

Roosevelt Family Turns to Farming

Elliott and Eleanor Begin Back-to-Land Movement

By BAUKHAGE
News Analyst and Commentator.

WASHINGTON.—Moses Smith, I understand, has retired. He is leaving the 140 acres he has been farming for 27 years. His landlord's widow and her son are going to work it from now on.

The last time I saw Moses Smith he was dressed in his Sunday clothes. We were both up in his former landlord's bedroom, with some of the neighbors. It was a sad occasion. It was the boss' birthday anniversary but he had been dead nearly two years. The room looked the same to Moses and his friends who had seen it often when they came up there to talk over farm and other business. The former occupant's dressing gown was lying on the bed, his slippers were by the couch. The boss was one of the landlords that tenants like. Moses told me that, five years before, when I visited him at his white-painted farm house.

"I've rented from him for 22 years (that was 1941)," he told me then, "and he has yet to find a fault. Whenever he comes over here to say 'hello' and 'goodbye' but he doesn't find fault. And I've made mistakes, too. Nobody is perfect."



Baukhage

The landlord had a pretty good opinion of the tenant, too, as I learned later. Smith knew that and was pleased, out it didn't go to his head. He is a typical, independent, self-respecting up-state New York farmer. I remember he said to me that day, sitting on the front stoop, in 1941:—

"The President drove over here a little while back, with Princess Juliana. He told her about this house being over 100 years old and I told him about the well-water. It had gone bad. So he said go ahead and dig a new well." Smith and I walked over to the new well. It was 100 feet deep. "It will last 100 years," said Smith with the pride you find up that way in good things that last.

By this time you have guessed that Smith was a tenant on the Roosevelt estate at Hyde Park, N. Y. I take it he is a comfortably retired farmer now, living in the nearby village of the same name. And Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and her son, Elliott, have taken over. I don't know who will live in the farm house. The old Roosevelt homestead is a museum now—but the Roosevelts have other dwellings.

They are going in for commercial farming, Mrs. R. said. Elliott hadn't been interviewed since the senate war investigating committee started looking into the Hughes airplane, and ended looking the other way and blushing. The testimony had a lot to do with the night club—cocktail-lounge side of young Roosevelt's activities but nobody could find a hole in his war record. Even his many critics admit that.

Elliott's friends are heaving sighs

Tragedy in the Forests

It was a coincidence that while I was reminiscing on the subject of the Roosevelts' new adventure in tree-growing, my neighbor in the building across the street presented me with a couple of typewritten pages containing some striking facts about tree destruction. They are apropos, I think, now, as we move toward the close (we hope) of the worst season of forest fires in a decade.

This period of holocausts began before the ink was dry on bills passed by congress making deep slashes in the interior department's appropriations for fire control. Many of the cuts later were restored, but not in time to save thousands of acres of timber in some areas of America, notably Alaska.

"The sawtimber burned in a single year in this country," says my friend's memorandum, "would be sufficient, if converted to building materials, to replace every private house in the cities of New Orleans or Minneapolis.

"If the wood below sawtimber dimensions could be manufactured for paper, it would provide a 25-year subscription to a monthly pocket-size magazine for every man, woman and child in our 142 million population.

"If it could be converted to rayon pulp, it would provide material for more than a hundred new dresses for every woman and girl in America.

"In terms of dollars, our annual forest fire loss amounts to 35 million dollars in payrolls lost to woodworkers and three-quarters of a billion dollars worth of wood products.

"The tragic part of all this is that 9 out of 10 forest fires could be prevented. Nine out of 10 are traceable to human causes—to incendiaries, causing more than 25 per cent of all fires; to smokers, careless debris-burners, railroads, campers and woodworkers who are responsible in the order named."

Well, those are the sentiments of my neighbor, who is trying to establish a "balanced cooperation" among the men who make their

of relief to hear that he is going in for something constructive. War takes a lot of courage and skill, too, but it isn't very constructive. Neither is night life.

"This is a challenge," Mrs. Roosevelt explained in her column, "which Elliott and I will enjoy." Every farmer knows she's right about the "challenge."

