

# Farm and Home Week Features Secy. Benson

## March 23-27; Church Day March 25

Ernst Tolt Benson, new secretary of agriculture, is scheduled for an annual farm and home week at Ithaca. The week long program of lectures, demonstrations, exhibits, dramatics and speeches begins on March 23. Intended to point out the work being done at the Agricultural, Home Economics and Veterinary Colleges at Cornell University the program is designed to bring a person attending an insight into agriculture and home economics. There will be special evening programs for each day. On Monday, March 23, the final in the annual Rice Debate Stage will be held, along with a talk by an international Farm Youth Exchange delegate.

Tuesday evening's events will include an open house of all exhibits. On Wednesday, the Kappa Kappa Club will present a play; and on Thursday, a country dance and finals in the Eastman Public Speaking contest are planned.

While there will be a continuing program of interest to all adults throughout the week, special attention is directed to young people. Events are planned for Monday and Friday. On Friday the annual student livestock show and a conservation program for young people will be held. Wednesday, with featured speakers.

Cornell music groups including the A-Capella Chorus, the Big Red band, and the singing Cayuga's Waiters will present five concert during the noon hour each day.

As in previous years, there will be movies on a variety of topics, most of them in color. One will be a film on birds and birdcalls, the data for which was recently featured in a national magazine.

High School Girls Invited

Young women through-out New York State who are juniors and seniors in high school have been invited for the second year to be guests of the New York State College of Home Economics on the opening day of particular interest to teen-agers, have been planned for the day, including food and clothing demonstrations by 4-H demonstration winners.

Cornell's health and safety committee, in cooperation with the Tompkins County Medical Society and other health organizations, will present a series of programs on the prevention of illness and accidents and other health topics. As in 1952, various tests will be offered without charge, among them free chest X-rays and physical check-up service for choir directors will be a new feature of Rural Church Day. Now in its 15th year, the Rural Church Day program, according to Ralph Williamson of the Rural Church Institute, will emphasize practical ways to help church leaders and personnel.

The consulting service will be in charge of Mrs. Alice Bartlett of Meeklenburg.

Rural Church Day Program

Headquarters for registration and information will be in the foyer of the new Albert R. Mann Library on the campus of the College of Agriculture. Located at headquarters will be a rooming service which will help adult guests obtain overnight accommodations.

# North East Woman Wins Her First Baking Contest

North East — Entering her first pie-baking contest, Mrs. Leon Bryson won first place Tuesday in an apple pie contest sponsored by the Erie County Horticultural Association.

Second and third places were won by Mrs. Donald Grimshaw, North Girard, and Mrs. Walter Jack, North East.

Other features of the association's all-day meeting were a panel on the fruit industry, with Hall McCord and Roy Thompson, North East; James Sturgeon, Fairview; and Robert Herold, Glarville; a talk by Brother Howard of St. Barnabas Home, a motion picture and an auction of the prize-winning pies.

At the women's program, Miss Helen Denning, extension nutritionist, discussed home beautification and food preparation for entertaining guests.

# PRICE INDEX DECLINES

Washington — Declines that started more than a year ago in prices received by Pennsylvania farmers for livestock continued into February and were largely responsible for a drop of 4 per cent in the index of prices farmers obtained for principal farm products between Jan. 15 and Feb. 15.



LEAD COUNTY FFA.—Officers of the recently reorganized County Future Farmers of America Association are shown at the second meeting at Chautauqua this week. They are seated, left to right: Richard Lawton, secretary; Maurice Ely, president; David Cummings, vice president; and (standing) Glen Scott, reporter; John Price, Sherman, advisor; and Robert Saxton, treasurer. —Al Jones Photo

# County FFA Association Adopts Constitution, By-laws

Chautauqua.—The newly reorganized Chautauqua County FFA Association adopted a constitution and by-laws at a meeting Wednesday night at the Chautauqua Central School.

The association's membership is open to any member of a Future Farmers of America chapter. Presiding officers, who were elected at the reorganization meeting last month, are Maurice Ely, Bemus Point, president; David Cummings, Sherman, vice president; Richard Lawton, Forestville, secretary; Robert Saxton, Chautauqua, treasurer; Glen Scott, Pine Valley, reporter; Galus Becker, Brocton, secretary; and John Price, Sherman, advisor.

The constitution, which had been drafted by a committee, was presented by Mr. Cummings, and after revision was adopted by a majority vote.

A two-hour discussion on the constitution was the principal business of the meeting.

Under the constitution, the association will meet the first Wednesday of each month. Dues were fixed at 50 cents per year, and it was specified that the advisor will be selected by the county's agriculture teachers.

Seven schools were representative at the meeting, despite stormy weather and poor driving conditions. The meeting was held in the visual aid room, converted to a lodge room by club emblems and drapes.

