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*The Social Economics of Agriculture.* By WILLIAM GEE. The Macmillan Company, New York. 616 pages. 1954. \$6.50.

THIS IS THE THIRD EDITION of Professor Gee's book, which attempts to comprehend within its covers the more significant of the materials in the fields of both agricultural economics and rural sociology. Previous editions were published in 1932 and 1942. This edition covers the same general area as the second, except that the chapter "Some Political Problems" is not

included. Tables and discussion are brought up to date by use of the 1950 Census and other sources. Similarly, suggested readings at the end of each chapter are revised to include many recent publications. The book is a popular text for universities and colleges in which only one course can be given in this field.

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*Agricultural Finance—Principles and Practice of Farm Credit.* By WILLIAM G. MURRAY. Iowa State College Press, Ames, Iowa. 419 pages. 1953. \$4.50.

IN THIS, the third edition of Mr. Murray's book, first published in 1943, a new chapter on risk, insurance, and investment has been added, and the chapter on natural hazards has been rewritten. The addition of much new material on

commercial banks has resulted in a second chapter on these lending institutions. Other changes include new legislation, recent farm finance statistics, and an evaluation of farm credit changes since publication of the second edition in 1947.

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### Selected Recent Research Publications in Agricultural Economics Issued by the United States Department of Agriculture and Cooperatively by the State Colleges<sup>1</sup>

ANDERSON, ROICE H., and DOWNS, GLEN E. THE RELATION BETWEEN GRADINGS OF LIVE AND DRESSED CHICKENS IN UTAH. Utah Agr. Expt. Sta. Bull. 366, 16 pp., illus. Western Regional Research Publication. February 1954. (Agr. Expt. Sta. of Alaska, Ariz., Calif., Colo., Hawaii, Idaho, Mont., Nev., N. Mex., Oreg., Utah, Wash., and Wyo., and AMS cooperating.)

In Utah, light hens graded approximately 68 percent A, 24 percent B, and 8 percent C by U. S. standards. Other classes of chickens ranged from 82 to 84 percent grade A, 14 to 16 percent B, and 1 to 2 percent C.

BREDO, WILLIAM, SHREVE, ROBERT O., HAMMAN, CHARLES L. TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS OF EXPANDING WESTERN AGRICULTURE. 227 pp., illus. Agr. Mktg. Serv. June 1954. (Processed.) (RMA)

Agriculture's interest in transportation falls generally into three categories: (1) The level of freight rates and freight-rate relationships among competitive producing areas and between them and the economy generally; (2) the adequacy of service; and (3) general regulating policies which have a basic influence on agricultural transportation.

<sup>1</sup>Processed reports are indicated as such. All others are printed. State publications may be obtained from the issuing agencies of the respective States.

DAVIS, JOE F. ELECTRICITY ON FARMS IN NEW YORK AND NEW ENGLAND. U. S. Dept. Agr. Agr. Inform. Bull. 124, 42 pp., illus. July 1954. (Agr. Res. Serv.)

Analyzes the experiences of farmers of New York and New England in the use of electricity and electrical equipment.

FOELSCH, GERTRUDE G. SEASONALITY OF MILK PRODUCTION UNDER THE LOUISVILLE FALL PREMIUM PLAN. U. S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rept. 63, 47 pp., illus. May 1954. (RMA)

From 1950 through 1952 the fall-spring ratios of daily delivery of milk per producer in the Louisville area ranged from 80 to 82 percent as compared with 73 to 76 percent for 1941 through 1943. The reduction in seasonality has contributed to more efficient and stable marketing of milk than existed when the plan was introduced in 1943.

GOODSELL, WYLE D., BROWN, W. HERBERT, FOWLER, HERBERT C., HOLE, ERLING, HURD, EDGAR B., VERMEER, JAMES, and JENKINS, ISABEL. FARM COSTS AND RETURNS, 1953 (WITH COMPARISONS). COMMERCIAL FAMILY OPERATED FARMS, BY TYPE AND LOCATION. U. S. Dept. Agr. Agr. Inform. Bull. 128, 44 pp., illus. June 1954. (Agr. Res. Serv.)

This bulletin presents costs and returns in 1953 for 19 types of commercial family operated farms.

