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Farm Labor

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JUNE FARM WORK MAKES GOOD PROGRESS
JULY 1 FARM WAGE RATES 3 PERCENT OVER 1962

The Nation's farms claimed the work of 7,795,000 persons during the June survey week (June 23-29). This number was 3 percent under last year, with slight decreases in most States. Compared with a month earlier, the number of farm workers showed about the usual seasonal increase. June brought many "unusual" weather changes to give 1963 its unique patterns which vary by areas and shape the more pressing needs for farm work. These demands generally have been well matched by the people and machines available. Notable progress during the month included harvesting the major part of the Kansas winter wheat crop, harvesting huge tonnages of hay throughout the entire Nation, and cultivating many million acres of cotton, corn, and soybeans. Harvest of fruit and vegetables moved ahead, but the amount of labor required in some sections was reduced by results of earlier freezes.

The number of farm family workers in this late June week was 5,249,000--2 percent less than a year earlier. As usual, the number increased slightly over the number working in May. The number of hired workers was 2,546,000--down almost 4 percent from a year earlier. Regional increases over the same period last year in the number of hired workers were shown only in the West North Central and East South Central regions. The national total for the June survey week exceeded the May week by over a third, nearly the average change for the period.

Farm Wage Rates Show Slight General Advance

Wage rates for different hiring arrangements on July 1 on farms of Crop Reporters or in their home localities averaged about 3 percent higher than on the same date a year earlier. The composite rate per hour averaged $0.872, compared with $0.848 on July 1, 1962. The index of this composite wage rate as of July 1, adjusted for seasonal variation, was 117 percent of the 1957-59 average. In terms of the 1910-14 base period, the July 1, 1963, index was 681. Contributing to the national composite rate were the following averages for different arrangements: Workers hired by the month with house furnished averaged $215 per month. Workers hired per day without board or room averaged $7.00 per day. Workers paid on a per hour basis without board or room averaged $1.09 per hour. As shown in the State tables on pages 6 and 7, considerable differences exist between States in the averages for each hiring arrangement. The State averages also reflect even greater differences being paid in the many varying situations in each State. The reported averages represent cash wage rates including no allowance for any additional perquisites furnished.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Statistical Reporting Service
La 1 (7-63)

Crop Reporting Board
Washington, D. C.

June Work Features Haying, Weed Control, Grain and Fruit Harvests

Making hay under June sunshine is an important job on most farms throughout the Nation. This year conditions in many sections were good for making fine quality hay with less than usual rain damage. The tonnages were smaller than hoped for on many farms throughout the North-Central and Northeastern part of the country and below average rainfall threatened to reduce later growth of hay crops. Many dairy farmers were planting annual forage crops to augment fall and winter forage supplies and to fill expected needs if July and August should be hot and dry. The size of the job of preparing and storing livestock forage is clear from the national tonnage totals. Last year over 120 million tons of hay were made in various forms, plus over 85 million tons of corn and sorghum silage, and added millions of tons of grass and other crop silage.

Weed fighting in row crops is another essential job in June. Here again the national acreage totals tell of the size of the task. Last year's total of corn, cotton, soybean, peanuts, dry beans and peas, tobacco, and sugar beets was over 113 million acres. Although cultivation remains a leading method of killing weeds, the use of herbicides and other new techniques is reportedly playing a growing part in reducing the work required. The past month gave farmers in most areas a good chance to control weeds in row crops. However, prolonged rains in the Southeast during the latter half of the month kept farmers out of the fields and gave grass and weeds too much chance to compete with planted crops.

Harvest of winter wheat in the Southern Great Plains started early this year and made good progress in June despite some delays following rains. By the end of June, Texas farmers had combined almost all of the State's wheat crop except a few irrigated fields in the High Plains. The Oklahoma harvest was virtually complete. The large Kansas acreage was about 90 percent combined in June, making it one of the earliest harvests in this leading wheat State since 1952. The Nebraska harvest, after an early start, was nearly a third completed in June.

The month also brought many changes in sources and volume of vegetable and fruit supplies. Cold snaps reduced or delayed expected output in a number of areas earlier in the season. The South Carolina peach harvest was well along by the month's end. California fruit development was slowed by cool June weather, but in the San Joaquin Valley figs, nectarines, peaches, and plums were being harvested. Harvest of cherries was general in many sections throughout the Nation.