Schools represented are Bemus Point, Brocton, Chautauqua, Forestville, Sherman, and Westfield. Mrs. Kyle Morse and members of the Chautauqua F.F.A. Chapter served refreshments.

The association will meet again April 1 at Bemus Point.

# The Rural Woman: Diplomacy Begins In Your Back Yard

Keeping Peace in the Neighborhood Demands Patience, Tact, Quick Thinking

By SUELEEN SMITH

The "good neighbor policy" begins at home. Else how would it be possible for Bigwheels, Bigdomes and Goldbraids, Inc., to throw their weight around international circles and empty their impressive and authoritative portfolios of hope and help? If they have never been active, cooperative members of "Neighbors, Inc." in their own home towns, they haven't got what it takes, pal.

I sit on the stoop one day and cogitate. Three little girls come strolling down the road in an arm, arguing hotly over the vital subject of whose doll is the nicest. They appeal to me. I say one is the prettiest, another the largest and one has special appeal with closing eyes and real hair. They go away happy.

A neighbor finishes hanging her wash, after borrowing a few clothespins and drops down beside me for a breath-

"Did you hear that Peg's husband was recalled to active duty and leaves tomorrow?" she asks. No, I didn't have that piece of information, but together we plan a series of special invitations for Peg's first luncheon days. Mrs. Two-Doors-Down joins us and tongues wag in the middle. Not a scratch or a yowl in evidence and I think those "cat" stories are overrated anyway.

A crash, tinkling glass and shrieks: "Hey, Dopey, now you did it—did not Chuck should've caught it—Joe's fault, the goon insisted on staying here."

A couple of indignant fathers rush to the scene of action and magnanimously decide an overall responsibility. The gang sheepishly agree and divvy up from hoards of catchers mitt and flyrod funds. The young pitcher diplomat had pitched the goon's untested window replacement labor and the neighborhood court of appeals is eliminated.

At one time a certain couple wished to buy a house, but was dismayed to learn that three others also wanted it. One day all the prospective buyers were invited to join the owners and their immediate neighbors for a backyard picnic. The following morning the owner phoned one of the most interested buyers.

"You may purchase my house," he said, "if you still want it. My neighbors chose you people as the ones they would most enjoy having nearby. This is a friendly neighborhood and would not care to be the instrument of discontent. I hope you will be as bappy here as we have been."

This is a true story and the house owner has my vote for the highest diplomatic post in the U. S.

# FARM SALES

Pentonville.—Mr. and Mrs. J. Pangborn and two children have bought and moved to the place on the Sandberg Road, built by Mr. Swanson.

# Dean Myers Will Address Meeting Of Producers

Buffalo.—Western New York farmers will have a chance to hear William I. Myers, Dean of the College of Agriculture at Cornell University, when Producers' Cooperative, Commission Association holds its annual meeting here Tuesday.

Dr. Myers, who heads Secretary of Agriculture Ezra T. Benson's interim Advisory Commission, will speak at a luncheon at 12:30 in the Hotel Lafayette, Manager Palmer C. Flournoy, Buffalo, invites men and women interested in New York State livestock farming to make reservations to attend the luncheon as guests of Producers.

The Cornell dean's talk, on "The Economic Outlook for New York Agriculture," will follow closely his return from a current tour of the Far East.

Tuesday morning will be given over to the Producer's annual business meeting, with reports, election of directors, and a talk by P. O. Wilson, secretary-manager of the National Livestock Producers Association, Chicago.

Members of Producers Cooperative Commission Association's Board of Directors are E. P. Forrester, Akron, N.Y., president; William Groninger, North Manchester, Ind., vice president; Art Ringold, Riga, Mich.; Clayton White, Stow, Warren, W. Hawley, Batavia; Boyd Bacon, Perry; and Howard Dunham, Knowlesville.

# Grade School PTA To Meet at Lander

Lander.—The Farmington-Sugar Grove Grade Parent Teachers Association will meet in the Lander School Tuesday evening, with Dan Walton of Warren, Y. M. C. A. as speaker. Music will be provided by pupils of Mrs. Hugh Sechrist's room.

# TANNERY WORKMAN LOSTS TWO FINGERS

Gowanda.—A 35-year-old tannery workman lost portions of two fingers Friday while operating a wringer at the Moench Tanning Company.

Injured was Edward Rak, 201 Erie Avenue, and it was necessary to amputate the little and index fingers of the right hand at the second joint of each finger.

# O.E.S. MEETS MONDAY

Sinclairville.—Sylvia Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, will meet at 8 P.M. Monday.

# Ellery Grange Host at Second Visitation

Ellery Center.—The second visitation meeting of county Granges was entertained by Ellery Grange, with Chautauqua the visiting Grange. Other Granges represented were Union, Ross and Dewittville, with 56 attending.

