

Reduction of Wheat Crop In U.S. Poses Problem

By OVID MARTIN
 WASHINGTON (AP) — The Eisenhower administration must come up soon with an answer to this question: What should farmers do with upwards of 25,000,000 acres that may be made idle in the United States next year under rigid crop controls?

Those acres would take a big slice out of farm income that has dropped sharply.

Agriculture Secretary Ezra T. Benson has already invoked marketing quotas on wheat under a program calling for a 15,000,000-acre reduction in plantings for the 1954 crop. A major portion of the wheat will be seeded during the coming fall. Hence, the question of what to grow on land taken out of wheat is pressing.

With surpluses plaguing cotton as well, similar controls may have to be applied to the fibre crop. A prospective bumper corn crop signals possible controls to reduce corn plantings.

Benson has said the present system of rigid high farm price supports tends to encourage continued large production of crops and to discourage shifts in production to scarcer products.

Benson thinks price supports should be allowed to go down when surpluses pile up, on the theory that lower prices would discourage heavy production.

As long as the present 90 per cent parity supports are required by law for major products, Benson will be unable to use supports as a mechanism to alter crop production patterns. Parity is a price designed to be fair to farmers in relation to prices they pay.

FEW SHORTAGES
 He does, however, have machinery in the form of acreage and marketing controls to force reductions in plantings of such crops as wheat, corn, cotton, rice, peanuts and tobacco when supplies become excessive.

But there is little possibility at the present time of shifting from surplus crops to shortage crops, because there are few if any farm shortages.

This problem of what to do with extra acres is likely to be a short-term one. Economists say that the rapidly-growing population in a few years will put agriculture under pressure to produce more.

VOLUNTARY REDUCTIONS
 The U.S. government is without power to impose similar controls on such crops as soybeans, flaxseed, oats, barley, potatoes and dry beans. But supplies of some of these crops are moving into a surplus class that may lead Benson to appeal for voluntary reductions in plantings next year.



MARINE PILOT Maj. Paul F. Bent, who saw whole blood freeze while flowing into a wounded man's veins last winter, has helped develop a device that may save countless lives in future sub-zero warfare. Maj. Bent demonstrates the new gadget, which is a combination of a chemical heating pad and an insulating jacket for the bottle of blood. One teaspoonful of water in the chemical heater maintains the fluid at 90 degrees in zero weather.

Average American Religious Thinks He'll Go to Heaven

NEW YORK (AP)—The average United States citizen believes in God, considers religion "very important," attends church at least twice a month and thinks he'll go to heaven when he dies.

These are among a few of the findings of probably the most comprehensive survey ever made of religious beliefs and practices in the U.S.

There is a hell where the bad are everlastingly punished. Just a few, 12 per cent, see any possibility whatever of their going to hell.

Highest weekly church attendance is in New England, 45 per cent, and the lowest, 22 per cent, on the Pacific Coast, where a big bloc of 50 per cent of the people never go to church.

"It's the first time such a study has been made in the United States," said father Paul Busard, editor of the Catholic Digest. "On almost every subject covered, the facts had never been recorded before."

However, 75 per cent of all adults consider religion "very important," 20 per cent say it's "fairly important," and only five per cent say it's "not very important."

For the last eight months partial results of the survey, made by an independent research firm, have been appearing in the digest with some findings still to be reported.

As to what people should strive hardest to accomplish in this life, only a slim margin, 51 per cent, say preparing for an existence after death. Many, 22 per cent, say attaining a comfortable life on earth is a principal duty, but 23 per cent say working for the present and the hereafter should get equal attention.

Here is the first consolidated summary of the main points so far determined about the faith and worship of adult Americans:

Almost all of them, 99 per cent, believe there is a God, although two per cent of these are not positive, but like to think God exists. Only one per cent flatly don't believe.

Among men, two per cent are atheists, but among women, the number of non-believers doesn't amount to even one-half per cent. College graduates included four per cent atheists.

Most people, 77 per cent, think the soul lives on after death. A slightly lesser majority, 72 per cent, believes there is a heaven where the good are eternally rewarded.

However, only 58 per cent think

there is a hell where the bad are everlastingly punished. Just a few, 12 per cent, see any possibility whatever of their going to hell.

