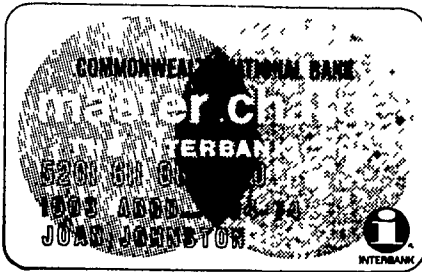


Take me away this weekend!



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agoutlook

(Digested from outlook reports of the USDA's Economic Research Service. Forecasts based on information available through June 1, 1972.)

RED MEAT REVIEW . . .
Output of red meat this spring and summer will run close to a year earlier. Larger beef production should be offset by sharply reduced pork output and smaller supplies of veal and lamb. Fed cattle prices may weaken in coming months but

farmers can look for hog prices to climb seasonally to a summer high substantially above last summer's \$20-level.

FED CATTLE MARKETINGS . . .
Cattle feeders planned a 6-percent boost in marketings this spring and shipments in the summer are likely to rise even higher and stay moderately above 1971. There were 11 percent more cattle on feed last April 1 in weight groups that usually supply the bulk of the fed

cattle marketings in July—September.

FED CATTLE PRICES this summer may well drift lower than the late-April level of \$35 per 100 pounds for choice steers at Omaha. The extent of the decline will rest partly on cattle market weights which tend to gain as prices slide.

HOG SLAUGHTER during the rest of 1972 probably will be moderately under a year earlier. On March 1 there were 6 percent fewer market hogs on Corn Belt farms . . . these are the hogs that will be going to slaughter in late spring and summer. And farmers said they were cutting March-May farrowings by 7 percent, which would reduce supplies in the fall.

A LONGER LOOK AHEAD . . .
Higher average hog prices in 1972, coupled with lower corn prices than in 1971, may tempt producers to up output. But don't look for much expansion before early 1973 because Corn Belt producers plan a 7-percent reduction in the number of sows farrowing during June-August.

DAIRY DETAILS . . .
Increased farm marketings and a small price rise should lift farmers' dairy cash receipts in 1972 to some \$7 billion, up from \$6.8 billion last year.

MILK SALES . . .
Favorable milk-feed price relationships are encouraging liberal feeding of cows, helping boost output per animal. Farmers are likely to market upward of 1 percent more milk this year, following similar small gains in the past 2 years.

WOOL GATHERING . . .
Significant improvement in prices has highlighted the U.S. and overseas wool markets in the last few months, marking a recovery from unusually low 1971 levels. Wool output is dropping at home and the world clip is down, too—while overall demand has been gaining. Still today's U.S. prices of raw wool are low relative to the last three decades.

WOOL PRICE RISE . . .
Domestic prices in 1972 should average well above 1971's unusually low level of 19.4 cents—with much of the gain coming from better prices for wools grading 60's and finer. Also, the traditional price differences between fine and medium domestic wools are being restored—after having essentially vanished when the bottom fell out of the U.S. market in 1971.

BROILER BOOM . . .
Lower feed prices and better broiler earnings in early 1972 encouraged producers to up chick placements sharply. In 22 important States placements during February-March were more than 8 percent over the same 1971 weeks. The margin is narrowing, though, and broiler supplies in the late spring may only be around 5 percent over a year earlier.

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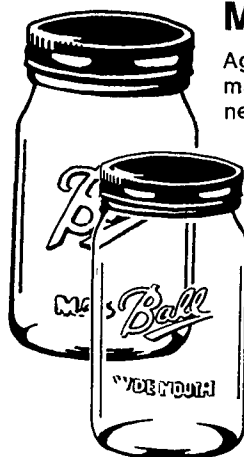
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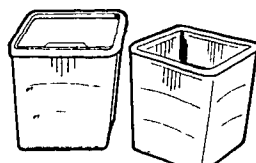
Wide Mouth Quarts . . **\$2.39 Doz.**

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