Mrs. Roland Nygren, lecturer, presented the program. Shirley Shaver gave a recitation, and Eileen Nygren and Ruth Hans gave songs.

Mrs. Hurley Shaver was the narrator for a tableau given by Mrs. Rudolph Johnson, Mrs. Floyd Ingerson, Louie Hallberg and Merton Ingerson. A quartet, Eileen Nygren, Bui Higgins, Frances and Joe Ingerson, sang two numbers.

Another tableau included Nancy, Linda, Susie and Nina Lou Hallberg, with a song by a trio of girls. Claybourne Sampson gave a talk on, "The theme is Fraternity for Peace."

The Chautauqua lecturer presented the emblem to the Ellery lecturer. Ellery will carry it to Dewittville tonight.

A song closed the program. Mrs. John Ingerson and Eileen Nygren were accompanists for the program.

In the business meeting it was reported that Pomona will be at Fredonia, March 28, and officers and members will meet at Busti Thursday. A letter was received from the Jamestown area community Council committee regarding a proposed state park on Chautauqua Lake.

Talks were given by the Pomona master and lecturer, service and hospitality committees, currents, raspberries and strawberries.

The Granges discussed the debates sponsored by the Granges. The Misses Frances and Joan Ingerson, Ruth Higgins and Eileen Nygren, joined the county Grange Church.

A silver offering yielded \$10 for the March of Dimes.

# Farmers' Help Asked by Benson In New Program

Washington.—Secretary of Agriculture Ezra T. Benson said this week he believes the nation is "ready for a little change" in the economic order of the past twenty years but that it isn't going to be easy to accomplish.

Benson told a group of Farm Bureau delegates from Pennsylvania and New Hampshire that although any change in existing farm programs will be a slow process that he believes "it can be done through the help of farm people and their organizations."

Referring to congressional criticism of his recent speech in St. Paul in which he expressed the belief that farm price supports should be floors against low prices instead of "government guaranteed profits," Benson said he is confident that if the issue is debated openly from one end of the country to the other a sound solution can be found.

Oris V. Wells, chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, told the group that the current farm cost-price squeeze is "a legacy of ten years of inflation."

He said "ten years of inflation has set the stage for a new economic climate in which farm prices will probably level off faster than prices farmers pay for commodities they buy to keep farm plants operating."

# Borden's Report Lists Record Sales, Net Income Down

New York.—Improving for the third consecutive year, sales of the Borden Cattle Co. and its subsidiary subsidiaries set a new record of \$768,019,612 in 1952, Theodore G. Montague, president, disclosed in his annual report. This is a gain of 6 per cent over 1951 sales of \$722,770,980.

Despite the larger volume of business, net income declined about 2 per cent to \$1,667,137 from \$18,060,371 in 1951. Earnings equalled \$4.11 a share, compared with \$4.20 in 1951.

Mr. Montague attributed the decline to price controls and taxes levied on the company's operations, citing price squeezes in some major milk markets and the soy bean business. Dividends amounted to \$2.80 per share, the same as in 1951.

Fluid milk operations as a whole did not earn a satisfactory profit, chiefly because of the effect of price regulations in some large markets, Mr. Montague said.

Sales of ice cream and related products continued to increase, but there was not a corresponding rise in profits. The advantages of greater volume and improved efficiency brought about by new equipment were more than offset by rising costs, Mr. Montague said.

Cheese sales improved to 7.5 pounds, the second highest on record.

# 13 Take Degrees At Busti Grange; Meetings Planned

Busti.—The first and second degrees were conferred on 13 candidates at a special meeting at Busti Grange Monday evening. The group included one from Panama and two from Dewittville, Willard Ayres, captain of the degree team.

Raymond Clark, master, announced that the third and fourth degrees will be given the Busti candidates at the regular meeting at 8 P. M. Tuesday. Several important matters will be discussed at that meeting, it was stated.

The Officers and Members Association will meet at 8:30 P. M. Thursday at Busti, and a supper will be served from 5:30 to 8 P. M. Friday, under the direction of Mary Swanson. The youth group will have charge of refreshments Thursday night.

The meeting Monday attracted 62 members. Brief talks were given by Mr. and Mrs. Ren Cochran and Mr. and Mrs. Euland Greeley, Panama.

# Dairy, Sheep Courses Planned at Penn State

State College, Pa.—New information and current practices on subjects related to dairy farm management will be included on the program for the dairy cattle herdsmen short course at Pennsylvania State College. The course is designed for persons who are actively engaged in or who have heretofore been engaged in dairy herd management experience.

A short course for sheepmen, March 24-26, will cover the breeding, feeding, and management of sheep, with emphasis on practices in barn operations. Applications will be accepted for the herdsmen's course until March 16, and for the sheepmen until March 17.

