

Soil Bank Must Be Voluntary, Secretary Benson Says in Reading

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to the Republican Party's agricultural program. President Eisenhower, called for "full income parity" with no new remedies. Both the President and his Secretary pointed to the fact the long decline in farm prices has been checked Secretary Benson noted a six per cent improvement in farm prices over last year, and further improvements are likely.

Farm income and farm prices have declined every year except two since 1947. They were not down during the height of the Korean War and during 1956, Mr. Benson told the news conference and banquet. Since December they have advanced seven per cent. He cited war as the cause of higher prices during Democratic administrations, but added "We can have peace and prosperity at the same time."

The Secretary said his mind was still open on proposed legislation for mandatory poultry inspection. "I've made no decision, I have not expressed my view officially. Even the poultry men are not fully united on the proposal," he told.

Programs of the past have been unfair to the farmer "Under rigid supports we have held prices stable at the taxpayer's expense," he told. Orderly marketing, at a level where production can move into consumption — is the best program, he told, for "a storehouse is not a market."

The Soil Bank is flexible. The real test will come in 1957. This year it came so late some crops were already planted. It will help the poultry and dairy men in Pennsylvania, Mr. Benson told, "for it will give buoyancy and strengthening of farm prices. . . I don't believe the Government should say what the farmer should do or not do."

Attention was focused on the Suez situation, which the Secretary explained will have an influence on U. S. exports. "Egypt competes with us in some crops, as under our very unwise cotton policy Egypt expanded her acreage and we lost our market, from 66 per cent to 20 per cent."

Never has there been so much emphasis on reducing costs in producing and marketing farm crops. Housewives buy more than food — they buy "built-in maid service" in dressed poultry, prepared foodstuffs, but "there are inefficiencies in distribution of farm commodities."

The Administration finds encouragement on the Corn Belt, a hot spot politically — "I just came back from five states and find people very encouraged. There's generally a good spirit, prices are not as high as we would like, but the midwesterners are encouraged, hopeful," he told.

Speaking of potatoes, which recently experienced a drop from \$1 cwt from \$7 to \$9, Mr. Benson said "potatoes are perishable, they come in and out quickly affected by weather. We feel the diversion program is best, plus research. We've announced a program that provides an immediate 50-cent cwt subsidy plus whatever they'll sell for. We're moving more lower quality potatoes into other lines such as starches."

There are no plans for reducing the Agricultural Conservation Program, the Secretary told, and states have wide flexibility in how they may use ACP funds.

"It's unsound, unworkable to put firm supports under perishable products, we favor institutional feeding, not buying for storage," he told.

Last year farm income would have totaled \$2 billion more or 20 per cent higher were it not for the \$8 billion in government storage. We moved \$2.7 billion from storage last year. There are three channels, to move these surpluses into domestic markets, to export, to destroy — which is unthinkable, but each will disrupt markets "You can't legislate out of existence the basic law of supply and demand," Mr. Benson asserted.

He favors "100 per cent in the market place" for farm output unless you want a completely socialized agriculture, you can't do it by price-fixing. "Eighty-eight per cent of the decline in farm prices came under Government supports, two-thirds before this administration moved into Washington. Never has there been a successful attempt made to fix prices without socializing industry," he added.

Answering Mr. Stevenson, the Secretary said "We see drought relief not as a political expedient, there is no drought relief in 37 states, in one of every six counties in the United States."

As a footnote to his address in the packed ballroom of the Abraham Lincoln Hotel, Mr. Benson told the Pennsylvania Millers and Feed Dealers

"Let me add one word; my call as Secretary of Agriculture came as a great shock to me. I couldn't imagine anyone in his right sense wanting to take the office. But you can't refuse to serve your Government. I am the father of six, one who loves this country. I'm concerned about the future we will leave our children. I'm grateful for what I've found in the past four years."

"We have in our Chief Executive today a man of real character, where there isn't any character, there isn't much at all. Regardless of the party in power, I hope we have a man in the White House of the caliber of our present Chief Executive."

Champion Solanco Hereford



Jack Heidelbaugh, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roland Heidelbaugh, R1 Quarryville, topped the Hereford division of the 4H Baby Beef Show at Quarryville. Here he is with his-winner (Lancaster Farming Staff Photo).

Stumpf Holstein Leads Red Rose DHIA in August

The highest 305 day lactation in August was completed by a Registered Holstein owned by John G. Stumpf, R7 Lancaster. This "SH 30" daughter was milked three times daily and produced 21,948 lbs of milk and 865.3 lbs of butterfat. The second high lactation was completed by a Registered Holstein owned by Harry H. Ranck, R1 Ronks. This "SH-10" daughter produced 19,140 lbs of milk and 751.5 lbs of butterfat.

The herd having the highest monthly butterfat average was the Guernsey herd of Raymond F. Witmer, R1 Willow Street. This herd averaged 995 lbs of milk and 47.8 lbs of butterfat. Second high was the Holstein herd of Jacob F. Beiler, R1 Gap with an average 1343 lbs of milk and 47.5 lbs of butterfat.

Women's Page

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One teaspoon cinnamon
One-fourth teaspoon cloves
Dash of salt.
Put in no liquid, because your sugar and tomatoes make juice
FRIED TOMATOES
Mrs. Jason S. Lowry,
R2 New Holland

Halve or quarter red tomato, depending on size
Roll in flour
Salt
Fry in skillet with one cup milk
Two or three tablespoons sugar if desired

Put shortening in pan, roll tomato in flour. Fry on one side, then turn, but do not brown them. Salt. Pour on milk, stirring till it boils. We like sugar in ours. That is up to the maker if they like it sweet. Don't skin the tomato. We like it on bread.

That's about it for now — keep your cards and letters coming. We appreciate them much. Come Friday a week, we'll see you again.

We must move forward to a fine, expanding, prosperous agriculture — and with God's help, it will be done!" he concluded.

LIVE POULTRY

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 26 — (USDA) — Weak Demand light and very critical on size and quality. Supplies of all classes were in excess of needs. Sales were forced in a buyers market. Large pullets did not clear. Rocks 25-28 cents, White Rocks 30-31 cents. Large White Rock caponettes 25-26 cents, few lots 28 cents. Vantress whites 26 cents, ordinary quality reds 19 cents, stags 10 cents. Fryers in slow sale. White Rocks 20-22 cents, straight red cockerels 22 cents. Vantress reds 23-24 1-2 cents. crosses offered at or near country cost were unsold. Turkeys unsettled. Demand light.

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<p>Elmer Brill Elizabethtown 7-5441</p> <p>Frank H. Bucher Lutz 6-9124</p> <p>C. B. Erb Landisville 2531</p> <p>Lester Erb Landisville 3216</p> <p>Martin H. Kraybill Elizabethtown 7-2696</p>	<p>Jason H. Mellinger Strasburg OV 7-2383</p> <p>E. C. Seldomridge Quarryville 64-R-3</p> <p>Jonathan S. Shirk Intercourse 8-3111</p> <p>Levi M. Stoltzfus Morgantown 6-4359</p> <p>Edgar C. Umble Gap HI 2-4525</p>
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