

FARM and GARDEN

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Dairy Farmers Say Benson Plan Not Workable

By OWEN CRUMB
 UTICA, N. Y. (AP)—The three largest dairy-farmer organizations in the Northeast fold the U. S. Senate Agriculture Committee Saturday that the Eisenhower-Benson farm program was not workable.

The groups, representing nearly 40,000 dairymen, demanded what they called a better program.

But the New York State Farm Bureau disagreed. The Farm Bureau now claims 23,000 members but expects to lose about 50,000 next year under a reorganization program. Its president said in testimony prepared for a committee hearing:

"The present program of flexible supports is working in the right direction and should be continued."

Dairy organization spokesmen, in their prepared remarks, maintained that low prices on farm products did not decrease production. Secretary Benson has maintained that over the long haul—reduced prices under the Republican flexible price supports program will discourage surplus production and eventually raise farm prices.

Stanley H. Benham, a Republican and newly elected president of the 23,000-member Dairymen's League, urged adoption of a "soil bank" plan partly to replace the present national program. Under such a plan, the government would rent land from the farmer and take it out of production.

This proposal has been advocated frequently to the touring Senate committee, which has held hearings in all major farm areas of the country. Twenty-five witnesses were scheduled for here.

NOT IMPERTINENCE
 RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—Back talk from the pupils is being encouraged in Richmond's public schools. The pupils' speech is tape recorded and played back as a means of ironing out defects in diction and grammar. Said Mrs. Elizabeth Collier, a fifth grade teacher: "It is noticeable almost immediately that they try to improve their speech and tones."

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farm forest acts

The new look - the new models for '56 are the rage. We in forestry aren't to be outdone. New ideas and new methods are always cropping up.

The latest is a new way of re-establishing a stand of trees on logged-off land.

Tree Planting Costs
 Average planting costs in Douglas County are \$25 an acre. These costs include the price of trees and labor involved.

Cut that price and you've made yourself a new look in the forestry game.

That's just what research people have been working on for a number of years. Results have been spotty - but it looks like they're getting close now.

Let me illustrate by telling you about some experimental work that the Roseburg branch of the Bureau of Land Management is doing in cooperation with the Fish and Wildlife Service.

They have selected a typical logged-off area near Reston that was logged this summer and had the slash burned this fall.

Rodents Are Still Rats
 Oh, yes, I want to set you straight on one of the biggest headaches in getting a logged-off area back into young trees - That's right, rats.

To be really scientific they are called white footed mice.

Nels Kuvorno, Fish and Wildlife Service research man working on the BLM experimental area, told me every acre of forest land has 1 to 12 of these mice. I believed him, too, after we finished running a trap line that held a number of the little "darlings."

Bill Stein, research forester with the Forest Service, recently fed a number of captured mice a diet of Douglas fir seed. He found that they really liked them and consumed 300 seeds per night. In seven months, the period which the seed usually lays on the ground before germinating, one mouse will eat roughly 1 1/2 pounds of seed.

Sick Mice Wanted
 Enough about what they do - how do we get rid of 'em.

For a number of years, researchers have tried to eliminate the mice by the use of poison.

Local "rats" were killed - but adjoining neighbors seem to sense the "ghost town" like area and would migrate in.

Nels Kuvorno puts the new approach in this way: "We aren't interested in eliminating the rodent - but just the rodent factor."

How are they doing that? It's simple, actually.

They treat the seed with a repellent poison. The mouse eats a few treated seeds and suddenly finds he isn't a dumb, stupid mouse but an educated, sick mouse.

He gets a few seeds in his stomach - he doesn't feel so good - the wheels in this little "mouse" head starts going around - and he deducts he's sick because of having "tested" too many seeds.

Being smarter than a human, in the future he will leave tree seeds alone. "Of course," Nels says, "if the mouse eats too many it will kill him - but we believe the highest percentage of them know when to quit."

One-Third The Cost
 Maynard McCormack, who heads up the reforestation program for the local Bureau of Land Management, believes the repellent poison will be the answer.

"They may not have the exact poison perfected," Mac says, "but the method looks good."