They aren't going to try to raise wheat, corn, potatoes, or attempt to keep 14 cows, as Smith was doing when I visited him. They are going to continue raising Christmas trees, a venture which the late President started and seriously pursued for several years. Smith's 140 acres, which were devoted to general farming, are only a fraction of the more than 1,000 acres, much of which is wooded, and part of which has been devoted to a scientifically cultivated evergreen crop, which make up the estate.

Mrs. Roosevelt explained that she and her son couldn't afford to keep the estate as a country place, as her mother-in-law had.

I noticed that the New York Herald-Tribune made editorial note of Mrs. Roosevelt's plans and mentioned that a lot of acres along the Hudson "were untilled."

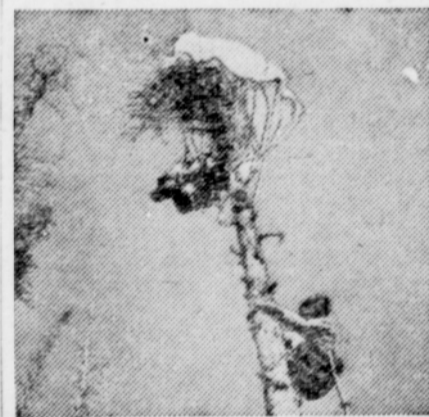
It mentioned that Dr. Samuel Bard, a wealthy retired physician, had a place not far from the Roosevelt estate where he carried on valuable experiments which made an important contribution to agriculture. Mrs. Roosevelt hopes to conduct similar experiments.

"If Mrs. Roosevelt," says the Herald-Tribune, "does no more than fasten remembrance on the fact that land endures . . . that stability of farming is that of a renewable world in which seedtime and harvest are still more lasting than dynasties and dictators . . . the new farming partnership will have done much of value before the first furrows are turned."

I wonder if you feel the way I do. I think, regardless of the color of one's political sentiments, anybody who loves the soil can offer his well wishes to this venture with the hope that the young man will do as well with his hands in the earth as he did with his plane in the air.

money out of trees, one way or another, the people and the birds and the bugs who need to have trees, and the government and others who try to protect and preserve them.

One non-cooperating match tosser can undo a lot of his work.



(U. S. Forest Service photo)

Parachute jumpers are one of the most important factors in getting forest fires under control swiftly. Here, Dick Tuttle, near top of 100-foot lodgepole pine snag, is about to be assisted by Francis Luskin, forest guard.

FIRST VICTIM

Deflation a Threat to Farmer

Producers of farm commodities, although strongly entrenched in the present economy and apparently destined to remain so, at least for the immediate future, may be the first group to feel the full impact of any reversal of the current inflationary trend.

That warning was issued by federal reserve board researchers in a midyear study of the position of agriculture, indicating that, even in flush times, the well-being of farmers is in a state of delicate balance.

If the present boom were to develop into a tailspin, price falls in the agricultural commodity field probably would be greater than in other areas of the economy, the report points out. Record returns to



LESSON IN WARFARE . . . Army cadets and navy midshipmen observed combat battalion of marines stage mock beach landing operation as part of operation Camid II. After its completion, the observers inspected the phases and talked with the marines, some of whom were still in foxholes.

NEWS REVIEW

Joint Defense Pact Set; Fear Large Corn Loss

POLE-TO-POLE: Mutual Defense

James Monroe, fifth President of the United States, had his say, in spirit, at least, at the inter-American defense conference at Petropolis, Brazil, in August, 1947.

When the conference agreed on a mutual aid treaty for North and South America and their territorial waters, and set up a vast, North Pole-South Pole hemispheric security zone, the celebrated Monroe doctrine was developed to its logical conclusion 124 years after its inception.

This was the burden of the Monroe doctrine in 1823: "It is only when our rights are invaded or seriously menaced that we resent injuries or make preparations for our defense . . . in this hemisphere . . ."

