

THE PRICE OUTLOOK

Plentiful rainfall in most of the growing regions has produced bumper grass seed crops this summer. All grass seed is now down in price, some such as Merion Blue, Highland and Astoria Bent, and down 50%. The other common grasses, Kentucky Blue, Red Top, Fescues, and Rye Grasses are down about 33-1/3%. Seaside Bent is very scarce and will remain high until the new crop comes in late this fall.

Prices of Chemicals, Fertilizers, Insecticides, and Fungicides are unchanged and in plentiful supply, however, freight and truck rates have gone up again.

The price of steel was increased about two months ago. This is affecting the prices of equipment, and manufacturers are raising prices about 7%. This increase will spread to every item made of steel or metal such as tractors, mowers, sprayers and even tools. All business men realize that price increases are unpopular, but there seems to be little defense against increased costs. Labor, freight rates, taxes, and other costs have been going up continuously, with little or no control left to management. Many people are aroused by this continued inflation and the constant rise in the cost of living. There is now some evidence that control measures are having an effect.

C. O. Borgmeier

The weather during August was really delightful and we can be very thankful that it was not one of those typical blistering hot Augusts and we had in several of our bad years such as 1947, 1949, and 1952.

Billy Smith is reported to be fully recovered from being hit in the eye by a golf ball. He says he does not believe the eye will be affected. For that we are thankful, Billy.

Mrs. John MacGregor, at last report, was making a slow but sure recovery.

Maybe the grass on the other side of the fence looks greener because somebody is taking better care of it.

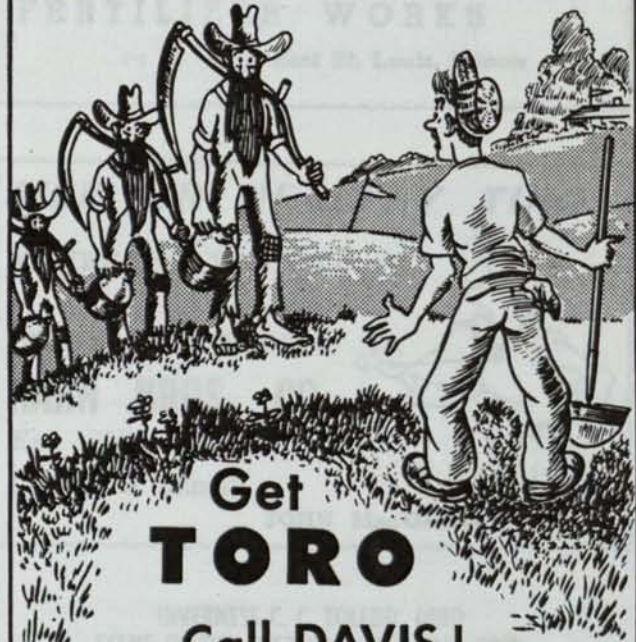
With even less than normal precipitation for the remainder of the year, 1957 will without doubt go down in the books as the wettest year in history in the Chicago district.

We note that our old friend Harry (Bill) Bailey has moved from Newton, Ohio and is now residing in Cincinnati.

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