

Congressman Teague Reports

Cotton Acreage Allotment Is Causing Great Concern

By OLIN E. TEAGUE

WASHINGTON, D.C.—A sub-committee of the House Committee on Agriculture held its first hearings on the cotton acreage allotment question. This matter has caused a great amount of concern throughout the country, especially within the historical cotton growing counties in Texas and the South. Several representatives of farm bureaus and lending institutions from the Southwest were heard together with representatives of the Department of Agriculture.

Members of the farm bureau have consistently taken the stand that the national acreage should not be increased. Certainly we do not want a surplus, or faced with a carry over which would be above normal but at the same time, no plausible solutions have been offered as to how best to meet the problem without increasing the national acreage. Nevertheless, some assistance must be given to our cotton farmers.

There is one point in the cotton acreage program which has resulted in an important issue so far as the cotton farmers in our area are concerned. This is the adjustments made by the state committee for "trends in acreage". The State Committee of Texas used 62% of the state reserve for such adjustments. Within the Sixth District we contributed 56,747 acres to the state reserve and got back only 14,031 for trend adjustment. The balance of the acreage we contributed went for adjustments in the rest of the state. If this practice is continued, the Sixth District which has been a consistent historical cotton producing area, could be "adjusted" out of the cotton growing business. At the present time, our immediate area of the state is not represented on the State Committee, the membership being comprised of men from the West and the Valley section. I believe there is a movement afoot to secure some representation for our part of the country on this committee, and I will certainly support such a move.

To make the situation worse, the trend adjustments were figured on a formula in which the highest of the 1952 or 1953 plantings to cotton was used in relation to the five year base period. In 1953, the cotton farmers took a voluntary reduction in cotton acreage at the request of the Department of Agriculture for the purpose of reducing the national surplus, and the formula used has resulted in an unrealistic figure which has materially hurt the average farmer.

One of my colleagues, the Honorable Thomas Abernathy who represented a historical cotton producing area in Mississippi has told me that a similar situation exists within his state, with the exception that his state committee used the entire reserve for trend adjustments.

The sub-committee at the present time has under consideration approximately sixteen bills introduced by various members representing cotton areas. Working on the basis that the only way to assist the average farmer would be to increase the national acreage, I introduced on the first day of Congress a bill which would guarantee to any county which had been designated as a production disaster county by the Secretary of Agriculture under PL 38, 81st Congress, an acreage allotment equal to that acreage which it would have received had the State Committee not withheld the 10% as it was required to do by directive of the Secretary of Agriculture. In addition, my bill would go one step farther than many of the bills along this line would do; and that is that it would disallow those counties who received the large additional acreage for trend adjustment to figure this extra acreage in computing future cotton history. I think this only fair inasmuch as the additional acreage they received was by pure interpretation of a regulation and not founded on law.

As I stated in answer to the many letters I received regarding this situation, I could not give

any guarantee that the Congress would take action in this matter, and as yet I can still offer no assurance that it will. I believe however that the fact the House Committee on Agriculture authorized one of its sub-committees to hold hearings is indicative of how it feels on this matter. In addition there seems to be a rather large backing with respect to a bill introduced by Abernathy of Mississippi, H. Res. 126 which would require the Secretary of Agriculture to estimate the number of acres which would not be planted to cotton and then require him to reallocate this acreage to the States on the same basis that the authorized national acreage was broken down. The State Committees are then to use this additional acreage for hardship cases.



NAMED LINE COACH— A. M. (Mike) Michalske above, has been named line coach at the University of Texas. A Penn State graduate and a former pro football player, he was head coach at Iowa State for five years. He has also served as line coach at Baylor and A&M.

Resources Confab Scheduled

AUSTIN—Col. Guy H. Kissinger, USMC, a member of the faculty of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces in Washington and advance officer for the National Resources conference, conferred here with Col. Albert A. Horner, Chief, Texas Military District, concerning the conference to be held May 16-27 at the University of Texas.

The conference will be co-sponsored by the Armed Forces and the Austin Chamber of Commerce.

Horner stated that the National Resources conference is organized to highlight the interrelated military and economic problems inherent in mobilizing human and material resources for national security. The problems which will confront the country in a mobilization of the national economy for war and the methods and procedures for making the best use of national resources will be discussed during the conference.

