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American agriculture News

Communication Link of Rural America

Volume 4, Issue 40

November 17, 1981

8 Pages

Iredell, Texas 76649

Price 50¢

Marvin Meek speaks to AAM

During the last few weeks, I have read the "Mailbag" portion of the *American Ag News*, and, as usual, I spotted a few good ideas from the farmers. Also, I noticed that the government has been accurate to assume that the farmers can be manipulated into thinking they are an insignificant part of our society. When I say they "ass-u-me", I want to tell you what assume really means. They have made an ASS out of U and ME.

I regret that many of you are not able to see the political strength and influence that the farmers really have in Washington and in several agriculture states. It's true that we haven't been able to turn it into something meaningful in the way of price, because we haven't had anything to hold over their heads, like *money*. When you consider what we have accomplished without any P.A.C. money, it is more than any other single group in Washington. Also, we have been combating other so-called farm organizations and commodity groups.

In the last two weeks, there have been two letters crying what the legislators and bureaucrats want us to be crying, and that is: "Oh, we're only 3% of the population and we can't change anything that the other 97% don't want us to change." Excuse the French, but bull _____! You farmers had better get your heads screwed on straight because we are the most powerful, influential force in the world, for two reasons:

(1) We influenced 62% of the voting public nearly every election. We influenced them mainly with the luck of our purchasing power. We are prone to complain freely in our communities and when we tell the merchants in rural America that we're not buying their products, cars, trucks, equipment, furniture, etc., it makes a definite impact on their votes in the next election, just like on November 4, 1980. The folks who voted for Ronald Reagan were voting their pocketbooks in most all cases and we are the people who kept telling them that the agriculture policy was the reason why they were losing our business. Not only do we have influence with rural America, we are, more often than not, the deciding votes in most elections. Most national and state elections are won with margins that are close to the number of farmers that turn out to vote. Most elections are won with less than 1% of the votes.

(2) The second reason we're the most powerful group in the world is because we produce what the world has got to have -- *FOOD*. The government has again *ass-u-med* right in thinking we could never get together in marketing our production. They have pitted the cattleman against the grain farmer and them against the cotton farmer, and so on and so on. That's right, farmers. They have made an ASS out of U and ME (ASSUME).

The letter to the editor asking why we don't embark on marketing approaches is a good question. The answer is *money*, or the lack of it. The resources have been so limited that we just haven't been able to develop a good program on a nationwide basis. The A.A.M. has adopted a policy called L.A.M.P., two years ago, and L.A.M.P. stands for: Legislation, Alcohol, Marketing, Politics.

To the gentleman who asked why we don't work on marketing, that is a subject very dear to my heart and I have always said that what we produce is ours until we give it away to someone else to make a profit on. Because now, today, if the farmers would put their production into the loan or reserve, the Board of Trade would have to deliver *paper* to someone (USSR) instead of *grain* because the carry-over projected for 1982 will be equal to or slightly less than the carry-over for 1979.

We have the ability to control our destinies but seem not to have the desire. Remember, you've got it first, and until you decide to give it away or sell it, there's not anything they can do with it.

Marvin Meek

Rome trip off

Marvin Meek cancelled his trip to Rome because the conference committee is still working on the farm bill.

Ag Secretary Block cancelled his Rome trip for the same reason.

Cryts forced to move new crop soybeans

Wayne Cryts has spent an uncommon amount of time moving soybeans this year. Unfortunately, he's had to do it again.

Cryts was harvesting his 1981 crop soybeans and selling them to the Cargill elevator in New Madrid, to be paid after so many loads, as is customary.

Then Cryts got word that Cargill had called the bankruptcy trustees, and the trustees were in the process of getting a court order to tie up his new crop beans.

Cryts and Carlos Welty went to the elevator, talked to the managers, and Cargill decided to release the same amount of beans from their elevator in Dexter.

Members of the Cryts family drove seven trucks and moved beans from Dexter to the MFA elevator in Bernie, where he was paid immediately.

Soybean harvest on the Cryts farm continues, but the beans are being hauled to the MFA elevator, which issues a check the minute they're unloaded.

Cryts was told November 4 the trustees had been tipped off. The move was made November 5. "It was a fast, slick, clean operation, with the Cryts family - men, women, and children, driving the trucks," said Homer Evans of the Puxico AAM office.

"If Cargill is going to operate like that, then I don't think they should be given the chance to buy a lot of crops," said Evans.

The *Puxico Daily Statesman* reported that trustee Robert Lindsey told Cargill not to issue a check for the beans, because he felt the grain might be some of the Ristine grain which is still under the jurisdiction of the bankruptcy court.

Ag exports set record

American agricultural exports totaled a record \$43.8 billion in fiscal 1981, some \$3.3 billion greater than exports in the previous year, the Agriculture Department said.