We believe our reforestation cost will be one-third what they are for tree planting.

I think Mac is right - and this "make 'em sick" method has lots of possibilities for our recently-logged farm woodlands.

Douglas Farmers To Vote For ASC Committeemen

Douglas County farmers will ballot by mail to elect ASC committee members. They'll pick a chairman, vice chairman, regular member and first and second alternate in each of 10 communities in the county.

Ballots will be mailed out not later than Nov. 23, according to Evan P. Gheen, office manager. They must be returned to county ASC Office, 321 Pacific Bldg., Roseburg, no later than Nov. 30. They may be returned by mail or they can be returned in person.

Dec. 2 the votes will be tabulated, and winners notified.

The community chairmen will convene in Roseburg Dec. 9, in a county convention, to elect a five-member county committee to govern ASC work for the following year. The committee elects a chairman.

This year J. F. Bonebrake, Melrose, has headed the group.

To be eligible to vote, a person must live on a farm and draw the major source of his income from farming. As Gheen pointed out this week, the voting is "wide open" to all farmers. Each term is for one year.

Each voter should pick five of the 10 candidates in his community. Any eligible voter not receiving a ballot may obtain one at the ASC office.

Candidates are listed by communities, as follows:

COMMUNITY CANDIDATES
 Community No. 1 - O. G. Clark, Don Dulany, Harley France, H. D. Hauck and R. C. Head, all of Azalea; George Z. Newman, Clyde Smith, Henry Tanner, Dan Clare and W. B. Garrett, all of Glendale.

Community No. 2 - J. L. Akins, Roscell Ball, George Dawson, Leonard Dawson, Frank Hamlin, E. S. Pruner, William Sharpe, Earl Smith, Vernon Smith and Virgil Smith and Virgil Thompson, all of Riddle.

Community No. 3 - Albert Brown, William Brown, O. J. Kilian and Lawrence Michaels, all of Canyonville; J. R. Griffin, Ray Wright and Durin Swingle, all of Days Creek; Clem Tavener and Pete Hlani, both of Myrtle Creek; Jim Myers, Milo.

Community No. 4 - Howard Bronson, Clinton Jones, Charles Jones, A. L. Matthews, Fred Neal, Deibert Trask, Clay Ulan, E. V. Weaver, Gilbert Weaver and O. E. Weeks, all of Myrtle Creek.

Community No. 5 - Ned Dixon, Frank Grubbe and Darley Ware, all of Rt. 2, Roseburg; A. H. Doerner and Jay Young, both of Rt. 2, Roseburg; George Marsh and Don Ollivan, both of Rt. 4, Roseburg; R. H. Granks, Idley Rd., Roseburg; Joe Brumback, Roseburg; and J. Harold Nichols, Brookway.

Community No. 6 - Neal Brown, Jack Hill, M. A. Jones, A. A. Shafer, John Standley, Dave Thurst and Ernest Wheeler, all of Camas Valley; Wayne Breitenbacher, Temmie, and C. J. Brady, Brookway.

Community No. 7 - Walter A. Davis, C. A. Goff, Alfred Hand, Dave Henry, John Roeder, F. A. Vasche and Guy Watts, all of Oakland; Ted Roadman and Gail Winiford, both of Rt. 2, Roseburg; and Bob Mode, Umpqua.

Community No. 8 - Warren J. Billek, Howard Carnes, Norman L. Compton, Walter Haines, Leslie Hancock and Don Mode, all of Elkton; Milo Bullock, Wilkam L. Edwards, Edion Fisher and Carl Madison, all of Oakland.

Community No. 9 - W. Lee Allen, Gordon Baker, and Gerald Johnson, all of Yoncalla; C. C. Luce, Delton Thiel and William B. Turner, all of Rt. 1, Yoncalla; R. L. Bridges, Ray R. Miller, and Chester A. Rydell, all of Drain; and J. T. Powell, Oakland.

Community No. 10 - Francis Albro and F. V. Weatherly, both of Elkton; Shirley Black, Nels Fredrickson, Ray Holiday, William Knuttilas, Virgil Leach, Bert L. Roberts, "True Shepherd" and Wayne Weist, all of Reedsport.



