

The largest single payment for sugar beets ever made by the U and I Sugar Company will be sent out November 20 to some 1,400 farmers in Washington and Oregon who grow sugar beets for the pioneer sugar refining firm.

With a record harvest nearing completion, company officials today announced that the first checks for the 1962 crop will be mailed to 3,500 growers for U and I in Washington, Oregon, Utah, Idaho, South Dakota, Nebraska and Iowa.

Douglas W. Love, executive vice president and general manager of the sugar company, said the initial payment totals more than \$16,000,000, covering 1,651,000 tons of beets delivered by growers in October and early November to U and I receiving stations and factories. Last year, the company's initial payment totaled about \$11,000,000 for 1,148,000 tons of beets.

Charles J. Edwards and Paul D. Scalley, U and I district managers for the Moses Lake and Toppenish factories, said Washington's share of the initial payment will be \$7,495,800 for 806,000 tons of beets delivered through the end of October. Toppenish growers will receive \$3,441,000 for 370,000 tons of beets and Moses Lake growers \$4,054,800 for 436,000 tons of beets.

Company officials said they expect the all-time-record crop to be completely harvested by November 20.

As "mountains" of sugar beets piled up at U and I's six factories in Washington, Idaho, Utah and South Dakota, hundreds of refinery workers were busy processing the crop into pure, white sugar. Before the manufacturing period ends next February, U and I expects to produce about 600,000,000 pounds of refined sugar from the current crop. This will also be an all-time record for the company, Mr. Love said.

U and I's refined sugar is sold in markets throughout 24 western states. Farmers receive payment for their sugar beets in several installments, the last

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one to be made next year after the refined sugar is marketed.

Mr. Love said the U and I harvest is being carried out without difficulty. Farmers in most areas are digging their beets and shipping them to receiving stations and factories in mild Indian Summer-like weather.

A 30-day railroad strike in September before the harvest began threatened the crop in South Dakota for a time, but early settlement of the labor dispute, good fall weather, prompt action of growers, and cooperation on the part of the railroad combined to wind up the harvest there before the ground froze, the general manager reported.

In all, U and I officials expect their growers to produce about 2,200,000 tons of beets from 116,700 acres of land, averaging nearly 19 tons to the acre, which also sets a new high for yield per acre.

Immediately following the harvest, growers were preparing their soils for next year's sugar beet crop. This included plowing in fertilizers, bedding and ridging in preparation for early spring planting.

Total first payments, district by district, and the tonnages involved were released by the company as follows: Utah, 322,000 tons, \$3,257,500; Idaho, 379,000 tons, \$3,884,050; South Dakota, 144,000 tons, \$1,368,000; and Washington, 806,000 tons, \$7,495,800.

In addition to company payments, sugar beet growers receive about ^{2.28}~~\$2.50~~ per ton from the Federal Government as compliance payment provided by the National Sugar Act. The funds for compliance payments are provided by processing taxes paid by all sugar refineries, including those who process sugar beets.

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9/26/67

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The American Association for State and Local History has presented an award of commendation to U and I Sugar Company in connection with a book written last year concerning the company and the beet sugar industry.

The Association represents historical associations in the United States and Canada. A decision to make the award was reached earlier in September at the Association's annual meeting in Toronto, Canada. Dr. Merle W. Wells, historian of the State of Idaho, is the awards committee member for the Pacific Northwest region.

Presentation of the award certificate was by Dr. Everett L. Cooley, director of the Utah State Historical Society, at his group's 50th annual meeting. Dr. Cooley said the award seldom is given to a business.

"It's one of only half a dozen such awards of its kind presented by the association to business for contributions to history," Dr. Cooley said. The award was for the company's giving unrestricted access to its records for the writing of the book "Beet Sugar in the West: A History of the Utah-Idaho Sugar Company, 1891-1966," by Dr. Leonard J. Arrington, of Utah State University at Logan, Utah.

Dr. Arrington also received a commendation award for the book, which was published by the University of Washington Press at Seattle.

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