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A2 R11

Sept. 13, 1943

Cap. 9

USDA BULLETIN BOARD

Broadcast by Ruth Van Deman in the Department of Agriculture portion of National Farm and Home Hour, Monday, September 13, 1943, over stations associated with the Blue Network.

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DUMARS: And first from Washington is the Department of Agriculture Bulletin Board, presented by Ruth Van Deman.

VAN DEMAN: Here's my budget of information for today: Concord grapes to go into jams and jellies; civilians to get less fish this year; and we start using war ration book three.

The news about grapes is this: War Food Administration is restricting the sale of Concord-type grapes for use as fresh fruit. The restrictions apply to five heavy producing regions -- in New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, and Washington. No producer in the designated counties can sell more than 100 pounds of Concord grapes for fresh consumption during the season. Fruit crops are short in most parts of the country, and the fresh market would probably claim a much greater than normal share of the Concord grape crop if sales were not restricted. If more were used fresh, we'd have smaller commercial supplies of jams and jellies. The food administration is trying to make sure we have good supplies of spreads -- so we'll eat more bread.

Now about fish. Last year we civilians ate a little over 9 pounds of fish apiece. This year we'll have a per capita supply that's a little less than 8 pounds apiece. This includes not only fresh but salted, cured and canned fish.

Our total supply of canned fish is 14 percent smaller than last year. And the armed forces will take a little more than last year. Of the fresh, salted and cured fish, civilians will get 83 percent; but supplies are smaller. There are three principal reasons for smaller supplies: one is that the Armed Forces require more; second, the reserve supply in freezing establishments is comparatively small; and third, many large fishing vessels in New England have been requisitioned for military purposes.

Finally--today you can begin using war ration book three. Brown stamp A is now valid, for meat, fats, oils and cheese. Red stamps that are still valid, in ration book two, are X, Y, and Z.

That's all of the Bulletin Board.

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