

VETS MAY SECURE FARM THROUGH NEW FSA PLAN

Recognizing that the farm-minded veterans' biggest problem these days is finding a suitable farm for sale at a reasonable price, or one for rent or lease on a sound arrangement, W. A. Smith, FSA supervisor for Watauga county, has announced a plan for helping qualified veterans to get started on the road to farm ownership.

There's plenty of help available to a farm-experienced veteran in the way of sound advice and adequate financing, but it is of little value in getting him started if he can't find a farm. It's like having plenty of gas and oil but no car to use it in, he says.

"In some areas farm owners who wanted to help have contacted FSA offices and offered to sell their farms to qualified veterans on the basis of impartial appraisals. This is a way that farmers who are planning to retire, and non-resident farm owners can make farm ownership possible for some of the veteran applicants," Mr. Smith said. "The same applies to owners of large estates who will sell enough land to make a good family-type farm. There is no better way to create an

opportunity for a veteran to attain farm ownership." In appropriating \$50,000,000 for FSA's farm ownership program this fiscal year, congress earmarked half of it for veterans, but few of the farms for sale are priced on the basis of their long-time earning capacity, the supervisor pointed out. Loans are made on the basis of long-time average appraised values. They are repayable over a period of 40 years and bear 3 percent interest. Similar loans are available to qualified tenants, sharecroppers and farm laborers.

FSA operating loans are also available to veterans with sufficient farm experience who can obtain equitable lease or share agreements on good farms. These loans are made for almost all farm and home needs that will increase yields, improve the farm and result in a better living standard. They are repayable in one to five years at 5 percent interest.

Mr. Smith said that in addition to being priced on the basis of long-time values, veterans want farm that are convenient to churches and schools, and preferably equipped

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with buildings. Veterans are not interested in attempting to readjust themselves on worn-out and inaccessible farms that are priced too high just because of temporarily inflated and values.

Anyone who has information about a good family-type farm for sale at a reasonable price or for lease over a period of years can help by notifying the FSA office, which will put the seller or lessor in touch with one or more qualified veterans.

HOME FROM PHILIPPINES

Cpl. Lewis D. Aldridge, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Aldridge, of Banner Elk, was recently discharged from the army. Cpl. Aldridge had been in the service since June 29, 1943. He served 23 months overseas, in New Caledonia, New Zealand, New Guinea and Manila. He was awarded the Good Conduct medal, our battle stars, Asiatic-Pacific and American campaign ribbons.

Friends and relatives gathered at his home Jan. 20, for dinner in celebration of his return home. Those present were: His sister, Mrs. Lora Moody of Durham; Mr. and Mrs. Joe Aldridge, of Shulls Mills; Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Aldridge, of Banner Elk; Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Ellis and family, of Shulls Mills; Essie, Ralph and Jess, of the home. His brother, Pfc. Rom Aldridge, is now serving in Germany.

Cranberry FFA Chapter Wins Judging Event

The Cranberry Future Farmers of America boys won first place in the Parkway seed judging and identification contest held in the Boone high school Monday, Jan. 21. Among the schools participating were Crossnore, Cranberry, Cove Creek, Boone, Sparta, Newland and Piney Creek. The Cranberry chapter of the F.F.A. won first place, Crossnore second and Piney Creek third. Cranberry will receive the banner.

Cranberry and Crossnore are eligible to participate in the district seed judging identification contest in Lumberton some time in February.

'Master Race' Query Arises In Poultry

Paralleling the theories of the Axis powers in the recent war is the yet unanswered question in poultry: What is the "master race" in chickens?

The Axis discovered, painfully and at great cost, that there is no "master race." Poultrymen of the State College extension service are in agreement, too, that there is no "ultra-superior" strain of chickens although some breeds have better records than others as broilers or egg-layers.

R. S. Dearstyne, head of the department of poultry science at State College, says that American breeds such as Rocks, Reds and New Hampshire have desirable qualities as broilers. Leghorns and related American breeds, he adds, are normally better egg producers.

"It is the breeding with the stock selected that counts, the poultryman declares, adding:

"Because chicks are Leghorns does not necessarily mean that they will produce heavily." A chick's quality is determined by breeding before the

egg is hatched and even good management can not develop quality in a chicken after hatching. "Consequently," Dearstyne says, "a person starting in poultry work should consider his objectives very carefully and in doing this, consult with the agricultural advisor in his county as to what the demands of the local market are and thus get

tips to the nearest and best sources of stock that will probably meet his needs."

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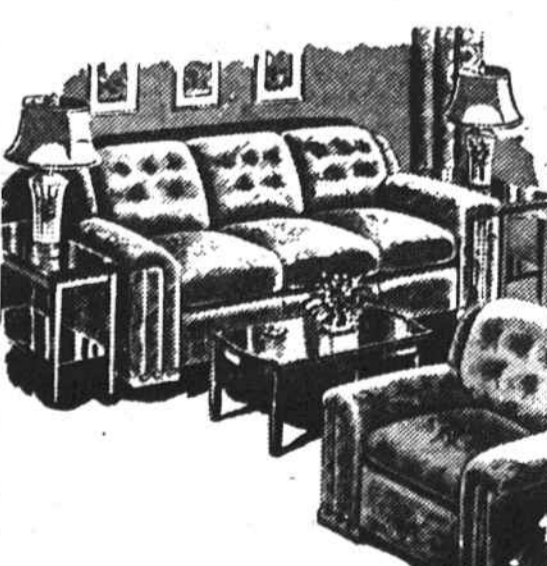
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