Today, the Americas are making preparations for hemispheric defense in advance of any menace or invasion of their rights. The mutual defense treaty embodies three main points:

1. In the case of armed attack from outside the hemisphere, all nations have the automatic right to meet the attack with military measures.
2. If military attack occurs inside the hemisphere, American nations may go voluntarily to the aid of the victim, with consultations to follow.
3. If attacks occur both inside the hemisphere and outside the security region, immediate consultations will be called.

Thus, despite the opposition of some Latin American nations to the U. S.-espoused "Monroe doctrine," it appeared certain that the "hands off the Americas" policy was in for a big revival in the atomic age.

TORRID ZONE: Corn Declines

Thermometer-happy Americans, struggling feebly in the moist clutches of a record heat wave, could take cold comfort from the fact that temperatures were being exceeded in height only by the price of corn.

With abnormally hot weather prevailing over most of the nation, grains continued to deteriorate from lack of moisture and prices of both corn and oats hit new record highs. September corn was selling at \$2.45 a bushel and September oats zoomed to \$1.08 1/4.

The grain market prices went through the roof following a department of agriculture report that the country's heat-seared corn crop would produce only 2,437,000,000 bushels, a 223 million bushel drop from the August 1 estimate.

Although agriculture department officials had hoped earlier this year for a 3 billion bushel corn crop to keep food production high, weeks of hot, dry winds shriveled that hope, and the corn crops of Iowa and Illinois, major producing sections, continued to decline steadily.

HEADLINERS



IN WASHINGTON . . . John Sampson Kirby, 69, (above) of Tennessee was placed under observation after police had nabbed him packing a pistol in the capitol building and de-claiming loudly that he had "just been elected president of the United States."

IN NEW YORK . . . Virginia Walton Brooks, 14, just returned from an African hunting trip with her parents, proudly revealed that she had shot not only an elephant and a lion but also such esoteric creatures as a kongoni, two gerenuks, an oryx, a bat-eared fox, an impala, two dik-diks and a klipspringer.

IN CHICAGO . . . Mrs. Anna Metzger, 47, had had a pain in her leg for 40 years, finally became curious, pressed the irritated area and pulled out a two-inch sewing needle.

SAY UNCLE: Ford Gives Up

Abandoning his laudable, if non-conforming, efforts to stabilize automobile prices, Henry Ford II announced that prices on "most models" of Ford passenger cars and all truck models would be boosted from \$20 to \$97, effective immediately.

It was an average increase of 4.2 per cent, the announcement said, the rise being dictated by "the simple necessity of keeping Ford Motor company on a sound economic basis."

The action, following price increases by virtually every other automotive manufacturer, marked the defeat of Ford's lonely stand against the forces of inflation.

All this gave rise to a disturbing question: If the Ford dynasty is unable to hold the line against inflation, what, if anything, can?

THE SWIFT: Oysters Lose

Oysters simply aren't fast enough to get away from predatory snails whose pace has been clocked officially at .000363005 miles an hour.

Plodding along on a treadmill at the University of Maryland fish and wildlife laboratory, a test snail covered 22 feet and 1/2 inch in 11 hours and 30 minutes—a pace swift enough, at least, to overtake an oyster.

Purpose of the laboratory's snail-timing experiments is to slow the little creatures up even more. As things stand now, they're doing too much damage to Chesapeake Bay's oyster crop.



THESE have been hard days for the British. Not only on the economic side, but also in sport.

Only recently they saw Babe Didrickson Zaharias, the Wonder Woman, remove their women's golf crown for the first time, but also had to watch an American, Willie Turnesa, take over the British Amateur championship, while an Irishman lugged home their Open Cup in golf.

Bobby Locke, a lone wanderer from the velvets of South Africa, has been the Empire's lone winner.

They have seen their boxers and tennis players, their scullers and others left behind. The latest is defeat of their Wightman Cup tennis squad by a stronger American group of girls.

Six years of war, under constant fire, plus the stringent food situation later have been partly responsible for the British debacle. The decline, however, began many years ago, in the wake of the Doherty Brothers, many fine polo players, Vardon, Taylor, Braid and Joyce Wethered, plus a number of Olympic stars.