Farm Employment and Indexes, June 1963, with comparisons, United States

	Annual average 1957-61 1/	Annual average 1961	Annual average 1962	June average 1957-61 1/	June 17-23 1962	June 23-29 1963
FARM EMPLOYMENT (Thousands)						
Total	7,284	6,919	6,700	8,540	7,988	7,795
Family labor	5,353	5,029	4,873	5,828	5,350	5,249
Hired labor	1,931	1,890	1,827	2,712	2,638	2,546
INDEXES 2/ (1910-14=100)						
Total	54	51	49	54	50	49
Family labor	53	49	48	53	48	47
Hired labor	57	56	54	56	55	53
(1957-59=100)						
Total	98	93	90	97	91	90
Family labor	98	91	88	97	89	87
Hired labor	98	96	93	98	95	92

1/ Employment during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month.
2/ Monthly indexes are revised indexes adjusted for seasonal variation.

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Farm Wage Rates and Indexes, July 1, 1963, United States

	Annual average 1962	July average 1957-61	July 1, 1962	July 1, 1963
FARM WAGE RATES				
Composite rate per hour 1/	$ 0.856	$ 0.789	$ 0.848	$ 0.872
Per month with house	200	191	208	215
Per month with board and room	155	143	156	159
Per week with board and room	37.00	35.50	39.00	39.00
Per week without board and room	47.75	45.50	50.00	51.00
Per day with house	5.60	4.95	5.50	5.70
Per day with board and room	6.70	6.60	7.20	7.40
Per day without board or room	6.90	6.20	6.90	7.00
Per hour with house	.92	.90	.95	.98
Per hour without board or room	1.01	.99	1.06	1.09
INDEXES 2/				
(1910-14=100)	658	603	662	681
(1957-59=100)	112	104	114	117

1/ Weighted average of all rates on a per hour basis.
2/ Indexes are adjusted for seasonal variation.

Workers on Farms, June 1963

(Thousands of persons)

Region and State	June Average 1957-61 1/			June 1962 Week of 17-23			June 1963 Week of 23-29		
	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired
Maine	46	26	20	35	22	13	38	24	14
N. H.	16	11	5	12	8	4	12	8	4
Vt.	34	24	10	25	20	5	26	20	6
Mass.	48	28	20	39	23	16	39	22	17
R. I.	4	3	1	4	3	1	3	2	1
Conn.	30	18	12	29	16	13	34	17	17
New Eng.	178	110	68	144	92	52	152	93	59
N. Y.	193	118	75	177	106	71	171	103	68
N. J.	56	30	26	54	26	28	52	23	29
Pa.	240	188	52	209	164	45	200	156	44
M.Atl.	489	336	153	440	296	144	423	282	141
Ohio	280	227	53	266	206	60	260	200	60
Ind.	274	236	38	252	212	40	248	208	40
Ill.	318	239	79	301	219	82	304	219	85
Mich.	272	207	65	259	188	71	270	196	74
Wis.	319	283	36	295	258	37	287	250	37
E.N.Cent.	1,463	1,192	271	1,373	1,083	290	1,369	1,073	296
Minn.	359	281	78	366	272	94	346	260	86
Iowa	362	280	82	368	273	95	359	280	79
Mo.	311	251	60	293	238	55	303	238	65
N.Dak.	107	81	26	104	78	26	98	75	23
S.Dak.	110	91	19	101	83	18	101	83	18
Nebr.	196	151	45	189	148	41	169	135	34
Kans.	202	151	51	187	139	48	193	143	50
W.N.Cent.	1,647	1,286	361	1,608	1,231	377	1,569	1,214	355
Del.	16	9	7	15	9	6	16	9	7
Md.	71	43	28	65	41	24	70	41	29
Va.	239	139	100	220	125	95	205	114	91
W.Va.	89	68	21	77	58	19	76	55	21
N.C.	528	348	180	506	332	174	496	312	184
S.C.	286	153	133	248	134	114	212	131	81
Ga.	216	149	67	177	123	54	159	103	56
Fla.	105	49	56	106	41	65	112	43	69
S.Atl.	1,550	958	592	1,414	863	551	1,346	808	538
Ky.	277	193	84	266	185	81	273	182	91
Tenn.	282	203	79	256	186	70	259	184	75
Ala.	150	116	34	135	103	32	126	101	25
Miss.	261	210	51	215	165	50	223	163	60
E.S.Cent.	970	722	248	872	639	233	881	630	251
Ark.	245	141	104	223	122	101	224	116	108
La.	155	89	66	155	83	72	148	82	66
Okla.	197	148	49	176	134	42	159	129	30
Texas	490	291	199	500	270	230	471	298	173
W.S.Cent.	1,087	669	418	1,054	609	445	1,002	625	377
Mont.	64	39	25	60	37	23	57	36	21
Idaho	92	53	39	93	54	39	87	52	35
Wyo.	29	17	12	26	15	11	26	15	11
Colo.	87	56	31	89	54	35	85	51	34
N.Mex.	47	24	23	39	22	17	36	21	15
Ariz.	44	10	34	42	10	32	40	9	31
Utah	46	29	17	42	27	15	42	25	17
Nev.	7	4	3	7	4	3	7	4	3
Mountain	416	232	184	398	223	175	380	213	167
Wash.	185	103	82	170	102	68	173	100	73
Oreg.	148	80	68	134	75	59	136	76	60
Calif.	407	140	267	381	137	244	364	135	229
Pacific	740	323	417	685	314	371	673	311	362
U. S.	8,540	5,828	2,712	7,988	5,350	2,638	7,795	5,249	2,546

