

Our Farms

By TED TOWNSEND



THIS IS THE FARM OF DANIEL H. PRYOR SR., KIRKLAND HILL—Almost a century farm, this 35-acre dairy operation has seen change from 60 cent a hundredweight butter factory milk to field milk shipments to large cities for 35 price. Machinery has helped cut labor task so that two men can handle farm.

You might call the Pryor acre, up on Kirkland Hill on Route 5, a century farm. Daniel H. Pryor, Sr., is pushing the 80 mark when it comes to years, and he was born on these acres where his Dad farmed it before him. It has been home of Dan, Sr., for his entire life.

Today it's a father-son arrangement with Dan Pryor, Jr., working alongside his dad and handling the heavy work. It's been a dairy farm for all the years that Dad Pryor can remember, though it's a different kind of dairying today.

Seventy-five years ago, or let's say as far back as Dad Pryor can remember there were cows on the 35 acres. It was a different kind of farming with not as much emphasis on winter milk, or keeping the year-round production nearby uniform.

Milk was produced and hauled by horse and lumber wagon, and in winter on bobs, to the butter factory down the hill at Kirkland. Dad can remember when the returns were 50 cents a hundred pounds or approximately a cent a quart. That's quite different from the prices quoted in the Press today when local dairy men are receiving \$4.97 a hundred or almost 11 cents a quart for the fluid milk shipped.

Later a cheese factory was opened and the milk brought \$1 a hundred or double the former price. But when doubling the returns didn't mean too much and farm folk worked from daylight to dark, trying to get enough money together to buy an occasional pair of shoes.

ALL THE FAMILY helped out in some way, milking the cows by hand, planting the crops, and harvesting. Most of the jobs were by hand, such as bunching up and loading hay, and pitching it over the beam into the mow.

To start the corn was cut by hand and shocked up in the field. Then on days when the wind wouldn't blow you right out of your clothes, you could sit on the sunny side of a shock and hunk



PARTNERSHIP TEAM—Two Dan Pryors. Senior at left, and his son at right, hunk corn. Dan Jr. went to Clinton High School and returned to farm after two periods in armed forces. Father can remember days when hop growing was important farm industry.

corn. The dry stalks were fed to the cows during the winter months. Then along came the corn binder, and corn was cut by machine but it was still quite a chore hitting these heavy bundles onto the new silo. That silo was certainly an advancement and it meant a lot of good winter feed, and that meant higher milk production through the winter.

After the butter factory and cheesemaking, a condensation opened at Deaneboro and a little higher price was paid for the milk put up in cans. Then fluid milk from Central New York was shipped to the Utica market and a New York—That meant another increase in price.

It's quite a step in the 11 years a quiet revolution today from that 50 cent paid at the old butter factory. It's meant the disappearance of butter and cheese factories as more and more dairies were inspected and accepted by the board of health and the produce was shipped to distant cities.

DAN JR. attended Clinton High School. Then it was two different periods in the service. And after the last stint as an MP in Europe he was back to the farm for a partnership with his dad.

The Pryors look the new equipment over pretty carefully before taking it on as a permanent part of the farm operations. The first tractor was secured nine years ago, and they both agree that "it pays its keep." There is a tractor horse power up from, and as long as it's oiled and gassed, it doesn't get tired even in mid-afternoon of a hot day.

One team remains on the farm, and it's useful, says Dad Pryor, though it doesn't have the get-up-and-go of the tractor.

It's a lot easier to roll down Kirkland Hill over that side concrete road in a car or truck than it was with the horse hauling the milk over muddy roads to the butter factory.

Election Surge Sputters Out, Advance Mild

New York—The Stock Market was able to maintain a moderate advance yesterday after a post-election buying surge spent itself.

The rise was modified considerably by acute declines in a handful of key railroad stocks in the last hour of trading.

The Curb Exchange lost a lot of its early bullish enthusiasm and maintained a bare uptick margin at the close.

Trading amounted to 530,000 shares as compared with 440,000 shares traded Monday.

Corporate bonds were irregularly higher. U. S. Governments in the over the counter market were steady.

Prices in commodity futures marked were mostly lower with cotton down \$1.20 to \$2.15 a bale in New York.

Trading and hedging was said to stem from uncertainty over the future of the government's price support program.

YESTERDAY'S QUOTATIONS: High Low Latest

Table of stock quotations including columns for stock names, high, low, and latest prices. Includes stocks like ABCF Brll, Adams Exp, and various industrial and utility shares.

Stock Averages

Table showing stock averages for various indices like Dow Jones Industrial Average, S&P 500, and others.

Bond Averages

Table showing bond averages for various government and corporate bonds.

Investment Funds

Table showing investment fund performance and prices.

Obituaries

Clifford W. Howe - Mr. Howe operated a gas station in the Rome-Oreida Rd. near the Rome State School for several years.

George W. Aylesworth - Mr. Aylesworth was a farmer and was a member of Canaanville Lodge 2005 P. & A.M.

Wilson E. Brown - Mr. Brown married the former Jennie Luce in Dec. 24, 1889, in Burlington, Vt.

Infant Dies - An infant son of Mrs. Maggie Simmons, 117 Charles, died at birth Nov. 3, 1936 in a local hospital.

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Area Regional Market Quotations

Large table of regional market quotations for various commodities like wheat, corn, and livestock, including prices and market conditions.

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