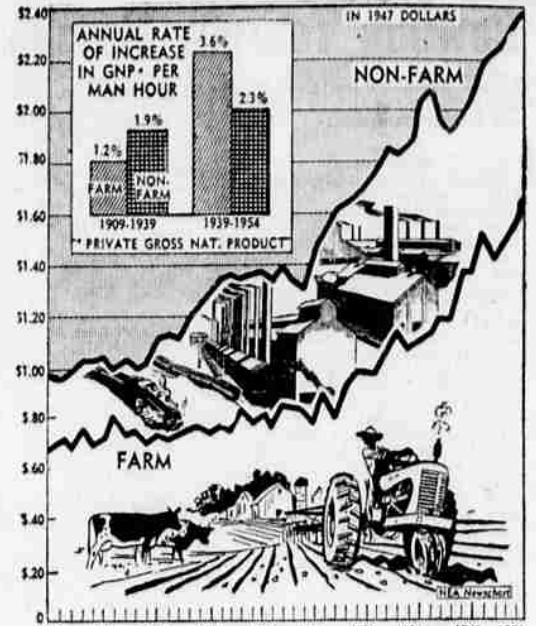
DANCING SPUDS—Odd-shaped potatoes seem to dance, to the amazement of Antonio M. Almeida, who grew them at Fairhaven, Mass. The spuds look a little like pudgy pigs, ducks, sea lions and what have you.



HE'S SUPER—Here's "Super," 1955 Grand Champion Steer of the Grand National Livestock Exposition at San Francisco's Cow Palace. Owner is Sue White, right, of Lubbock, Tex. Presenting her with a silver plaque are H. W. Gumbler, left, and Robert A. Lamoree, both of Stauffer Chemical Co. Sue also received \$500 from the American Hereford Association.



HE'S ALL EARS—Farmer Jerry Smith has big ears, and he's glad of it. They're ears of corn that he grew on his farm near Bucklin, Mo. His field averaged an outstanding 109 1/2 bushels per acre. Last year, his average 144 bushels an acre took first place in the Missouri Farmers' Association contest.



WE REALLY PRODUCE NOWADAYS—When a farmer and non-farm worker work for an hour today, they produce about three times as much as their counterparts did 45 years ago. The graph above, from National Industrial Conference Board data, shows steady growth of our gross national product in terms of dollar output per man-hour. For example, in 1909, an hour's work by a non-farm worker resulted in a product worth about 98 cents. In 1954, the same hour's work produced about \$2.38 worth of goods or services. From 1909 to 1954, factory and other non-farm workers increased their hourly output almost 150 per cent. During the same period farm output rose more than 140 per cent. Inset chart shows that in recent years, farm productivity has outpaced non-farm output per hour. Since 1929 the former has advanced at an annual rate of 3.6 per cent, while non-farm output per man-hour has risen only 2.3 per cent a year. In contrast, farm output rose at the rate of only 1.2 per cent from 1909 to 1939, while factory output per man advanced at the rate of 1.9 per cent a year.

FAO Approval Given Program On Atomic Energy

ROME (AP)—The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) gave preliminary approval Saturday to a new program for work on use of atomic energy in food production. The FAO's committee on program trends and policy questions gave unanimous approval to starting the program in 1956.

Approval of the full assembly is the next step. The new program, outlined earlier by Dr. P. V. Cardon, American director general of FAO, provides for expenditures of \$20,000 annually the next two years.

Part would pay the services of a biologist to head the program. His job would be to collect and distribute information on atomic applications to agriculture and to maintain liaison with other bodies, such as the U.N.'s proposed atomic energy agency.

Cardon said FAO should study such things as effects on marine life of radioactive wastes dumped at sea, effects on livestock and growing and processing.

Soil Scientist Comes To County

John R. Williamson, soil scientist, has arrived in Sutherlin to take over his duties with the Soil Conservation Service, reports the Sutherlin Sun.

Williamson has been with the service for 10 years. He holds a bachelor of science degree in agronomy. His work here will be classification and survey of soil types in the area.

He is presently living in Winston, but will move to Sutherlin when he can find a house.

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