1/ Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month.

Workers on farms: Comparative estimates, annual average 1962
April and May 1963 1/

(Thousands of persons)

Region and State	Annual Average 1962			April 1963 Week of 21-27			May 1963 Week of 19-25		
	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired
Maine	31	19	12	28	19	9	31	19	12
N. H.	10	7	3	10	7	3	11	7	4
Vt.	24	19	5	28	22	6	26	20	6
Mass.	32	20	12	33	23	10	35	22	13
R. I.	4	3	1	3	2	1	3	2	1
Conn.	25	16	9	22	16	6	26	16	10
N. Eng.	126	84	42	124	89	35	132	86	46
N. Y.	153	101	52	133	90	43	140	92	48
N. J.	41	23	18	36	19	17	46	21	25
Pa.	171	141	30	157	133	24	165	136	29
M. Atl.	365	265	100	326	242	84	351	249	102
Ohio	226	192	34	228	196	32	224	190	34
Ind.	206	181	25	215	191	24	228	203	25
Ill.	241	191	50	249	198	51	282	221	61
Mich.	206	166	40	206	175	31	232	196	36
Wis.	266	238	28	268	242	26	276	250	26
E. N. Cent.	1145	968	177	1166	1002	164	1242	1060	182
Minn.	261	221	40	275	249	26	288	255	33
Iowa	288	246	42	278	256	22	315	280	35
Mo.	266	227	39	240	216	24	259	223	36
N. Dak.	88	69	19	87	74	13	91	74	17
S. Dak.	88	77	11	89	82	7	91	83	8
Nebr.	153	130	23	147	127	20	158	132	26
Kans.	152	128	24	146	130	16	156	133	23
W. N. Cent.	1296	1098	198	1262	1134	128	1358	1180	178
Del.	12	7	5	12	7	5	14	8	6
Md.	56	38	18	56	42	14	60	39	21
Va.	177	127	50	169	132	37	178	137	41
W. Va.	64	53	11	59	47	12	63	51	12
N. C.	397	295	102	342	273	69	393	305	88
S. C.	178	117	61	153	102	51	182	117	65
Ga.	160	115	45	141	101	40	157	100	57
Fla.	122	44	78	147	52	95	128	44	84
S. Atl.	1166	796	370	1079	756	323	1175	801	374
Ky.	232	182	50	220	179	41	229	180	49
Tenn.	229	178	51	208	162	46	234	176	58
Ala.	138	103	35	136	98	38	171	131	40
Miss.	225	160	65	233	162	71	275	177	98
E. S. Cent.	824	623	201	797	601	196	909	664	245
Ark.	195	110	85	192	104	88	230	116	114
La.	144	87	57	134	82	52	147	84	63
Okla.	149	119	30	141	121	20	164	132	32
Tex.	415	243	172	388	248	140	415	270	145
W. S. Cent.	903	559	344	855	555	300	956	602	354
Mont.	48	36	12	54	42	12	51	37	14
Idaho	67	48	19	65	50	15	71	48	23
Wyo.	19	13	6	20	14	6	22	15	7
Colo.	67	48	19	58	48	10	64	51	13
N. Mex.	36	21	15	29	20	9	28	19	9
Ariz.	40	10	30	41	10	31	41	8	33
Utah	33	24	9	26	20	6	37	24	13
Nev.	5	3	2	6	3	3	7	4	3
Mount.	315	203	112	299	207	92	321	206	115
Wash.	111	74	37	111	77	34	129	89	40
Oreg.	97	67	30	89	66	23	111	76	35
Calif.	352	136	216	290	131	159	346	142	204
Pac.	560	277	283	490	274	216	586	307	279
U. S.	6700	4873	1827	6398	4860	1538	7030	5155	1875