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Lumber Shipments Increased

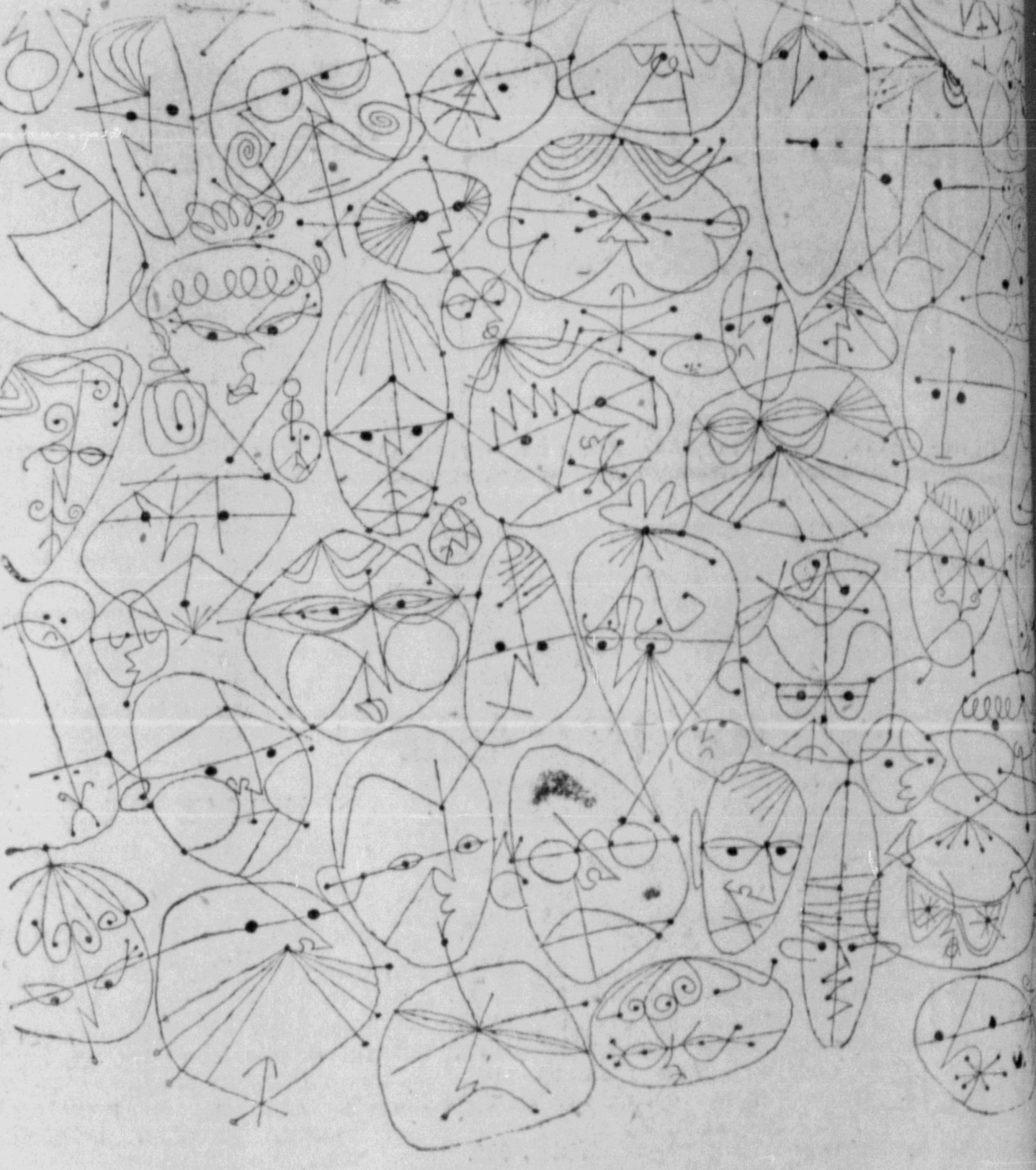
PORTLAND (AP)—Pacific Northwest lumber mills increased their waterborne shipments 15 per cent in the first half of the year, compared with the same period last year.

Pacific Lumber Inspection Bureau Inc., reported the total from Oregon, Washington and British Columbia was 1,794,182,772 board feet for the first six months this year, compared with 1,559,050,276 feet for the corresponding period of 1952.

The gain was 12 per cent for British Columbia, which shipped 692,862,042 feet. Oregon and Washington ports shipped 1,101,320,130, a gain of 17 per cent.

Most of the gain was in shipments to Atlantic and Gulf ports.

FOREIGN SERVICE
 LONDON (CP)—Two British double-decker busses on a goodwill tour in Switzerland this summer are being put to work. In the last two weeks of June they are being used at Zurich, Switzerland, in regular service for paying customers during the British festival there.



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**BLACKWOOD on
 Bridge**

By EASLEY BLACKWOOD

**"Rule of Eleven" Can
 Work "Miracle" Plays**

One of the handiest gadgets available to the defending side is the rule of 11. Those who don't use it are at a serious disadvantage in trying to count a hand. And since my mail indicates there are still many players who don't know how it operates, here is the explanation again.

In leading from a broken suit of four or more cards, the accepted lead is the fourth highest. By "broken" suit I mean a suit like the heart suit held by Mr. Dale in today's deal. Of course, when your suit is headed by touching honors, like K Q J, you would lead the top honor.

Anyway, when you make a fourth highest lead, here is what your partner does. He subtracts the number of the card led from 11. The figure he gets after this simple subtraction equals the number of cards higher than the card led, outside of the leader's hand.

South dealer			
Neither side vulnerable			
North			
(Mr. Abel)			
S-A 8 9			
H-Q 9 5			
D-K Q 7 6 5			
C-7 5			
West		East	
(Mr. Dale)		(Mrs. Keen)	
S-J 9 5		S-K 10 7 4 2	
H-A J 8 6 2		H-K 10 7	
D-J 3		D-8	
C-8 6 4		C-J 10 3 2	
South			
(Miss Brash)			
S-Q 3			
H-4 3			
D-A 10 9 4 2			
C-A K Q 9			
The bidding:			
South	West	North	East
1 D	Pass	3 D	Pass
3 NT	All pass		

Sometimes this information enables a defender to make plays that look like miracles to the uninitiated. Today's hand is a simple example of how the rule of 11 works.

Against the three no trump Mr. Dale led his fourth highest heart, the six spot. The nine was played from the dummy and Mrs. Keen started figuring. The six was led. Subtract that from 11 and you get five. That means that there are five cards higher than the six spot outside of Mr. Dale's hand.

Two of these, the queen and the nine, were clearly visible in dummy. Three more, the king 10 of hearts were in Mrs. Keen's hand. Therefore Miss Brash did not have any heart higher than the six.

So Mrs. Keen played the 10 of hearts on the first trick and, as expected, it held. She then cashed the king and led the seven so that the defenders took the first five tricks to defeat the contract.

Obviously this pleasant result would not have been realized if Mrs. Keen had played the king of hearts at trick one. In that case dummy's queen would have stopped the suit and Miss Brash would have had no difficulty in making her game.

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