**HAYNES, BENJAMIN C., JR.** WHITE POTATO STORAGE FOR NEW JERSEY, LONG ISLAND, AND SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA. U. S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rept. 70, 17 pp., illus. June 1954. (RMA)

Storage of potatoes is a practical method of minimizing price fluctuations in local markets. Insulated structures above ground are desirable, and automatic control of forced ventilation systems is essential. Palletized handling is adaptable to bulk or bag storage, but cost of equipment restricts this method to large storages.

**HECHT, REUBEN W. and VICE, KEITH R.** LABOR USED FOR FIELD CROPS. U. S. Dept. Agr. Statist. Bull. 144, 45 pp. June 1954. (Agr. Res. Serv.)

Amount and cost of labor saved by adopting mechanical methods of performing farm work will continue to be an important consideration in farm planning. Data in this publication are expected to be useful to extension workers and others who are responsible for aiding farmers in this field.

**HERRMANN, LOUIS F., ANDERSON, ELSIE D., and BELE, FRANK A.** ESTIMATING THE SOLIDS-NOT-FAT CONTENT OF MILK. U. S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rept. 65, 13 pp., illus. May 1954. (RMA)

The average percentage of solids-not-fat content of milk delivered by individual producers at 16 milk-processing plants was estimated from the fat percentage with a standard error of estimate of 0.29. When specific gravity was included in the estimating equation, the standard error of estimate was reduced to 0.20.

**HERRMANN, LOUIS F., BRYAN, W. G. and ANDERSON, ELSIE.** SAMPLING ROUTINES AND THE ACCURACY OF PATRONS' BUTTERFAT TESTS. U. S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rept. 66, 23 pp., illus. May 1954. (RMA)

Butterfat percentages of about 2 daily samples in 3 fell within 0.196 (one standard deviation) of producer's monthly average. Composite samples gave lower monthly average butterfat percentages than samples of fresh milk tested daily.

**HUNTER, D. LOYD, DUERDEN, RAOUL S., and KAUFER, FRANCIS,** Washington State Apple Commission, and **HERRICK, JOSEPH F., JR.** HANDLING EMPTY APPLE BOXES IN PACIFIC NORTHWEST PACKING AND STORAGE HOUSES. U. S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rept. 71, 36 pp., illus. June 1954. (RMA)

When the manual method of moving empty apple boxes was used, labor and equipment costs were \$3.44 per 1,000 boxes. Costs of using clamp-type 2-wheel hand trucks were \$1.35, and costs of using industrial fork-lift trucks and pallets were \$2.24.

**JONES, LAWRENCE A., and GARLOCK, FRED L.** FACTORS AFFECTING FARM-LOAN INTEREST RATES. U. S. Dept. Agr. Agr. Inform. Bull. 126, 22 pp., illus. May 1954.

Reviews some of the principal factors that influence rates of interest and considers the probable trend of the rates that farmers will pay in the near future.

**MARTIN, WILLIAM J., and ASHBY, WALLACE L.** MARKET OUTLETS FOR COTTON IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL COTTON FABRICS—SUPPLEMENT III. 24 pp., illus. Agr. Mktg. Serv. June 1954. (Processed.) (RMA)

Fancy denims, cotton blankets, and tufting yarns consumed almost one-half million bales of cotton in 1953. Demand for denims has been stimulated by the bright colors and smart styles made available by cotton manufacturers.

**PETERS, C. W., REED, ROBERT H., and CREEK, C. RICHARD.** MARGINS, SHRINKAGE, AND PRICING OF CERTAIN FRESH VEGETABLES IN HONOLULU. Hawaii Agr. Expt. Sta. Agr. Econ. Bull. 7, 31 pp., illus. (Hawaii Agr. Expt. Sta. and AMS cooperating.) June 1954. (RMA)

About a third of the consumer dollar was required to cover the retail margin realized on the six vegetables studied. Shrinkage cost at retail average 4.6 cents and at wholesale about 5 cents per dollar of retail sales. Wholesale margins accounted for almost 16 cents. These marketing charges represented approximately 60 cents of each dollar spent by consumers for the six vegetables.

**PRITCHARD, NORRIS T.** AN IMPROVED METHOD OF PRICING FAT AND NONFAT SOLIDS IN MILK. 23 pp. Agr. Mktg. Serv. July 1954. (Processed.)

Two formulas for establishing milk fat differentials were developed. One establishes differentials to be used in conjunction with use-class prices paid by handlers. The other sets differentials for producer (blend) prices. Both are based on market values of butter and nonfat dry milk solids.