1/ Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month.

Farm Wage Rates, July 1, 1962 1/

State and Region	Per month		Per week		Per day			Per hour		Composite rate per hour	Indexes of composite rates 1910-14=100 2/
	With house	With board and room	With board and room	Without board or room	With house	With board and room	Without board or room	With house	Without board or room		
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	
Maine	200	155	40.00	55.00	-	-	9.50	-	1.12	.972	592
N.H.	220	165	45.00	59.00	-	-	10.00	-	1.20	1.04	685
Vt.	204	162	40.50	55.00	-	-	9.70	-	1.17	.995	649
Mass.	243	164	47.00	64.00	-	-	10.80	-	1.29	1.12	732
R.I.	243	164	47.00	65.00	-	-	10.90	-	1.26	1.12	776
Conn.	243	170	47.00	65.00	-	-	11.00	-	1.35	1.15	792
New Eng.	219	161	43.25	59.00	-	-	10.10	-	1.21	1.04	682
N.Y.	218	153	40.00	56.25	-	-	9.30	-	1.17	1.00	576
N.J.	225	165	48.75	60.50	-	-	10.60	-	1.20	1.06	693
Pa.	195	138	37.00	49.25	-	-	8.40	-	1.08	.916	684
Mid. Atl.	212	150	40.50	54.75	-	-	9.20	-	1.15	.983	636
Ohio	179	139	-	-	-	6.80	8.60	-	1.09	.855	611
Ind.	186	139	-	-	-	7.00	8.60	-	1.09	.858	644
Ill.	207	160	-	-	-	7.90	9.80	-	1.16	.942	671
Mich.	218	152	-	-	-	7.00	9.00	-	1.10	.892	617
Wis.	208	151	-	-	-	7.40	9.20	-	1.13	.907	597
E.N.Cent.	201	150	-	-	-	7.30	9.10	-	1.12	.895	633
Minn.	193	156	-	-	-	8.20	10.00	-	1.15	1.00	573
Iowa	214	171	-	-	-	8.70	10.70	-	1.20	1.06	588
Mo.	168	127	-	-	-	6.60	8.20	-	1.05	.884	704
N.Dak.	200	173	-	-	-	7.60	9.60	-	1.08	.961	493
S.Dak.	197	161	-	-	-	7.80	9.60	-	1.11	.975	532
Nebr.	227	171	-	-	-	8.50	10.30	-	1.16	1.03	632
Kans.	211	167	-	-	-	8.50	10.40	-	1.18	1.04	743
W.N.Cent.	202	160	-	-	-	8.10	10.00	-	1.15	1.00	624
Del.	-	-	-	-	6.90	-	8.40	-	1.05	.895	829
Md.	-	-	-	-	6.90	-	8.20	-	1.03	.877	904
Va.	-	-	-	-	5.60	-	6.80	-	.84	.722	818
W.Va.	-	-	-	-	5.10	-	5.90	-	.80	.650	521
N.C.	-	-	-	-	5.30	-	6.20	-	.74	.651	756
S.C.	-	-	-	-	3.85	-	4.45	-	.54	.470	648
Ga.	-	-	-	-	4.35	-	5.00	-	.68	.552	646
Fla.	-	-	-	-	5.90	-	6.60	-	.85	.714	752
So. Atl.	-	-	-	-	5.10	-	5.90	-	.74	.632	732
Ky.	-	-	-	-	4.50	-	5.70	-	.81	.567	608
Tenn.	-	-	-	-	4.15	-	4.95	-	.63	.494	554
Ala.	-	-	-	-	4.15	-	4.65	-	.60	.474	592
Miss.	-	-	-	-	3.85	-	4.20	-	.51	.430	519
E.S.Cent.	-	-	-	-	4.25	-	5.00	-	.67	.504	571
Ark.	-	-	-	-	5.60	-	6.00	-	.74	.640	650
La.	-	-	-	-	4.80	-	5.20	-	.65	.556	636
Okla.	-	-	-	-	7.40	-	8.70	-	1.02	.895	697
Texas	-	-	-	-	6.40	-	6.90	-	.79	.715	629
W.S.Cent.	-	-	-	-	6.10	-	6.60	-	.78	.691	651
Mont.	236	179	-	-	-	-	9.90	-	1.19	.920	502
Idaho	267	214	-	-	-	-	11.20	-	1.26	1.03	634
Wyo.	233	161	-	-	-	-	10.20	-	1.16	.903	508
Colo.	237	176	-	-	-	-	9.90	-	1.15	.907	643
N.Mex.	196	145	-	-	-	-	7.40	-	.86	.701	631
Ariz.	254	180	-	-	-	-	9.40	-	1.00	.866	620
Utah	252	218	-	-	-	-	10.00	-	1.25	.985	667
Nev.	250	190	-	-	-	-	10.00	-	1.25	.957	566
Mountain	244	186	-	-	-	-	9.90	-	1.14	.917	604
Wash.	284	217	-	-	-	-	-	1.25	1.32	1.27	632
Oreg.	258	195	-	-	-	-	-	1.21	1.26	1.21	608
Calif.	320	240	-	-	-	-	-	1.21	1.28	1.25	594
Pacific	304	229	-	-	-	-	-	1.22	1.28	1.24	596
U.S.	208	156	39.00	50.00	5.50	7.20	6.90	.95	1.06	.848	662