The conference is presented by a team of Army, Navy, Marine and Air Force officers from the facul-

ty of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces located at Fort Leslie J. McNair in Washington. A state-wide assembly of conferees will include key men from Texas' business and industry and from educational and professional groups and selected reserve officers of the Armed Forces and selected officers of the Army and Air Force National Guard.

Gerloff Graduates

Don G. Gerloff was recently graduated from the U.S. Naval Pre-Flight school in Pensacola, Fla. with the rank of Naval Aviation Cadet.

Gerloff, who attended A&M before entering the Naval Aviation Cadet program through the U.S. Naval Air Station at Dallas, has been assigned to the Whiting Field Air Station in Milton, Fla., for primary flight training.

He is the son of O. A. Gerloff of Temple.

Tropical birds often lay fewer eggs than similar species in temperate zones.

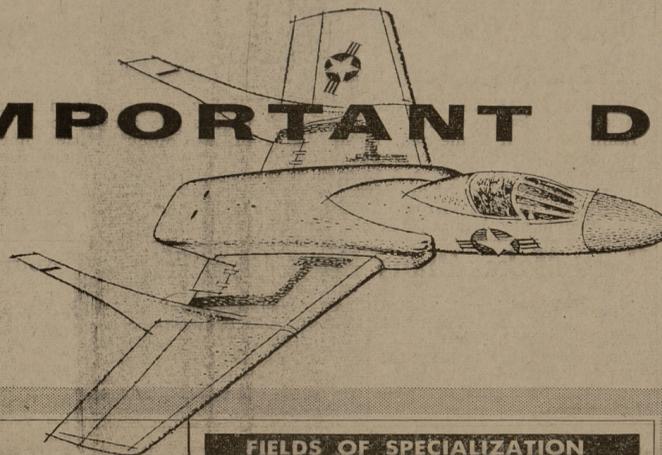


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MISSILE DESIGN												
DYNAMIC ANALYSIS												
STRUCTURES DESIGN												
STRUCTURES MATERIAL												
STRUCTURES TEST												
WEIGHTS												
RELIABILITY												
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Greek Dowry Debate Precedes Marriages

ATHENS—(AP)—Suppose you have a daughter of marriageable age. She's pretty, knows how to cook, speaks two languages. She's not looking for a professional career. All she wants to do is get married and raise a family. And there are several young men who want to marry her. Under these circumstances your normal worry would be over her selection of the man. But not in Greece. Since the golden age of Pericles, Daddy has had to rack his brain and resources to find enough cash and where-

withal to get some young Greek to take the daughter off his hands. Few marriages in Greece are contracted without a dowry.

Every overture of marriage by a male is accompanied by a third party who handles the delicate question of how much Pop is willing to pay. Once these details are arranged, the couple goes through the wedding ceremony.

The payoff may range from several hundred thousands of dollars down to a cow or perhaps a bedroom suite.

Maidens lacking dowries are increasing throughout Greece.

The situation has become so acute that in 17 districts in central Greece the girls and rural officials have officially asked Queen Frederika to do something about it. They want the dowry system eliminated.

It would take some doing, even by Queen Frederika, because the system is written into the church law and by precedent implied in civil law. The church law, which comes down from the Byzantine period, says the dowry is a relief from the burden of marriage.

Astronomy Group Holds First Meet

Dr. J. H. Rush of Texas Tech was elected 1955-56 chairman of the Astronomical Society of the Southwest at its first meeting here last weekend. Dr. Frank N. Edmonds Jr., of the University of Texas, was elected executive-secretary.

The meeting included representatives from New Mexico, Louisiana and Texas and the next meeting will be held in Lubbock in February, 1956. The Society will meet yearly.

Sponsored by the A&M Physics Department, with Jack T. Kent of the mathematics department as general chairman, the meeting was attended by 28 astronomers. Included was a group of nine representing the American Astronomical League, a national amateur organization, representing the southwest division.

At the meeting here technical papers covering practically all phases of the field of astronomy were read.

Influenza Leads

Influenza continued to lead all communicable diseases in the College Station-Bryan area for the week ending Jan. 29 with 35 cases reported. Chicken pox was the second leading disease with 24 cases reported and diarrhea was third with 15 cases, while mumps was fourth.

Pneumonia, strept throat and measles followed in that order.

A purple flame may be produced if lithium salts are sprinkled on a fire.

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