Although the fiscal 1981 figure set a record for the twelfth straight year, the relation between farm prices and farm expenses hit the lowest level since April, 1933!

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Farm bill update

The House-Senate Conference have hammered out the following agreements as of press time:

Dairy - Left the price at \$13.10/cwt for 1982, as called for in both bills. Accepted 70% of parity for fiscal 1983. Set the trigger level for 4 billion pounds of government purchase in 1983; 3.5 billion pounds in 1984; 2.69 billion pounds in 1985. If government purchase of CCC stocks falls below the trigger levels, the price goes to 75% of parity. If over, the price stays at 70% of parity.

It is possible government purchases will fall below the 4 billion pound mark for 1983, thus triggering 75% of parity for a year.

The cap called for in the Senate bill was removed, and discretion for price supports was taken away from the Secretary of Agriculture. Milk is still tied to parity.

Wool - 80% of parity base price.

Cotton - The best of both bills. The House language on target prices was accepted, setting it at 120% of the loan level, which is 55¢ a pound. The Senate figures were also accepted, setting target prices at 71¢ a pound in 1982; 76¢ in 1983; 81¢ in 1984; 86¢ in 1985. The compromise agreement says "whichever is greater," (120% of the loan or the Senate target price figures.)

The cotton agreement allows a paid diversion and authorizes disaster payments even if federal crop insurance is available, for prevented planting or low yield, if necessary to avert an economic emergency.

Rice - Target prices will be adjusted annually to reflect changes in the per acre cost of production, with a 7% maximum on yearly increase in the target price.

Also accepted were the Senate figures for target prices: \$10.85/cwt in 1982; \$11.40/cwt in 1983; \$11.90/cwt in 1984; \$12.40/cwt in 1985.

If the deficiency payments fall under \$100 million, the target price will be the higher of the two (House or Senate version). If deficiency payments are over \$100

million, the maximum target adjustment will be 10¢.

Soybeans - Language was changed to establish the loan level equal to 75% of the simple average cash price received by farmers in 5 of the preceding years. (The original language said the average Chicago cash price, which is higher). The Secretary may decrease the loan rate 10% per year but not below \$4.50 a bushel if the average price does not exceed 105% of the loan level. (This provision means that if soybeans are cheap, the Secretary can lower the loan rate and lessen the possibility the government will take ownership.)

Sugar - The Senate version prevailed. The loan rate was established at 18¢ per pound, with an annual ½¢ increase in the loan rate through 1985.

Peanuts - The conferees accepted the Senate peanut proposal which keeps the poundage quota in effect and sets it at 1.20 million tons. It sets a \$580 a ton loan level for 1982. In addition to the senate provisions, a cost of production escalator for 1983, 1984, and 1985 was added. Any increase in cost of production will increase the loan rate by that amount.

Thus far, every commodity has an escalator clause for increases in cost of production, explained AAM national coordinator David Senter. "It may even be possible to keep indexing on wheat and feed grains," said Senter.

What is coming out of the conference now looks better than might have been expected two weeks ago. Why? Possibly because AAM representatives personally visited each conferee, presented the farmer's side and supplied economic data. Also people in the country have kept them swamped with letters, calls and telegrams.

"Dole and Block's trip to Kansas may have helped as much as anything," said Senter. "The Republicans have softened. When you get headlines in the Hutchinson News that AAM is threatening to recall Dole, it makes them stop and think," said Senter.

Calendar of Events

November 17 - District 4 Texas meeting, 7 p.m., Southwest Auction Inc. barn in Howe, on Hwy 75 south. Marvin Meek will speak.

November 19 - Northwest Kansas District Meeting, Wichita County.

November 19-20 - Seminar in Denver, Colorado, "Marketing Control - Return it to Agriculture." Sponsored by Colorado Ag Marketing Task Force. Regency Hotel. Call 303-866-2848 for more info.

November 20 - Mid-Missouri American Ag Movement will meet at Martinsburg at the American Legion Hall.

December 3 - AAM of Illinois State Meeting. Election of officers. Place to be announced.

December 4, 5 - Texas State AAM Convention, Abilene. To be held at Sheraton Abilene (915) 677-2821 (mention you're with AAM to get a discount). \$25 registration fee includes 2 tickets to the banquet December 4 at 7:30 p.m. and 2 tickets to buffet luncheon December 5. Business meeting December 5. Odis Chapman will be speaker at banquet.

December 7 - Ohio Grain Producers convention, St. Marys, 1 p.m. Marvin Meek keynote speaker. Call (419) 738-6123, OGP, Box 56, Wapakoneta, OH 45895.

January 7, 1982 - AAM of Illinois State Convention. Blackhawk Restaurant and Motel, Jacksonville, Illinois. All day. Details later.

January 8-10 - A.A.M. Grass Roots Convention. St. Louis, Missouri, Chase Park Hotel.