1/ Average rates paid on crop and livestock reporters' farms or in their localities for arrangements specified above. U.S. averages and State composite rates include estimates for unpublished State rates of small importance. 2/ Adjusted for seasonal variation.

Farm Wage Rates, July 1, 1963 1/

State and Region	Per month		Per week		Per day		Per Hour		Composite rate per hour	Indexes of composite rates 1910-14=100 2/
	With house	With board and room	With board and room	Without board or room	With house	With board and room	Without board or room	With house	Without board or room		
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	
Maine	212	153	38.00	56.00	—	—	9.40	—	1.14	.976	594
N.H.	230	167	44.00	62.00	—	—	10.20	—	1.23	1.07	703
Vt.	212	160	40.00	59.00	—	—	9.80	—	1.17	1.02	661
Mass.	250	167	47.00	67.00	—	—	10.80	—	1.35	1.15	753
R.I.	250	168	47.00	68.00	—	—	10.90	—	1.36	1.16	807
Conn.	250	170	47.00	68.00	—	—	11.00	—	1.38	1.17	808
N.Eng.	235	164	44.00	63.50	—	—	10.40	—	1.28	1.09	715
N.Y.	224	153	40.00	55.00	—	—	9.40	—	1.21	1.02	589
N.J.	235	180	46.25	66.25	—	—	10.40	—	1.20	1.07	700
Pa.	199	143	37.00	50.50	—	—	8.70	—	1.10	.935	698
M.Atl.	218	155	40.25	55.75	—	—	9.40	—	1.17	1.01	648
Ohio	185	130	—	—	—	6.90	8.80	—	1.11	.861	615
Ind.	189	144	—	—	—	7.30	8.80	—	1.12	.882	661
Ill.	216	163	—	—	—	8.20	10.00	—	1.18	.961	685
Mich.	230	159	—	—	—	7.40	9.30	—	1.12	.916	634
Wis.	212	156	—	—	—	7.70	9.90	—	1.17	.945	622
E.N.Cent.	209	152	—	—	—	7.50	9.40	—	1.14	.916	648
Minn.	201	163	—	—	—	8.80	10.50	—	1.18	1.04	594
Iowa	223	176	—	—	—	8.90	10.80	—	1.22	1.08	599
Mo.	173	129	—	—	—	6.90	8.40	—	1.07	.904	721
N.Dak.	214	184	—	—	—	8.10	9.90	—	1.12	1.00	514
S.Dak.	208	165	—	—	—	7.90	9.70	—	1.11	.981	536
Nebr.	240	177	—	—	—	8.70	10.60	—	1.20	1.07	652
Kans.	219	172	—	—	—	8.20	10.60	—	1.21	1.06	757
W.N.Cent.	210	166	—	—	—	8.40	10.20	—	1.17	1.03	641
