

Pioneer Pres. Predicts 6.1 Bil. Bu. Corn Crop

An agricultural seed company official last week predicted the 1974 corn crop in the U.S. will not exceed 6.1 billion bushels, causing food costs to remain at their present levels or perhaps increase.

R. Wayne Skidmore, president of Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc., told the New York Society of Security Analysts that adverse spring weather can be blamed for cutting earlier estimates of both acreage and per acre yield. The head of the Iowa-based seed firm said preliminary results of his own company's survey of corn growers shows they were able to boost acreage only 9 per cent instead of 10 per cent as estimated in March by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

"Our agronomists

estimate that due to flooding, reduced plant population, late planting and lower fertilizer rates, an average corn yield of 88 to 90 bushels can be expected. This means a U. S. crop of 6.0 to 6.1 billion bushels," Skidmore said.

The U.S.D.A. projected yields of 97 bushels per acre before the planting season. Using its March 1 survey of acreage intentions, the department forecast a U.S. corn crop of 6.7 billion bushels. On June 24, it reduced its estimate by 300 million bushel.

Farmers last year produced only 5.6 billion bushels of corn. As a result, carryover on October 1 of this year is expected to be about 450 million bushels or about one month's reserve.

The much larger crop

predicted earlier would have reduced high feed costs currently plaguing livestock and poultry growers. This, in turn, could have resulted in somewhat lower consumer prices for meat, milk and eggs. The big crop would also have permitted high levels of corn exports to continue, aiding the U.S. balance of payments.

The smaller crop prospects this year almost certainly call for another year of all-out production, Skidmore said. He foresees adequate supplies of seed for 1975 planting.

\$7.37 Farm Milk Price for June in N.Y.-N.J. Market

A uniform farm price of \$7.37 per hundredweight (46.5 quarts) for June milk deliveries to pool handles under the New York - New Jersey marketing orders was announced today by Thomas A. Wilson, market administrator. The uniform price was \$8.03 in May 1974 and \$6.27 in June 1973.

The butterfat differential was established at \$.070 for each tenth of a pound of fat for June milk testing above or below 3.5 percent.

This column will discuss the impeachment question before the House of Representatives. However, it will not presume to make any judgment whatever about the case either for or against the President. As I have said on so many other occasions, that judgment can only be made once the Judiciary Committee has presented all the evidence and has made its recommendations based upon that evidence. Then, and only then, can each Congressman

weigh the facts, search his conscience and make a fair determination of how he should vote.

But, since fairness is an all-important ingredient in something as serious as impeachment, I have grown increasingly concerned about the way the Judiciary Committee has been handling the flow of information that will be so vital in making a final determination in the House.

The leaking of selected material by members of the Committee was inexcusable. These men and women were given a solemn responsibility when the House entrusted them with the impeachment investigation. While I sincerely believe that the chairman and the majority of the members of the Judiciary Committee find the leaks as objectionable as I do, the fact remains that a few members of that committee have degraded the investigation by selectively leaking information in an obvious attempt to undercut the President's defense.

But perhaps even more disturbing is the policy, evidently developed by the whole committee, to give the news media information before the rest of the House Members are permitted to see it and evaluate it. When the differences between White House transcripts and those prepared by the Judiciary Committee were revealed, those of us with the

obligation for voting on the impeachment question in the near future had to find out about those differences in the newspaper. And, of course, that meant that our source of information had been subjected to any editorial changes and omissions that the papers felt were in order.

The question is whether we are running a judicial proceeding or a circus on this whole impeachment issue. If we're running a circus, then I can understand why you have your public relations men getting the story to the news media as your first consideration. But if it is a judicial proceeding that we're conducting, and the Constitution clearly indicates that impeachment is a judicial-type action, then those of us who are serving basically as grand jurors should be the committee's chief clients. At the same time it is being released to the press.