December 12 - New Mexico American Ag Annual Meeting, Portales, New Mexico. Time and place to be announced next week. Marvin Meek will speak and meal will be served.

January 10-14 - American Farm Bureau Federation 1982 Annual Meeting. San Diego, California. Further information contact Patrick Batts, 225 Touhy Ave., Park Ridge, IL 60068. (312) 399-5700.

If each family of four had to pay their share of the federal debt today, they would have to ante up \$60,000.

The average family of four pays \$8,000 a year in taxes. That's \$160 a week.

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Miscellaneous

Guaranteed rubber stamps. Any 3 lines \$2.89. Additional lines 50¢ each. Carol Ebert, St. George, KS. 66535. 391tp

Notice

A limited supply of Tractorcade Belt Buckles is now available.

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Around the countryside Virginia

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A great many things have happened since my last report.

A dove hunt was held September 5 and 12 for the benefit of the State AAM on the farm of Billy Bain in Dinwiddie County. \$680 was made, plus hats and memberships sold. Thanks to members of other counties who helped.

A meeting on interest rates was held September 23 at the Courtland Exit Holiday Inn. It was interesting to hear savings and loans, home builders, and realtors saying the same thing AAM has for the past three years.

AAM had a booth at the State Fair September 24-October 4. Some money was made from donations for hats, chances on a ham, and door decorations.

Congratulations to Elizabeth Clarke of Seaford, Virginia on winning the ham. Our major objective was achieved - meeting and educating the non-farming public. The response was terrific! A very special thanks to the members who spent their time and energy working the booth. Without your help, nothing would have been accomplished. The entire state owes each of you a debt of thanks.

Rural Virginia met in Blackstone October 22. Billy Bain spoke on behalf of AAM to a group of about 45. The group seemed surprised with the amount of information AAM knew - backed with proven facts! AAM's need to participate more in these types of meetings. Bain did an excellent job; however, we need more people speaking out.

The office now has magnetic signs with AAM Farmer and Support Agriculture Movement. These signs are \$6 each and go on cars, trucks, tractors, etc.

Fellow AAM member Robert Young and family of Sussex lost their home and belongings to a fire. The Youngs have twin boys, 4 years old. Anyone wishing to help, please contact Chester Carter at (804) 246-8201 or the State Office.

Please remember to send your memberships in so this office can continue operating.

Congratulations to Don and Andre Patterson of The Plains on the birth of their son, Justin Bruce, born October 24. Parents and son are doing fine.

That's about it for now. Remember, the office has

individual tickets as well as books of tickets for the \$15,000 automobile of your choice being raffled to help raise money for the grassroots convention expenses. Tickets are \$2 each. We also have information for attending the Grassroots Convention January 8, 9, and 10, 1982 in St. Louis, Missouri. This is a great opportunity to see some of America. Don't miss it!!

