

Long Range Program To Increase Income Proposed

A new long range farm program designed to strengthen markets and increase net farm income was proposed here today by the 27-member board of directors of the American Farm Bureau Federation meeting in regular quarterly session.

The plan — authorized by elected voting delegates of the member state Farm Bureaus to the 1968 annual meeting of the Federation in Kansas City Mo., last December — would phase out present feed grain, wheat and cotton control and subsidy programs.

The Farm Bureau, largest general farm organization in the nation with more than 1,796,000 member families in 49 states and Puerto Rico, will press for action on its program in Congress this year.

The new program would take effect Jan. 1, 1971, as an amendment to the current farm program, the Food and Agriculture Act of 1965, which is scheduled to expire Dec. 31, 1970.

Essentially the Farm Bureau program provides for a 5-year transitional period during which acreage controls, base acreages, marketing quotas, processing taxes and direct payments for wheat, feed grains, and cotton be phased out.

Farm Bureau believes that its program will ease the transition to a market price system and will mean higher net incomes for farmers.

The above program would be open to all farmers producing these commodities but a special program would be open to any farmer whose average gross annual sales of farm products were no more than \$5,000 and whose off-farm income was no more than \$2,000 per year. Such farmers who number some 574,000 according to the 1964 Census, would be eligible to receive one or more of the following:

- 1 Compensation for acreage allotments and base acreages surrendered to the Secretary of Agriculture for permanent cancellation. This would apply to all commodities having acreage allotments or base acreages. Such compensation would be in addition to land retirement payments under the cropland adjustment program and would also be available to eligible farmers who wish to surrender their acreage allotments or base acreages without participating in the cropland adjustment program.

- 2 Retraining grants of not to exceed \$1,000.

- 3 Adjustment assistance of not to exceed \$2,500 a year for two years.

- 4 Loans under existing credit programs to further facilitate the transition of eligible farmers to more gainful employment.

As part of Farm Bureau's program, the present cropland adjustment program would be stepped up immediately through necessary funds to finance land retirement contracts in 1969 and 1970. In addition, the Secretary of Agriculture would be directed to retire at least 10 million acres from production per year in 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974 and 1975.

The cropland adjustment program would be operated on a competitive bid basis with emphasis on the retirement of whole farms.

Price supports on wheat, feed grains, cotton and soybeans would be set at no more than 85 percent of the previous three-year-average market price be-

ginning with the 1971 crop year.

Sales of Commodity Credit Corporation stocks would not be permitted at less than 150 percent of the loan rate plus carrying charges, except when sales are offset by equivalent purchases in the open market.

The phase out of price support and diversion payments for wheat, feed grains, and cotton calls for limiting total payments to 80 percent of the amount

spent on 1969 crops in 1971, 60 percent in 1972, 40 percent in 1973 and 20 percent in 1974 with no limitations on payments to individuals.

The cost of wheat certificates to processors would be reduced to 80 percent of the 1969 level in 1971, 60 percent in 1972, 40 percent in 1973, and 20 percent in 1974.

Farm Bureau officials estimated that the cost of the program would be from \$3 to \$3.5 billion in the first year of operation, but would drop to \$1.2 to \$1.4 billion by the end of the five-year period. This compares with the \$3.4 billion annual cost of the current program which has failed to bolster sagging prices, and is piling up new

surpluses in government storage.

Farm Bureau's insistence on legislative action on future farm programs in 1969 is based on action by the voting delegates to the 1968 annual meeting of the Federation who warned that "further delay in coming to a decision on his issue would only make the problem of adjustment more difficult for farmers."

Well Planned Sack Lunches

Brown bag lunches can be colorful, tasty, and nutritious, reminds Mrs. Ruth J. Buck Penn State extension foods and nutrition specialist. Sandwiches with a meat or poultry filling, finger fruits or vegetables, and milk provide the food needed

Stretch Fabrics

Stretch fabrics are popular choices for home sewing. These fabrics are made of textured yarns, which extend when pulled and snap back to their original shape when released, explains Mrs. Mae B. Barton, Penn State extension clothing specialist. Stretch may be in width, length, or in both. Some patterns are designed especially for stretch fabrics.

A girdle could be defined as the difference between fact and fiction.

for an afternoon of top job performance. Brown baggers say such lunches are convenient and time saving.

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G. A. Biggs—OWNERS—M. C. Morton

Sale by D. G. Canning
(president, Canning Land Co., Inc.)

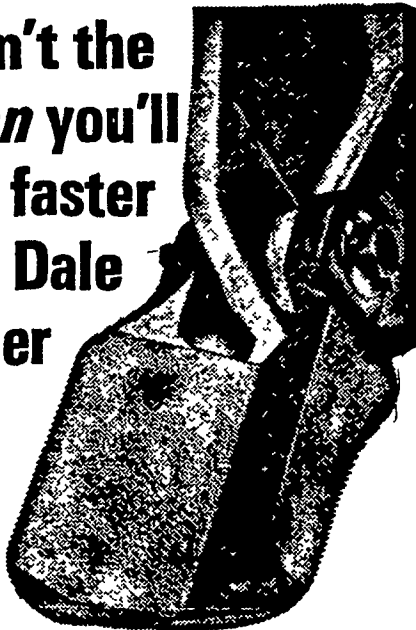
For complete sale bill and descriptive plat, contact office of D. G. Canning — Box 1236, Staunton, Va. 24401 (dial 703/337-1311) or G. A. Biggs, McConnellsburg, Pa., phone 717/485-3418.

Lunch available on Grounds

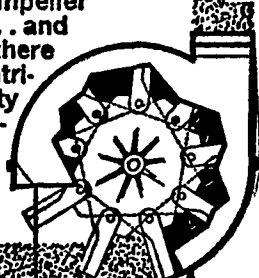
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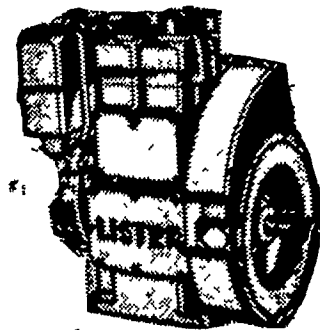
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