Del.	178	—	—	—	7.20	—	8.30	.90	1.10	.916	848
Md.	187	—	—	—	7.30	—	8.40	.97	1.08	.921	949
Va.	—	—	—	—	5.70	—	6.90	.81	.90	.747	847
W.Va.	—	—	—	—	5.20	—	6.00	.73	.81	.661	530
N.C.	—	—	—	—	5.40	—	6.30	.68	.76	.664	771
S.C.	—	—	—	—	3.95	—	4.75	.49	.54	.490	676
Ga.	—	—	—	—	4.55	—	5.10	.65	.72	.572	670
Fla.	—	—	—	—	6.00	—	6.60	.77	.85	.715	753
S.Atl.	—	—	—	—	5.20	—	6.10	.68	.76	.651	754
Ky.	—	—	—	—	4.70	—	5.80	.76	.84	.583	625
Tenn.	—	—	—	—	4.30	—	5.20	.61	.68	.519	582
Ala.	—	—	—	—	4.10	—	4.65	.56	.62	.475	593
Miss.	—	—	—	—	4.10	—	4.35	.50	.55	.452	546
E.S.Cent.	—	—	—	—	4.35	—	5.10	.63	.70	.521	590
Ark.	—	—	—	—	6.00	—	6.50	.69	.77	.681	691
La.	—	—	—	—	5.00	—	5.60	.61	.68	.589	674
Okla.	—	—	—	—	8.00	—	9.20	.96	1.07	.949	739
Texas	—	—	—	—	6.70	—	7.30	.78	.87	.766	673
W.S.Cent.	—	—	—	—	6.40	—	7.00	.75	.84	.734	691
Mont.	238	190	—	—	—	—	9.90	—	1.20	.934	509
Idaho	267	209	—	—	—	—	11.20	—	1.27	1.03	633
Wyo.	235	176	—	—	—	—	9.80	—	1.21	.918	517
Colo.	241	176	—	—	—	—	9.90	—	1.16	.912	646
N.Mex.	208	160	—	—	—	—	8.00	—	1.00	.778	700
Ariz.	266	171	—	—	—	—	9.60	—	1.00	.872	624
Utah	268	228	—	—	—	—	10.60	—	1.34	1.05	709
Nev.	260	190	—	—	—	—	9.80	—	1.30	.969	572
Mountain	250	188	—	—	—	—	10.00	—	1.17	.933	616
Wash.	285	223	—	—	—	—	11.40	1.32	1.34 3/	1.29	643
Oreg.	264	196	—	—	—	—	10.90	1.21	1.28	1.23	617
Calif.	320	240	—	—	—	—	11.20	1.22	1.32	1.28	610
Pac.	305	230	—	—	—	—	11.20	1.24	1.32	1.27	610
U. S.	215	159	39.00	51.00	5.70	7.40	7.00	.98	1.09	.872	681

1/ Average rates paid on crop and livestock reporters' farms or in their localities for arrangements specified above. U. S. averages and State composite rates include estimates for unpublished State rates of small importance. 2/ Adjusted for seasonal variation.

3/ Correction: April 1963, changed from 1.032 to 1.302.

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