Gloria Bain
State Coordinator

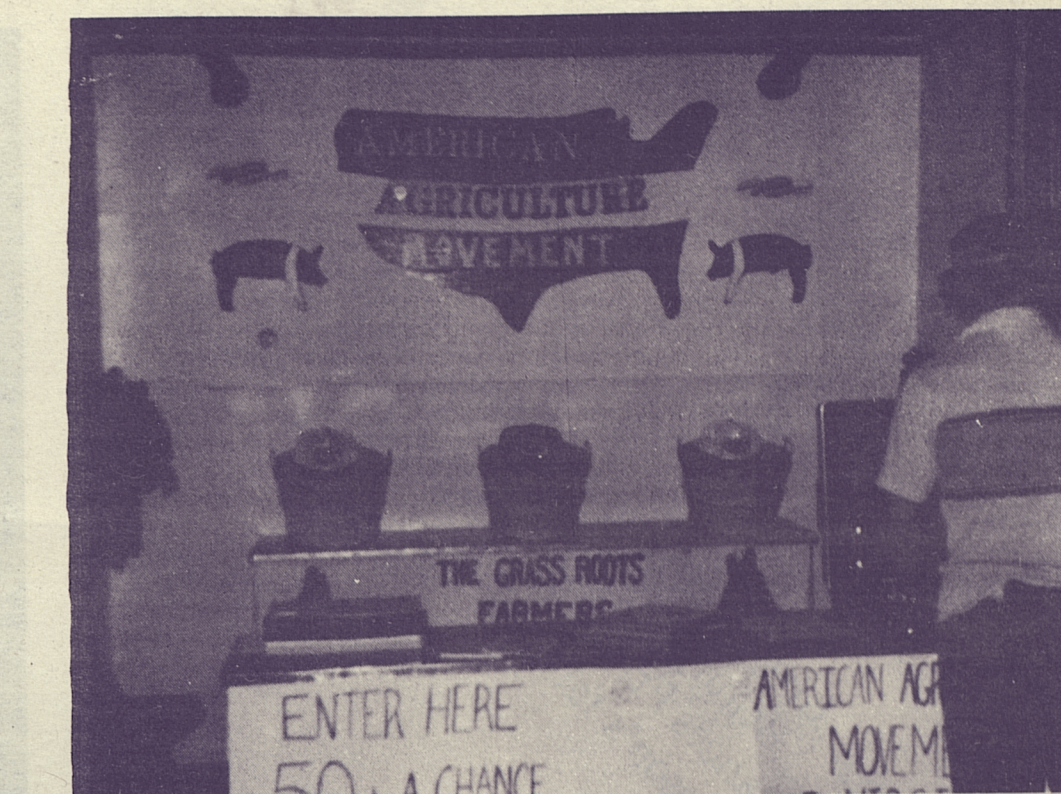
Texas

This week in Texas has been about as normal. Some of our local farmers are coming back after their harvest and are reporting average to above average yields. There is still not much optimism, however, since the depressed prices are negating the effects of the good yields. There is still much concern about the effects of the tightened budget on the credit availability for next years' crop.

Evidently, most of the local FmHA offices have not heard about the moratorium. I have talked with several people who visited with their county supervisors who had absolutely no knowledge of the moratorium or its effects. I just talked with David in Washington, and he assured me that Mr. Brock of the FmHA had assured him that forms and regulations were being written and printed to send to State and County offices.

I have a copy of the letter that Secretary Block wrote telling of the moratorium. If any of you are having trouble with the FmHA, get in contact with me so I can send you a copy of the letter. With that in your hand, you can at least raise some doubts in the supervisor's mind and start some phone calls from the country going back to Washington! It might be nice to prove to them that we know something before they do.

I am concerned about the number of people who are getting discouraged and wanting to give up their farms and quit. Admittedly, the fight that we are in will be long and hard, but for the economy of the U.S. to work, it will require, at the very least, the number of farmers on the land that we have now. The reason for this is that if only 600,000 farmers are left and parity prices are obtained, there will only be 600,000 sales for tractors, cars, trucks, dishwashers, washers and dryers, televisions, clothes, etc. There will not be a good enough distribution of the income for our economy to



Virginia AAM had a booth at the state fair and felt workers did a good job with non-farmer relations.

recover. So you and your farm are very important to the survival of the American economy. Please, stay in there and fight for the good of your nation!

I had a very interesting conversation with the lady that we rent our offices from here in Hereford yesterday. She is a real estate broker and recently attended a seminar for farm and ranch brokers that was held at Texas A&M. The story that she related to me was one that we in AAM know well! The story was told to the land brokers in order to help them better sell land in the future. It seems that there is a plan that has been in effect for the past 3 or 4 administrations that is aimed at removing the small farmer from the land and replacing him with large "efficient" farmers. A strong Republican supporter, she was amazed that the same programs were surviving through both Democratic and Republican Administrations. When she had finished the story, I picked up a copy of the CED Report on my desk and handed it to her to read. I told her that the complete plan was written in that booklet and showed her the authors. It was received with amazement!

That incident was another small encouragement to me. If others are cognizant of the plan, it will not require our time to explain the programs and we can concentrate on discrediting it and overcoming the sense of futility that has bred the deadly apathy that has engulfed our nation.

Convention time is nearing! District I will hold its meeting to elect new

delegates in Amarillo on November 14. District IV's meeting will be held in Howe on the evening of November 17 at the Southwest Auction Co., Inc. Marvin is planning to speak at both meetings. Everyone who can should make plans to attend. Our State Convention in Abilene still has some seats available for the banquet. We need your reservations as soon as possible, since our seating is limited, and we need to let the caterers know the number at least 10 days before the day. It is not necessary to send your checks in at this time since we will have a registration desk in the lobby of the Sheraton in Abilene.

All for now,
Key Crawford

Kansas endorses Farm Defense Fund

Kansas has endorsed the Farm Defense Fund set up by Perry Chesnut and the American Constitutional Rights Association of Klamath Falls, Oregon.

Chesnut spoke to Kansas AAM November 6 in Great Bend.

Chesnut and ACRA wants to initiate a lawsuit against FmHA enjoining them from any further activity on the grounds that they failed to provide farmers with due process of law by not informing them there was a congressionally mandated program allowing moratoriums on FmHA loan payments.

The fund will be separate from Kansas AAM, but was endorsed by Kansas AAM.

Kansas set up a five man committee to collect and oversee the money.

Derel Fillingim was re-elected District 3 delegate November 7 in Minneral Wells by unanimous vote.

District 3 set up a finance committee headed by the alternate delegates to raise and oversee money to pay the delegate's phone and travel expenses.

Three men from near Hillsboro are going to try to organize that area.

Mississippi

Mississippi has sent in their \$2500 membership dues to the National AAM office, and they challenge other states to send in theirs early to give the national office operating funds.

