

GOOD RAIN IN MALLEE

Helps Some Crops

Useful falls of rain up to nearly an inch fell in parts of the Mallee yesterday. Wheat crops, which are not beyond recovery, will benefit greatly.

Lighter falls were reported from the Wimmera and Northern district. An airman who flew from Mildura to Melbourne informed the Weather Bureau last night that rain was falling from Mildura to Bendigo.

Patches of crops, which, because of favourable situation, had survived the drought, would benefit from the rain. Mr. H. A. Mullett, Director of Agriculture, said yesterday. North of a line between Hopetoun and Swan Hill most crops were beyond recovery, however.

Substantial falls near Horsham and Nhill would be of great value, and some benefit would be derived from the rain in the Northern district, although crops there were very patchy, he added.

At Woomelang 74 points fell to 6 p.m. Residents consider that the rain will be of immense value to wheat crops which were wilting. Some crops there will now give moderate yields, but the rain is too late for other wheat crops. Growth of feed for sheep will be aided. With a total rainfall of 613 points the year has been one of the driest on record.

Prospects of a fair yield round Lascelles have been greatly enhanced, and buoyancy is expected in the sheep market. Other Mallee registrations are:—Walpeup, 87; Tempy, 75; Speed, 80; Turriff, 75, and Ouyen, 53. The falls were somewhat scattered because of thunder-storms. At Werrimull, in the Millewa, 20 points fell.

Day-long rain gave Litchfield (Wimmera) 40 points. Serviceton received 38 points, but generally the falls were much lighter than in the Mallee. The Weather Bureau received no reports from the Western district.

Unirrigated pastures and crops in the Northern district may now provide fair sheep feed. The average fall was about 25 points. Inglewood received 40 points, and Gunbower, where rain was still falling steadily last evening, 35 points. Residents consider that the rain will be valuable in the irrigation areas, which have suffered severe frosts. The fall at Bendigo to 9 p.m. was 42 points.

Rain is expected in the Northern and North-Eastern districts to-day, but conditions should improve in the Wimmera and Mallee.

ARMY GLEE SINGERS

On the afternoon of Sunday week, October 6, at the Savoy Theatre, the recently formed male choir and glee singers of the 2nd 2nd Pioneer Battalion, Puckapunyal, with a special orchestra, will render items to aid battalion comforts funds. Sgt. L. Warren will have charge of community singing.