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University Farm, St. Paul 8, May 31, 1946

Glen J. Johnson, former Anoka county agent, will rejoin the extension staff June 1 as 4-H district supervisor succeeding Burton Kreitlow who resigned recently. Johnson will be supervisor for the northwest district. Johnson served for two years as a navy officer with the Navy military government. Part of the time Johnson was agricultural and fisheries officer in the Truk islands, and he also had charge of the military government detachment which visited the smaller islands of the Caroline group.

FARM INCOME SITUATION. Cash receipts from farm marketings during the first 6 months of 1946 are expected to be about 3% lower than a year earlier. Both crops and livestock share in the decline. A light 1945 cotton crop and smaller marketings of Burley tobacco at lower prices account for most of the decline in cash receipts from crops; while a drop in the production of milk, resulting from a smaller number of dairy cows, is the principal cause of the decline in the livestock group.

Total receipts in May are expected to show an advance of about 7% over April. This will be due to an increase in cash receipts from livestock and products of about 10% more than offsetting an anticipated small decrease in receipts from crops. The gain in livestock will come principally from sharp seasonal advances in receipts from dairy products.

Total cash receipts for June are expected to be from 5 to 10% above May. Receipts from livestock and products probably will advance only slightly above May as a result of small seasonal gains in meat animals and dairy products. Receipts from crops, however, are expected to rise sharply. Contributing to this rise will be increased marketings of wheat and corn in response to bonuses and higher prices and seasonal increases in receipts from vegetables and fruits...

JUNE PLENTY. Potatoes from a record crop, onions, carrots, cabbage, turkeys, oranges and lemons are the foods expected to be in plentiful supply generally throughout the U. S. in June, according to marketing specialists of the Department of Agriculture. Eggs also are expected to be plentiful, except possibly in a few metropolitan areas. Locally-grown vegetables from truck farms and market gardens also will be abundant on markets in many sections of the country.

BUTTER SET ASIDE FOR JUNE ANNOUNCED. The Department of Agriculture announced that creameries will be required to set aside 20% of their butter production during June for sale to military and war service agencies. This is the same set-aside percentage as that now in effect for May.

No additional set-aside requirements beyond June are anticipated, as it appears that Government requirements will be fulfilled on the basis of the 20% set-aside during each of the months of May and June. However, sales of butter to Government agencies thus far in May have been considerably smaller than expected, and Department officials have urged creameries and assemblers to make every effort to speed up deliveries of set-aside butter.

According to tentative estimates, supplies of creamery butter for civilian consumption during June will approximate 90 million pounds, or about the same as now estimated for the month of May.

(Over)

THE POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION. Almost as many eggs per person will be available during the second half of 1946 as during the first half, and at least as many as in the second half of 1945. Egg production from July through December will be about 40% less than in January-June. The decline in egg production will be somewhat more than is usual in late summer and fall. But this reduction will be largely offset by near-record midyear cold-storage stocks and a sharp decrease in noncivilian takings. The Government will take few if any shell eggs for drying.

Prices received by farmers for eggs during the second half of 1946 may average moderately lower than in the second half of 1945, despite a continued high level of consumer purchasing power, because civilian egg supplies will be at least as large as last year, and meat supplies may be somewhat larger.

Production of chicken in 1946 will be about 10% below the 1945 output of 3,700 million pounds. But supplies available for civilians will only be slightly less than last year, owing to large cold-storage stocks at the beginning of the year and reduced military procurement. The number of turkeys raised in 1946 is now expected to be 15% below 1945. But the large February 1 carry-over of 134 million pounds compared with 74 million pounds a year earlier, and reduced procurement by the Army will leave at least as much turkey per person available for civilians as in 1945. Prices received by farmers for both chickens and turkeys are expected to average nearly as high as in 1945....

U. S. CIVILIANS GET LESS FATS AND OILS. The U. S. civilian share of edible fats and oils (excluding butter) for April-May-June is running 10 per cent less than that for the first 3 months of this year.

The allocation by the Department of Agriculture is based upon smaller supplies than during the first quarter and the assignment of "substantial quantities" of fats and oils for relief feeding abroad.

A major part of the reduction for civilians will be in lard on which Government set asides were increased recently to get more lard for foreign shipments.