Those who would like to donate to the farm defense fund may contact any of the following committee members:

Stan Irvin, Star Rt, Sublette, Kansas 67877, 316-675-2275.

Howard Stude, Rt 2 Box 46, Copeland, Kansas 67837, 316-668-5462.

Alvin Matzke, Westmoreland, 66549, phone 913-456-7240.

Leonard Cox, Weskan, 67762, phone 913-943-5351.

Bill Leonard, Star Rt 2 Box 25, Hugoton 67951, phone 316-544-8475.

After Chesnut's visit, a local TV reporter interviewed a district director of FmHA. She asked him point blank about the foreclosures. He said yes, there would be some foreclosures.

American Agriculture News

(USPS 419550)

P.O. Box 100, Iredell, TX 76649 817-364-2474

Published Tuesday Weekly Except Between Christmas and New Year in Iredell, Texas

Subscription Rate \$15 Everywhere
Co-Editors and Co-Publishers. Alden and Micki Nellis
Second Class Postage Paid at Iredell, Texas 76649
Permit #3

Postmaster: Send address change to
American Agriculture News, PO Box 100, Iredell, TX 76649

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3rd Grass Roots AAM Convention January 8-9-10, 1982

Live entertainment Friday Nite
Beauty Contest Saturday Nite
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Larry Thompson's fabulous band from Lubbock, TX



The Gateway Arch - Overlooking the mighty Mississippi is the nation's tallest monument, the 630 foot Gateway Arch. The Arch serves as a gleaming tribute to the early pioneers and the westward expansion. The observation deck, with its sixteen large windows, offers magnificent views to the east and west of the Arch.

The Museum of Westward Expansion is located in the underground chamber beneath the Arch. The exhibit focuses on a span of time in the 1880's and is magnificently told in the cryptic words of those who made history - people like Lewis and Clark, Thomas Jefferson, and the many unnamed settlers, miners, farmers, and soldiers, who battled the wilderness. The Museum and the Arch are open year round.

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★ Congressional spokesmen

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Spotlight on FmHA foreclosures and other problems

This newspaper and the national AAM office are receiving many calls from people facing FmHA foreclosure or going into bankruptcy. Most of these people think it may be a local problem with their county supervisor. However, the way it looks from here, all the county supervisors are acting alike - as if they are taking orders from somewhere, despite FmHA head Frank Naylor's denials that FmHA is embarking on massive foreclosures.

Most of these people want to talk to others in similar situations, need advice on where to turn, and are not aware of their rights.

One thing we at the newspaper can do is set up a clearinghouse so these people can get in touch with each other.

Need to talk to others

Anyone who is facing foreclosure or bankruptcy, needs help and wants to talk to others may be listed in this column.

Here are the people who have called this week.

Andy and Debbie Lehnert, Rt 2, Pulaski, Tennessee 38478. Phone 615-363-7177 (house), or 615-363-1703 (barn).

The Lehnerts are in a Chapter 11 bankruptcy due to FmHA pressure.

Bennie Herring, Rt 2, Brundidge, Alabama 36010. Phone 205-762-2420.

Bennie got a disaster loan last year. Now the FmHA refuses to consolidate his debts, demands all their money, and will give him no assurance they will refinance him next year.

Tom Nichols, Wolf Point, Montana. Phone 406-653-2646.

Nichols is in a national appeal on a moratorium right now.

Paul Carroll, 925 W. Pershing, Phoenix, Arizona 85029. Phone 602-942-8814.

Mr. Carroll and partners have a suit pending against FmHA for violating their own regulations in the handling of his case.

Bill Leonard, Star Rt 2, Box 25, Hugoton, Kansas 67951. Phone 316-544-8475. May be facing foreclosure, wants to keep up with other FmHA cases.

News of other FmHA challenges - Sam Bitz and the Montana Historians are challenging FmHA's right to foreclose on the grounds that they hold freehold title

FmHA ruined his credit reputation by supplying false information to third parties.

Perry claims FmHA denied him a loan for two years because they didn't like his style. Perry kept pushing and finally got his loan, but from the first, he says FmHA kept him in an untenable cash flow position and created problems with other creditors.

Notes the county supervisor put in his file indicate there was a personality clash. For example, "I also told him (Perry) that we will need a plan of operations to determine payability. At this time he got all excited and told me that he had all he is going to take of any bureaucracy and he wants common sense applied."

In 1976, "The provoking thing about this case is that Mr. Perry is dictating policy and plays games with the state office personnel against the county office. In his opinion he only knows what his operating costs will be and how much the income can be also how much he can earn off farm..."

"Servicing loan would be a problem because of different opinions and personality clash. It is my opinion this would be a problem in two or three years..." etc.

FmHA charged that Perry sold cows that the government had a security interest in. In fact Perry never signed a security agreement to cover the cows.

