

Of the 30 varieties grown in North Dakota in 1949, 16 were produced by cooperating state and federal workers in the United States and these occupied 9,536,803 acres or 89.6 per cent of the acreage. Seven of the others were produced at experiment stations in Canada and were grown on 559,567 acres or 5.3 per cent of the 1949 acreage. Most of the others are foreign wheats introduced by the United States Department of Agriculture or distributed by the state stations. Two were produced by private breeders in the United States and Canada and these occupied only 0.2 per cent of the acreage.

These varietal surveys furnish a historical record of the growing of new varieties and form a guide for further wheat improvement.

ABOUT INDUSTRIAL ALCOHOL

"Industrial Alcohol: A Study of the Technology, Production and Uses of Alcohol in Relation to Agriculture" is the title of Bulletin M695 by P. Burke Jacobs of the Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry of the United States Department of Agriculture. A copy of the bulletin may be had by sending 30 cents to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

Wanted—

Single copies of North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station printed Press Bulletins Nos. 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 24, and 45. These were printed between 1905 and 1913. They are desired for use in compiling a complete history of the scientific contributions of early members of the staff. If printed copies of Nos. 14, 15, and 32 are available, please furnish also because the Station has only typed copies.

FOR BETTER BEEF

The first major effort to coordinate beef cattle research on a national scale was initiated at a meeting of research workers from 38 States and the U. S. Department of Agriculture at the U. S. Range Livestock Experiment Station at Miles City, Mont. Beef cattle producers are vitally interested in the program, which is seeking methods by which more and better beef cattle can be produced.

ROP (Record of Performance) studies with beef cattle under range conditions have been carried on at the station for about 25 years. Rapidity of growth and good carcass quality are the criteria by which calves are judged in "proving" their sires as good or poor.

At the meeting, technical problems of evaluating meat quality, using body measurements as indices, methods of measuring performance, and ways and means of establishing lines of breeding were discussed—USDA.

SINGLE GERM SUGAR BEET SEED

Plant breeders who have been searching for 50 years to find sugar beet plants that produce seeds with single germs have finally found what they were looking for. If this trait can be bred into commercial varieties it will be a big step toward mechanization of sugar beet growing. Sugar beets normally produce seed in a cluster, which means that several plants come up where a seed ball is planted. This requires thinning, which normally calls for hand labor.—USDA