of New England Yankees and folks from the old South.

Judging from the amount of southern drawl and the bird dog census the South has numerical control. We spent last night in Caro. The peaches there are ripe. Cairo is about twenty miles farther north than the northern rim of North Carolina. Seven-eighths of Kentucky is farther north and very little of Missouri is farther south than Cairo.

High Above Sea Cairo is 356 feet above sea level. Anna, thirty-six miles north, tucked in the hills, is 682 feet high. That makes perhaps two weeks difference in the date that the peaches ripen. But the peaches are all good. Get acquainted with these Illinois peaches. It's one of the state's big crops and growing bigger every year.

DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTH IS MARKED; FEATURES

Increase in Mineral and Agricultural Output Boosts Manufacturing

Increase in the mineral and agricultural output of the Southern States has been accompanied by remarkable developments in manufacturing, power production and transportation and communication. New railroad lines have been built in all parts of the South, and existing lines have been double tracked curves have been shortened and grades reduced. Thousands of miles of highways have been built, and now the motorist is relieved of most of the terrors of "bad roads" when he points his car towards Florida. Into this work of road construction—for excavating road beds and quarrying rock for ballast and concrete—has gone carload after carload of explosives. Likewise the construction, one at Waterville, North electric plants with their dams and diversion tunnels and spillways has required huge quantities of dynamite. The largest rock filled dam in the world is the Dix River Dam in Kentucky built by the Kentucky Hydro-Electric company between the years 1923 and 1926. The second largest hydro-electric plant in the United States will be completed during the present year by the Philadelphia Electric Power company and its subsidi-

aries at Conowingo, Maryland. At least two large hydro-electric plants are now in the earlier stages of construction, one at Waterville, North Carolina for the Phoenix Utilities company and another at Calderwood, Tennessee for the Knoxville Power company. All of these projects have called for rock excavation on a huge scale that is feasible only through the agency of dynamite.

In fact so great is the demand for explosives throughout the South that explosives manufacture itself has become a southern industry. There are today eleven explosive plants in this section, the one recently built by the du Pont company near Birmingham, Alabama, being the most up-to-date dynamite works in the world.

If you can't get away to the seashore resort, a bathtub, an electric fan and a phonograph playing jazz with a dull needle make an ideal substitute.

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TUBERCULIN TEST PROGRESS IN STATE

During Past Year More Than Ten Million Cattle Treated. This Million More Than Previous Record

Progress in eradication of bovine tuberculosis is reflected in figures results of the work for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928, and the status existing at the opening of the new year, July 1, as made public by Dr. John R. Mohler of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Doctor Mohler, who is chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, announced that during the year ending June 30 the tuberculin test was administered to a total of 10,826,280 cattle, or more than a million in excess of the largest previous record. In October 1927, and in March, May and June 1928, the co-operating State and Federal forces tested more than 1,000,000 cattle in each month.

Pass Two Tests

On July 1, 1928, herds numbering 169,356 and containing 2,265,938 cattle were fully accredited as tuberculosis free, having passed two or more tests. This is an increase of 38,380 accredited herds in one year.

In addition, 15,968,714 cattle in 1,961,113 herds have passed one successful test, and many of these are in modified accredited areas. On July 1 there were 2,290,752 herds containing 21,418,977 cattle under State and Federal supervision for eradication of tuberculosis, or slightly more than one-third of all the cattle in the country. More than 3,000,000 cattle are on the waiting list for testing.

The greater part of the tuberculin testing is now being done under the

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group or area plan. "Modified accredited areas," in which all cattle have been tested, reactors removed, and infection reduced to not more than one-half of one per cent, included 527 counties, parts of two counties, and 21 townships. In 153 other counties all cattle have been tested once, reactors removed, but the infection not yet reduced to the required minimum. Area work is under way in more than 400 additional counties, so that progress has been made in 1,119 counties, or more than one-third of all counties in the United States.

WATCH CAR DOORS TO AVOID ACCIDENT, HINT

In Several Instances Children Have Fallen Out of Autos Through Neglect

Several serious accidents have been reported during the first six months of the year involving cases where children have fallen out of machines due to extreme carelessness on the part of the motorist, according to a bulletin issued by Si. Mayer, President of the Automobile club of Illinois.

Never allow a child to sit next to the door of an automobile if it is possible, nor extend it any such privileges as closing or opening the doors for passengers. In this wise many doors, which would otherwise seem securely fastened have merely been closed without the double-snap lock taking hold. A three year old son of a party of tourists was recently hurled to the pavement from a car traveling at an approximate speed of forty miles per hour. The child was severely injured and may possibly be crippled for life, due no doubt to someones carelessness.

"At this youthful age, the child could not be expected to do the things that the grown-up should do," declared Mr. Mayer, and it is the

duty of every motorist having children, or for that matter, anyone as a passenger to carefully guard against this form of accident.

RESTORING HOUSE OF BURGESSSES IN VIRGINIA

Part of Work of Rebuilding of Colonial Capitol at Williamsburg, Va.

The work of restoring the Colonial Capitol at Williamsburg, Va., has been started. Workmen are busy excavating the old foundation preparatory to rebuilding the "House of Burgesses," as the Capitol is called, where Patrick Henry made his most widely quoted speech in 1765.

The Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities recently transferred the Capitol grounds to Dr. W. A. R. Goodwin and his associates, "Colonial Williamsburg, Inc.," and a reproduction of the original will be built at once. The site is three-fourths of a mile from the College of William and Mary. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., is financing the restoration of Williamsburg, which undertaking, it is estimated, will cost in excess of \$5,000,000.

HOMING PIGEONS AID FOREST FIRE PATROL

The homing pigeon, which won its spurs by brilliant work in the World war, has been officially enrolled in Canada's peace-time air patrol. The Department of National Defense announces the establishment of a carrier pigeon service as an auxiliary to the forest fire patrol and aerial photographic survey. Pilots leaving for patrol duty over the northern wilderness will hereafter carry two or more of the birds which they will liberate with a message in the event of a forced landing in a remote spot.