FmHA charged him interest for money before it was given to him.

The Morton County FmHA committee illegally reduced the official appraisal on his farm, thus reducing the amount of loans Perry could receive.

The FmHA and USDA suppressed information that Perry requested from his file.

(Perry requested information under the Freedom of Information Act in February of 1979. In June of 1980 he sued for release of the documents. Suit still pending.)

Perry says he was singled out because he didn't fit their image of a farmer, particularly that of the county supervisor. "He wasn't used to anyone looking him in the eye and asking why. He was used to people genuflecting..." Perry said.

Attorney Sarah Vogel of Arlington, Virginia is handling Perry's suit against FmHA.

Meanwhile Perry knows more about FmHA rules and regulations than FmHA employees do, many say.

(Information from the Minneapolis Tribune, August 2, 1981, and Tom Nichols of Wolf Point, Montana.)

'Splanations

By Steve Close
Springfield, Colorado

He could neither read nor write, as I remember the story, and after middle age, had finally secured a less physically demanding job as the janitor of a small church. He was respectful of his employer, did a good job, but a new minister demanded a more literate and aggressive handyman and he was fired because of his intellectual handicaps. As he walked dejectedly away from the church after his last day on the job, he unconsciously fished in his pocket for pipe and tobacco.

Discovering he was out of tobacco, he began to look for a drug store or a tobacco shop and walked for blocks in vain. It occurred to him finally that there ought to be a shop in the area and he took his meager savings and opened up a small tobacco shop in a niche in a small shopping mall near the church. As business became better, he got his daughter to run the shop and walked the city looking for other places like the original, devoid of tobacco shops.

After two years, he was running six shops at various locations and a large concern, impressed by his success, talked him into franchising his brainchild. The banker was all smiles as they met to close the rather large financing package but startled when the former janitor signed with his "X".

He noted the bankers chagrin and apologetically explained that he could neither read nor write. "My God, man," the banker exclaimed, "just think where you could be if you could read and write." "Ah," said our illiterate friend, "I know exactly where I'd be. I'd still be the janitor in that Fifth Street church."

I don't mean to imply that farmers are illiterate, dumb or hayseedy. They aren't. However, they have traditionally worked under the handicap of diversity of crop, geography, political affiliation and method of operation. The best thing about farming is being your own boss, calling all the shots and making your own decisions. This rugged individualism has, however, kept us from concerted action and the sorry farm bill coming out this year may be like the janitor getting fired. We have always been innovative and the additional burdens posed by current government policy coupled with our already sick farm economy may give us the motivation to work together at last to solve our common problems.

Like the janitor, we may finally look around and discover some avenue that will lead to success. In spite of, or maybe because of, our handicaps

"Children," the teacher said, "it's time for your lesson in logic. If a movie starts at seven and supper is at six and my little girl has chicken pox and I drive a Cadillac, how old am I?"

"You're 48," a student promptly replied.

"That's correct," said the teacher. "Now tell the rest of the class how you got the correct answer."

"It was easy, teacher," answered the student. "I've got an aunt who is 24 and she's only half nuts."

Now you are ready to fill our your latest ASCS questionnaire.

My psychiatrist finally decided I was a kleptomaniac and should do something about it. Heck, I've been taking things for years.

Block says parity is outmoded

During his Kansas tour, in response to a question about the role of measuring commodity prices on a parity standard, Block said that "the parity concept of agricultural pricing is outmoded."

"Parity has become an outmoded method of measuring agricultural commodity prices."

Another questioner asked the Secretary if he was concerned about the decreasing number of family farms. "I'm not in favor of the loss of the family farm. It's both a business and a way of life. I don't think we're losing the family farm because I've seen a surprising increase in small part-time farmers. It's true they don't produce a relatively large portion of our total commodities, but they're farmers all the same and we need them," he answered.

In explaining his proposed soil and water conservation program, the USDA chief said he wants block grants to states to be

the centerpiece of the plan. "The states and federal governments will cost share. It will be a coordinated effort involving conservation districts, ag research, extension, the SCS and ASCS. However, it will have to involve a redistribution of money we already have, not new money. We have an enormous amount of data on soil erosion and we are gearing up to use that data as the basis of our conservation program," he said.

At his Emporia stop, the ag secretary said that he didn't believe the Russians would invade Poland, but "if they do, we must embargo grain. It's the last thing I'd like to see because I fought to lift the last embargo, but I'd support it if the Russians invade Poland," he explained.

In concluding that speech, Block noted that food will become increasingly powerful as either a weapon or an instrument for peace.

Russian historian says USSR stockpiling grain for Polish invasion

A Russian born historian and journalist, Vladimir Solovyov, wrote in the *Omaha World Herald* that he believes the Russians are stockpiling grain because they know when they invade Poland the US will embargo it again.