More than one or two generations will pass before Great Britain will regain any part of her old glory, and even then, her domain will be outnumbered by the United States at least three to one.

At the moment, however, it seems that Great Britain has a much more important job ahead than winning games.

Olympic Discussions

There are now two so-called schools of thought about holding the next set of Olympic games in London. No one can say whether these games help or hurt international relations. Many believe they do. Just as many are certain they don't. They should help, of course, if the incredible human race had even a fair amount of sanity.

There is already a definite split over the translation of "amateurism," of which there is no large amount in any game today.

There are debates about food discrepancies. There is certainly no deep and abiding affection for the United States, and its constant victorious Olympic marches.

The Olympics at London, in 1908, almost brought on a break between England and the U. S., in an incident over the Johnny Hayes—Dorando Pietri marathon, where Pietri, exhausted and out, was dragged over the line ahead of Hayes. Eventually Hayes was declared the winner. There have been many other incidents that were not too happily wrought.

We believe the games should be resumed for several reasons. One is that England, the probable goat, one of the least likely to succeed, wants them.

Another is that after the 1940 lapse, thousands of young athletes in this country, as well as in other countries, are now in hard training to make the team, and are keen to have their chance. They deserve this chance.

Sweden's Track Stars

In addition to the U. S., there is little Sweden, with the best distance runners in the world, who deserves the chance to show what her stars can do against all-world competition. Can you imagine what Sweden's mile, and longer-distance runners would have done in 1940 to the rest of the world?

I don't believe any set of Olympic games can lower the present international standard of fellowship and friendliness, of which there is practically none left.

Insofar as track and field goes, the U. S. has always been given a big edge in other years, and has yet to fail. So there will be nothing new along this line.

So far as food is concerned, I have seen more than a few of our star athletes lose because they were overfed. In 1924, Paavo Nurmi, Finland's distance star, gave me a few chunks of his main training food, which consisted of hard bread studded with fish. It was stronger or tougher than my teeth, so I can't report on its personal effectiveness. All I know is that Nurmi had twice the stamina of any U. S. distance runner. The Swedes will probably have the same.

We excel in events that call for quickness and agility, such as the shorter dashes, the jumps, the pole vault, etc. But when it comes to stamina, we have rarely shown the fiber needed to go the longer routes.

In racing parlance, we belong to the sprint division, not to the Derby and longer tests. We have few athletes who have the patience needed to get ready for a 3,000, 5,000 or 10,000-meter drive.

Checking up both sides of the argument, I believe the 1948 Olympic games should be held, even if the margin in their favor is slight. The wishes of thousands of young competitors are more important than the sedate philosophies of older men.

Some Helpful Ideas in Planning That Wedding



Beautiful Weddings Depend on Planning

"WHAT a beautiful wedding!" The perfect ending to a perfect day—hearing the flattering comments of your guests as you and the groom walk up the aisle.

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To brighten tarnished gold pieces, rub them lightly with a tooth brush dipped in ammonia and baking soda.

Stews and soups are much more tasty if you use leaves of cauliflower, cabbage, and similar greens as flavoring.

When peeling onions, breathe through the mouth and your eyes should not water.

Rinse white organdy in a solution of salt water. This will add to its stiffness.

To keep flowers for table decoration over a fairly long period dip the stems into hot water before placing them in a bowl containing cold water. The stems expand with the heat and take up more moisture.

Many foods may be reheated and served again without change in flavor if heated in a double boiler and steamed through, instead of bringing it in contact with direct heat.

You can give variety to waffles by adding two cups of finely chopped apples to each two cups of flour used in a standard waffle recipe.

Sew lingerie guards in sheer blouses to assure even straps. A narrow tape stitched at the shoulder seams will do the job perfectly. Leave the end closest the neck unstitched. Use snap to attach.

Jars which do not take standard lids or perhaps have minor flaws can be marked with a small piece of adhesive tape. Or tie a string around the shoulder of the jar. These marks will save you when selecting jars for canning.

Dried beans are best when cooked in soft water, for hard water toughens the skins.



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