



THE U.S. WEATHER BUREAU total precipitation map for the week ending Monday shows that some more than welcome moisture fell in the middle Atlantic states during the past week. However all Pennsylvania stations report a lack of moisture in greater or lesser degrees. Temperatures averaged below normal the past week. (U.S. Weather Bureau)

## Blackleg Danger Increasing Now; Kills Young Stock

With the arrival of the blackleg season, authorities today warned cattle raisers to be on the alert for this disease, and to employ protective vaccination in danger areas.

The American Foundation for Animal Health pointed out that the threat of blackleg increases with the arrival of the pasture season. The disease is one of the nation's greatest killers of cattle. It most often strikes animals under two years of age. The best safeguard against it is vaccination.

Farmers who had their calves vaccinated at one or two weeks of age should have them re-vaccinated again by the veterinarian by the time they are four months old.

Blackleg spores are very difficult to kill. The organisms that cause the disease live in the soil and are resistant to heat, cold, drought or floods.

## U.S. to Barter \$50 Million in Food For 2,700 New Houses in France

The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced completion of negotiations involving exchange of \$50 million worth of Commodity Credit Corporation - owned farm products for houses to be built in France for use of American armed forces personnel.

Under an agreement with CCC, arranged for the export of the military family housing, which the surplus commodities will pay for, will be constructed in various parts of France by a French firm under a contract with the Department of Defense. Approximately 2,700

houses will be constructed in France under the contract.

The following steps will be taken before all phases of the French housing transaction are completed:

(1) The United States exporter participating in the barter will sell in foreign countries the surplus agricultural commodities obtained from CCC under the barter contract.

(2) Proceeds of these sales — in whatever currency is acceptable to the French Government — will be converted by the Bank of France to francs and will be paid to the French construction firm by the U.S. exporter on the basis of "construction progress certificates" issued to the French firm by the Department of Defense.

(3) Inasmuch as quarters allowances and the housing part of station allowances to American service families are discontinued by the Department of Defense when the families occupy Government owned houses, the allowances that would otherwise be paid, minus amounts necessary for maintenance and operation, will be turned over by the Department of Defense to the Commodity Credit Corporation to pay for the surplus commodities bartered.

CCC and the Department of Defense have signed an agreement that will run for approximately 17 years — the estimated time required to make full payment out of allowances. However, the agreements of CCC and the Department of Defense with the private firms will run for only a little over two years.

The barter transaction announced today represents the culmination of negotiations begun in July 1955 and therefore does not conform to the present barter policies announced on May 28, 1957, under which future barter transactions will be approved only on the basis of assurance that they result in a net increase in exports of agricultural commodities.

### Foreign Countries Produce Bumper Crops

The recently harvested wheat and barley crops in India have been exceeded only by the record production of these crops in 1954. The current wheat crop in that country is tentatively estimated at 321 million bushels, and the barley crop at 130 million.

France, according to the Foreign Agricultural Service, also expects a bumper crop of wheat this year. Current forecasts indicate a crop of more than 400 million bushels which would compare with 240 million bushels last year and the 1945-49 average.

### 2 Ayrshire Breeders Association Members

BRANDON, Vt.—The Ayrshire Breeders' Assn. has elected I. H. Herr & Sons, Lancaster, and Rufus B. Zellers, Manheim, to membership in the association.

The announcement was made Monday by Chester C. Putney, national secretary of the breed organization.

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