He points to the mock secrecy the Russians have used to lead the US to believe they have a massive crop failure so they need to import more grain this year. He says the "secret" document was read at party meetings of the 16 million members of the Communist Party, which is hardly the way the Russians keep real secrets.

"The Soviet authorities deliberately gave it a low degree of secrecy so that it would become known abroad while yet sounding more convincing because of being secret," Solovyov said.

"...the Soviet war games which recently have taken place almost regularly around Poland have been provoked not by a desire to intimidate Poland, as Western observers assume, but by a desire thoroughly to rehearse the impending war with the Poles," Solovyov said.

"In the Soviet Union, they calculate better than in the United States. The invasion of Afghanistan cost the Soviets a year and a half

of a grain embargo on the part of the United States and countries aligned with it. They figure on trade obstruction for about the same length of time if they occupy Poland. Therefore, they sharply upped their purchases of grain beginning last year (concurrently with the beginning of the Polish revolution) bringing them up to astronomical proportions this year," says Solovyov.

"If such is the case, the question as to whether Poland is to be suppressed has already been decided, and the date has even been set. Obviously, it will be the date when the grain purchases have been completed," Solovyov concludes.

Kansas AAM comments on Dole

(From the Kansas AAM Newsletter.)

Dole said AAM is too emotional; he couldn't deal with emotions and needed "facts and figures." Larry Matlack obliged with a question full of USDA facts and figures and Dole couldn't deal with it, either.

Senator Dole became angry and nervous when he didn't receive any praise or thanks for his "years of service to Kansas agriculture." As Block and Dole were leaving, Steve Hartnett asked, "Are warehouse receipts valid

US Chamber of Commerce continues to fight farmers interests

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has asked Senate-House conferees chosen to resolve differences on a new farm bill to work toward "less government interference in agriculture and more dependence on competitive market opportunities."

In a letter to the conferees, Hilton Davis, vice president for legislative and political affairs of the Chamber, made these recommendations:

-Adopt the loan rate and target price levels of the Senate-passed bill (S.884), including the discretionary authority for the secretary of agriculture to adjust the support levels rather than require automatic adjustments tied to production costs. The target pricing applies to wheat, feed grains, cotton and rice.

-Adopt the dairy price support provisions of the Senate-passed bill, which would reduce the supports to 70% of parity but not below \$13.10 per hundred-weight, and forego annual adjustments when expected

government purchases for the next year will exceed \$750 million.

-Work out a compromise of both bills on the peanut subsidy program by initiating a gradual phase-out of marketing quotas rather than abruptly terminate the program, as provided for in the House bill (H.R. 3603), and reduce the loan support level for quota peanuts substantially below the \$596 per ton as provided in the Senate bill.

"These are primary recommendations," Davis said. "Their adoption would continue the gradual trend toward less government in-

terference in agriculture and more dependence on competitive market opportunities. They could also reduce the public cost of commodity programs by several billion dollars."

C. Clinton Stokes, director of agricultural policy for the chamber, added that although the Chamber opposed target price payment programs, the proposed compromise "will stimulate less excess production and reduce price disruptions in the marketplace. It will be far less costly to taxpayers and consumers."

He said the Chamber believes the House went too far in completely eliminating market quotas for peanuts but that the Senate bill does not go far enough toward phasing out the program.

Also, the word "parity," which nobody had heard of four years ago, is now used commonly in areas not related to farming, such as policemen's pay, social discrimination, etc.

The battle's not won, but it's time for all AAMers to give themselves a pat on the back for chipping away at the ignorance, misrepresentation, and scapegoating of farmers.

Thanks

AAM Chairman Marvin Meek says "We're coming out well on the House-Senate conference report on the farm bill. I thank you for your activities in the country. Without you working out there, we wouldn't be able to change anything up here."

100% Parity Fund update

Summary: A.A.M., Inc. 100% of Parity Fund, 11-5-81

The 100% of Parity Fund has earned a total of \$25,458.37 interest to date.

Total expenses to date (Parity Fund)	\$ 430.46
Total dollars sent to the National A.A.M.	\$ 14,000.00
Earned Interest balance	\$ 11,027.91

The 100% of Parity Fund earned \$3,076.27 interest in October.

The 100% of Parity Fund had \$27.61 expenses in October.

The 100% of Parity Fund sent \$7,000.00 to the National Office in October.

We have \$230,000.00 in C.D.'s in the following banks:

Bosque Co. Bank, TX	\$10,000	15.372% int.
Bosque Co. Bank, TX	\$50,000	16.104% int.
Bosque Co. Bank, TX	\$20,000	15.896% int.
Bank of Hartington, NE.	\$100,000	16.104% int.
Security State Bank, KS.	\$20,000	13.659% int.
Security State Bank, KS.	\$10,000	15.92% int.
Security State Bank, KS.	\$10,000	14.30% int.
Security State Bank, KS.	\$10,000	15.371% int.