**STOKES, DONALD R., and HAWES, RUSSELL L.** TRADE REACTION TO WINTER PEARS PACKED IN FIBERBOARD BOXES. 11 pp. Agr. Mktg. Serv. August 1954. (Processed.)

Most wholesalers were favorably impressed with the fiberboard container's ability to minimize injury to fruit; many were apprehensive over the stacking and trucking capabilities and disapproved of the slackness of pack. Reaction of retailers generally was favorable to the fiberboard container. Auction market buyers discounted pears packed in fiberboard boxes.

**UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE.** A DIGEST OF PROGRESS REPORTS ON MARKETING SERVICE PROGRAMS—CONDUCTED BY STATE DEPARTMENTS OF AGRICULTURE AND BUREAUS AND DIVISIONS OF MARKETS IN COOPERATION WITH AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE, JULY 1, 1952—SEPTEMBER 30, 1953. 77 pp. June 1954. (Processed.)

**UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE.** FIBERS AND OTHER MATERIALS USED IN INSULATING ELECTRIC WIRE AND CABLE. PRELIMI-

**ANNUAL SUMMARY REPORT ON VOLUME OF CONSUMPTION.** 5 pp. June 1954. (Processed.) (RMA)

Items covered in this study were communication wire and cable, magnet wire, weatherproof and slow-burning wire and cable, building wire and cable, power wire and cable, appliance wire and cord, and automotive and aircraft wire and cable.

**UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE. HOMEMAKERS' USE OF AND OPINIONS ABOUT FATS AND OILS USED IN COOKING.** U. S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rept. 67, 88 pp., illus. June 1954. (RMA)

Most housewives in this country use at least three different kinds of fats and oils for their home cooking—usually a combination of butter and two other fats such as vegetable shortening, lard, shortening compound, cooking oil, or margarine.

**WEBB, ROBERT W. COMPARISON OF THE RELATIONS OF SIX FACTORS OF RAW-COTTON QUALITY TO SKEIN STRENGTH OF CARDED YARNS FOR EIGHT CROP YEARS, 1945-52.** Agr. Mktg. Serv. 33 pp., illus. May 1954. (Processed.)

This report summarizes and compares correlation results that were obtained with skein strength of 22s carded yarn and with count-strength product of all yarn sizes spun from each cotton, representing 10 series of cotton and identified with 8 consecutive years.

**WILMETH, JO BRICE, and BOLT, CHARLES D. BREAKING OUT BALES OF COTTON STORED ON HEAD.** U. S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rept. 61, 23 pp., illus. May 1954. (RMA)

When cotton was stored on head 2 bales high in paired rows, the approximate direct costs for breaking out 100 bales was \$20 by the manual method with a 4-man crew, \$9 with boom truck and 3 men, and \$5 with lift truck and 1 man.

**WILSON, DONALD E., and DEVER, GEORGE B., JR. OBJECTIVE EVALUATION OF COLOR OF TOMATOES FOR**

**PROCESSING.** 28 pp. Agr. Mktg. Serv. June 1954. (Processed.) (RMA)

Gives findings of an investigation of the possibility of ascertaining the quality of tomatoes for processing on the basis of an objective evaluation of color combined with a subjective determination of the percentage of grade defects.

### Statistical Compilations

**O'DONNELL, P. E. NONFARM CONSUMPTION OF FLUID MILK AND CREAM. A REVISED SERIES OF STATISTICS (UNITED STATES, 1924-50; URBAN MARKETS, 1944).** U. S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rept. 72, 51 pp., illus. May 1954.

**UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE. CORN: ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION OF ALL CORN, CORN FOR GRAIN, CORN FOR SILAGE, AND ACREAGE FOR FORAGE, BY STATES, 1866-1943.** 56 pp. June 1954. (Processed.)

**UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE. OATS: ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION, BY STATES, 1866-1943.** 29 pp. June 1954. (Processed.)

**UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE. REVISIONS OF ICE CREAM AND ICE MILK DATA, BY STATES, 1940-49.** 6 pp. July 1954. (Processed.)

**UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE. SUGAR BEETS: ACREAGE, YIELD, PRODUCTION, PRICE, AND VALUE. SUGAR, PULP, AND MOLASSES PRODUCTION FOR UNITED STATES, BY STATES, 1924-52.** 35 pp. June 1954. (Processed.)

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