

Freeman Reports '67 Is Milestone Year

"When 1967 is reviewed in the context of agricultural history a decade or so from now, it may well be regarded as the year in which the Department of Agriculture entered fully upon a new era." Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman says in his Annual Report for 1967, entitled Agriculture/2000.

Releasing the report this week Freeman said, "American agriculture is far better equipped to play its full role in the national economy than it was seven years ago."

Without in any way lessening our concern for and activities to benefit all Americans today, Secretary Freeman said of the report, "we are able to look more thoughtfully toward the future, toward what we call Agriculture/2000."

The report details some of the progress made both in 1967 and during the sixties toward the six major missions or goals of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

THE FIRST GOAL: INCOME AND ABUNDANCE— "Realized net farm income was about \$14.5 billion in 1967," the report states. Except for the 1966 figure of \$16.4 billion the 1967 return was the highest since 1951. Net income realized per farm in 1967 was \$4,576. This was 55 percent, or about \$1,600 more than in 1960, but well below the all-time high of \$5,049 in 1966.

The new farm programs provided by the Emergency Feed Grain Act of 1961 and the Food and Agriculture Acts of 1961 through 1965, not only resulted in improved farm income, "they also reversed the rising trend of the surpluses," the report states.

"The wheat carryover which had climbed to 1.4 billion bushels in 1961 was down to 426 million bushels on July 1, 1967.

"The feed grain carryover which had soared to 85 million tons was only 37 million tons on October 1, 1967."

"The inventory of commodities owned by the Commodity Credit Corporation has dropped from over 6 billion to less than 1 billion, the lowest since 1952."

THE SECOND GOAL: GROWING NATIONS-NEW MARKETS— Total agricultural exports reached an all-time high of \$6.8 billion in fiscal 1967. Sales for dollars totaled \$5.2 billion, up 62 percent from 1960. For the calendar year, exports totaled \$6.4 billion, the second highest on record and about one-third more than in 1960.

"Nations that depended chiefly on food assistance are now able to turn increasingly to trade to meet their needs," the report points out.

During 1967 some 20 developing nations received food aid under specific "self-help" agreements.

"Starting from a decidedly bleak outlook in 1966, the world food situation was much improved by the end of 1967," according to the Secretary's report. "It was not only a year of record agricultural production for the world, but most significantly a banner year for the less developed countries."

"The world food problem is far from solved. But the edge of the impending crisis has been blunted at least temporarily."

THE THIRD GOAL: COMMUNITIES OF TOMORROW— "We are seeking to restore rural-urban balance in America through increased opportunity in rural communities, and a good start has been made," Secretary Freeman says.

He cites the following achievements during 1967:

*More than \$560 million in farm ownership and farm operating loans was advanced through Farmers Home Administration—plus \$442 million in loans for building or improving 49,000 rural dwellings—plus almost \$200 million to build or develop modern water and sewer systems in 1,100 rural communities.

*Rural Electrification Administration borrowers helped set up 616 projects to establish new small industries, new commodity facilities, and new tourist attractions, thus creating an estimated 34,000 jobs.

*Economic development projects established with Extension Service helped provide an estimated 52,000 new jobs.

*The Forest Service operated 47 Civilian Conservation Centers with an enrollment of 8,400.

*The Soil Conservation Service provided jobs for 1,700 youths in its special programs and regular field operations.

Although a good beginning has

been made toward the great goal of restoring rural-urban balance, the Secretary urges "faster progress toward the desperately needed revitalization of rural America..."

"The need for a national plan is obvious. Action on a truly national scale is imperative."

THE FOURTH GOAL: RESOURCES IN ACTION— Department conservation programs, the report says, "are giving extra emphasis to the multi-county development of all natural resources. They are offering far more services to low income and small farmers and to rural communities. Outdoor recreation, natural beauty, and wildlife are receiving great attention in agriculture, forestry, and watershed programs."

During fiscal 1967, the Soil Conservation Service helped 1,170,000 land owners and operators plan and apply conservation work. The Agricultural Conservation Program assisted more than a million farmers and ranchers with cost-sharing aid.

Under the direction of the Forest Service, 10.8 billion board feet of timber was harvested from the National Forests, over 1 billion small trees were planted on public and privately-owned lands, and 150 million vis-

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Young Company At Kinzer Changes Hands

Announcement was made this week of the change of ownership and management of the A. S. Young Co. at Kinzer. James Zegar, President of the new Association, said the business will operate under the registered name of Kinzer Equipment Co.

Zegar, General manager, graduated from Penn State in 1961 in Ag Education and taught Voc Ag at Green Castle, Pa. He is a Captain in the reserves after serving in the U.S. Army, and is a member of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church.

He has worked since 1965 as the J. I. Case Co. District Manager and now lives with his wife and 2 children at Leola.

Robert Coates, Vice President and in charge of sales and service, had been with the Young Co. for a year as salesman. He formerly operated a lumber and sawmill business out of Downingtown. He served on the Twp. Planning Commission at his for-

mer home and now lives with his wife and 4 children at Paradise. He is a member of the Leacock Presbyterian Church at Paradise.

Herman Brackbill is the Secretary-Treasurer and in charge of parts and inside sales. Brackbill has been with the Young Company for 28 years. He has three grown children and resides in Paradise. A member of the Leacock Presbyterian Church, Paradise, Herman is an elder and a member of the choir.

Zegar said the business will continue to offer the same Case and New Idea lines of farm and contractor lines of machinery.

Effective date for the transfer was June 1.

Purina Poultry Meet Held In Reading, Tues.

The Ralston Purina Company held one of four Poultry Information meetings Tuesday, at Reeser's Restaurant in Reading. Four speakers discussed nutrition, disease, and sanitation.

About 75 persons attended.

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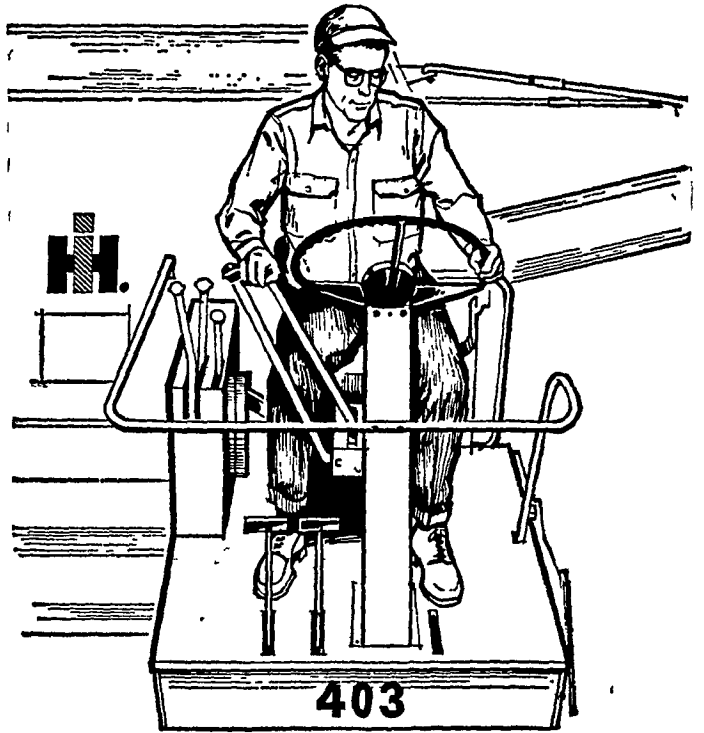
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