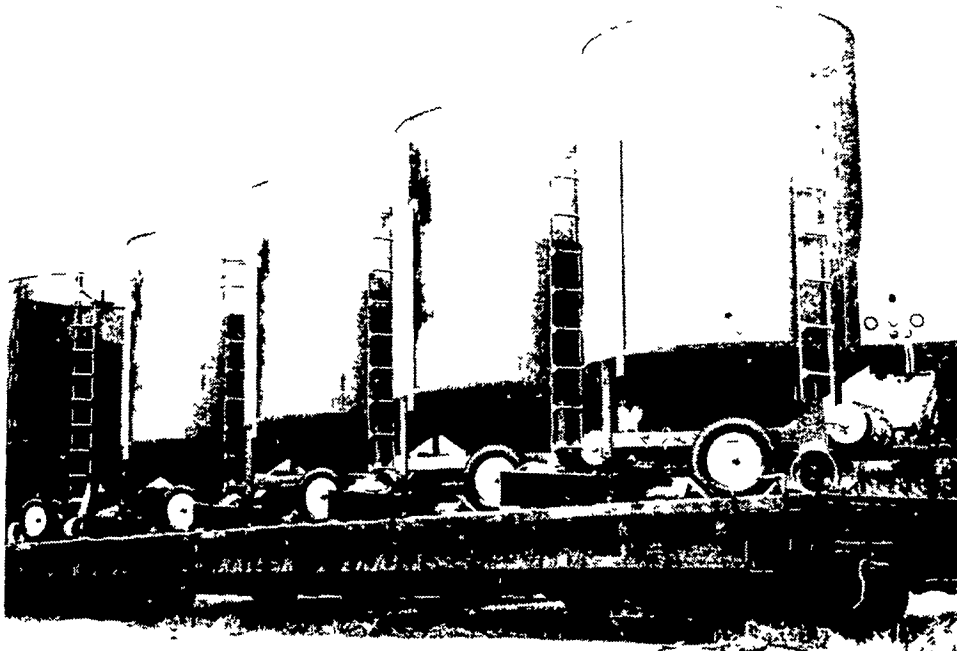
The circus atmosphere is disturbing because I believe that, above all else, the American people want the outcome of this whole Watergate crisis to reveal the truth and serve justice on the people responsible for violating the law and misusing their power. That outcome cannot be achieved when the principal attempt is to win headlines.

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Wilson stated that receipts from purchases reached 899,748,787 pounds, an increase of 20,592,522 pounds, 2.3 percent from May 1973. Class I receipts of producer milk totaled 367,402,946 pounds in June, decreasing by 28,941,222 from June 1973. Handlers paid \$10.13 per hundredweight for fluid milk product receipts. This accounted for 40.8 percent of the pool.

It was also noted by Wilson that bulk tank unit receipts rose to 850,662,998 pounds, increasing from 808,788,603 pounds in June 1973. This jump altered their proportion of the pool receipts from 92.0 percent in 1973 to 94.5 percent this year. The volume of tank milk used as Class II and subject to the transportation credit amounts to \$515,394.49. This cost covered 515,394,449 pounds, 60.6 percent of tank receipts.

Pool producers continued to decline in number from 22,280 to 21,204, while average daily deliveries per producer rose 99 pounds reaching 1,414.

The market administrator said that the handlers' reports used to compute the pool decreased to 116 from 134. The pool bulk tank units fell to 214, decreasing by 6 from June 1973.

For May deliveries the gross value to farmers totaled \$66,451,084.91. Wilson explained that this included differentials required to be paid to dairy farmers but not voluntary premiums or deduction authorized by the farmer.

All prices quoted are for milk of 3.5 percent butterfat received within the 201-210 mile zone from New York City.

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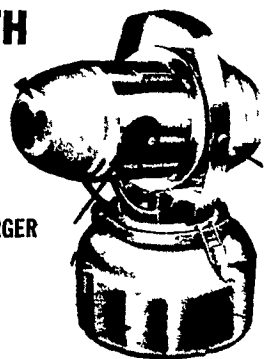
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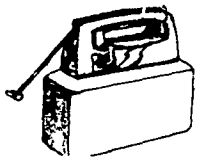
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