We have a balance of \$10,117.57 in our Savings/Checking account earning 5 1/4% interest.

Sincerely, for Parity,
Derel Fillingim, Chairman

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State Department warns of danger to U.S. exports from farm bill meat amendment

(Rep. Sam Gibbons read this revealing letter from the State Department into the Congressional Record on October 13, 1981.)

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Section 1439 of the Senate Farm Bill (S.884) includes a clause which would prohibit the importation into the United States of meat and meat products which have been produced using substances "which are not currently approved for the same use in the U.S." Enactment could cause foreign policy problems with such countries as our allies Australia and New Zealand who would view this as a non-tariff trade barrier. They could well challenge us in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and might take retaliatory action against our trade. The greater risk, however, is the potential threat to our own exports. It could serve as a model to those who would use health and sanitary regulations as barriers to trade. One of the first areas to be affected could be our beef and poultry trade with the EC, where we are currently facing difficulties in such areas as the design of slaughterhouses, the use of hormones, and appropriate

means of preventing Newcastle disease in poultry.

If adopted generally, import standards based on use of substances in the importing country could mean, among other things, that it would be impossible to introduce any new chemical or substance at any stage of production of a traded commodity unless all or the majority of the potential customers approved of the new substance or use. The U.S. already uses a variety of chemicals for agricultural purposes which are not used by our customers. These include chemicals used during grain processing. We can use them because they do not leave detectable residues. Should our grain customers adopt the same approach as in this section, we could have a serious marketing problem.

We share the concern of Congress that American consumers be protected from adulterated food products. We believe, however, that current meat legislation is adequate. What is required is promulgated and effective enforcement of appropriate regulations, as permitted by current law.

Richard Fairbanks
Ass't Secretary
for Congressional relations



A group of frogs is known as an army.

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Federal Register

by Carol Ebert, St. George, Kansas

Responsibility for regulating exports of U.S. commodities and technical data for purposes of national security and foreign policy will be transferred from the Office of Export Administration to the Office of Industrial Mobilization. Entry includes short supply commodity controls. *Fr. Vol. 46, No. 205; October 23, 1981.*

USDA publishes its semi-annual regulatory agenda - items to be considered by USDA. Copies are available from Regulatory Agenda, OBPA, Office of the Secretary, Rm. 147-E, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250.

CCC will no longer include rice and wheat programs in the Code of Federal Regulations because these change annually. They will appear only as notices in the *Federal Register*.

ITA has decided to collect duties of \$.04/bushel on barley imported from France. (Does another wonder why thee as in we import barley in the first place?) *Fr. Vol. 46, No. 207; October 27, 1981, Book 1 of 2.*

USDA, AMS final rules, amend the Federal Seed Act Regulations numerous. Copies are available from Seed Regulatory Branch, LMGS, AMS, USDA, Rm. 2603, South Building, 1400 Independence Ave. S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250.

Rice inspection services will go up - \$21.60/hour regular, \$26.00/hour nights and weekends, \$30.50/hour holidays. (Up, up and away, in a paper balloon) *Fr. Vol. 46, No. 209; October 29, 1981.*

Federal Home Loan Bank Board proposes amendmen-

ts governing borrowing by savings and loan associations to eliminate current limitations on aggregate amount of outside borrowing; aggregate book value of all collateral securing outside borrowing; and distribution of maturities of liabilities. Further, eliminate requirement to continue to meet FSLIC net worth requirements after giving effect to outside borrowing maturity in excess of one year, eliminate prohibition against sale of loans with recourse, and expand alternative loan documentation. (Said the spider to the fly.) *Fr. Vol. 46, No. 210; October 30, 1981, Book 1 of 2.*

Ronald proclaims 4881 Farm-City Week saying American agriculture is a modern-day miracle (That's the only thing he's got right, yet!!), etc. Without farms to provide food and fiber, cities would be barren; without the products and services of cities, farms would be primitive - the week of November 20-26. Theme: Partners in Progress-Key to the Future. Signed October 29, 1981.

USDA solicits comments on the Soil and Water Resources Conservation Act of 1977 as to appraising soil, water, and related resources to determine their capability and limitations, develop a conservation program which sets forth

direction of the Department's future soil and water efforts, and ensure public participation in decisions, then transmit the appraisals to the President for submission to Congress. Comment by January 15, 1982 to ASCS STATE OFFICES. Drafts of this plan are also available there. *Fr. Vol. 46, No. 211, November 2, 1981.*

Send in the Thanksgiving Petitions to the AAM National Office.

The Thanksgiving petitions, published two weeks ago, can be clipped and a signature sheet attached. Signatures should bear, signatures, printed names, addresses. At the top of the sheet should be typed "Thanksgiving Petition".

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