# Sinclairville Red Cross Drive Begins Monday

Sinclairville.—The Red Cross drive will begin here Monday and continue until March 16, according to Mrs. Flossie Wenzel, chairman.

The quota for the Sinclairville area is \$476. Persons not contacted may turn over their donations to Mrs. Wenzel, Mill Street.

# Oratorical Contest Planned by WCTU

Sugar Grove.—The W.C.T.U. will sponsor silver medal speaking contest at Sugar Grove High School Monday at 8 P.M. Twelve young people have registered for the oratorical contest. The public is invited to attend.

# Marine Corps Unit Plans Charter Night

Warren.—Members of General Joseph H. Pendleton Detachment, Marine Corps, will hold their Charter Night Monday at the Blue and White Restaurant. Robert E. Allaman of Erie, division commandant, will be in Warren to present the local detachment with its new charter and will install the officers.

Robert Harrison is commandant; August Guller, Jr., senior vice commandant; Tony Vogler, junior vice commandant; Robert V. Gorsuch, adjutant and paymaster; Bernard L. Winegardner, judge advocate. Mr. Vogler also is chaplain.



HASN'T CHANGED MUCH.—This 117-year-old house, built of planks sawed from trees which grew on the farm, marks the George A. Skinner farm, just west of Portland, which has been for 140 years in the Taylor and Skinner family. The first purchase was made in 1813 by a brother of Mr. Skinner's great great grandfather. —Post-Journal Staff photo

# Family Century Farms

The Post-Journal's FARM FAMILY PAGE

Since Route 20 was only a wagon track through the forest, the Taylor and Skinner families have produced lumber, dairy products and fruit on a 140-year-old farm just west of Portland.

The 57-acre farm, now owned by George A. Skinner, has been devoted entirely to fruit growing since his grandfather, George L. Skinner, started an extensive fruit-producing and shipping business.

Mr. Skinner now has 35 acres in grapes, and at various times has raised grape cuttings, currants, raspberries and strawberries.

The farm's history dates back to the family of Reuben Taylor, who was born Feb. 8, 1759, at Colchester, Conn. He married Anna Skinner, Hebron, Conn., in 1785, and their son, Parsons, was born there March 22, 1787.

The following year they moved to Norwich, Chenango County, where their second son, Erastus, was born Nov. 15, 1788. Erastus was the first member of the family to move to Portland, in the winter of 1808, and his brother, Parsons, followed in 1810. Parsons made his first money in the sawmill business. James Dunn had purchased a large tract of land from the Holland Land Company, Parsons Taylor, on March 16, 1813, paid Dunn \$300 for a section of land along the right of way of the Nickel Plate Railroad, which included the northern part of the present farm.

In 1815 Reuben, father of Erastus and Parsons, moved to Portland and bought this section of land from Parsons. The following year Reuben purchased additional land which included the remainder of the farm and a large tract on the south side of Route 20.

Reuben built a log cabin at the site of the present home of Mrs. David Skinner, the former Turk family property.

In 1824 he built a frame house which has since been razed.

Meanwhile, Parsons bought another tract north of the railroad. He married Phebe Carpenter in 1809, then after her death in 1839 he married Betsy Godfrey. They had one child, Bethia Taylor, born Oct. 15, 1811.

Parsons built a house on his lot in 1826. Later he sold his land and moved to Centerville, Pa., where he died March 8, 1889. Bethia, who never married, died about 1922. Parsons' home and farm are now owned and occupied by Leonard Paul.

Erastus married in 1846, and he took over the operation of the farm until 1874. He married Ada Munson, Portland, in 1875, and moved to another farm where he remained the rest of his life. That farm is now owned by Elliot Pratt.

Almon was an instructor at the old Westfield Academy, later moving to Flagstaff, Ariz., to teach. He returned and operated two farms in the Portland area until his death. Jeanette, Susan Jane, known as Jennie, born Feb. 4, 1848, was

married at 19 to George L. Skinner. In 1874 for a total of \$3,800, Henry and Almon sold their shares in their father's estate to Jennie.

George L. Skinner became interested in grapes, and at one time had 45 acres of vineyard. He eliminated the other phases of the farm operation and with his only son, Gordon, carried on an extensive grape shipping business.

During this period, with Almon's help, Jennie also acquired a three-acre section near the railroad, which provides access to Correll's Creek.

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Assists Grandfather on Farm

George A. Skinner, present owner, was born March 9, 1897, and married Marian Pettit, Brocton, June 30, 1921. He worked on the farm from the time of his youth.

His grandfather, George L. Skinner, died Dec. 26, 1909, and Jennie Taylor Skinner died at the age of 73 on Sept. 27, 1921. In her will, she left the property to George A., with the provision that \$300 annually of the farm's receipts would go to Charlotte, George's mother.

However, Charlotte agreed to take instead title to a house in Portland, which she still owns. She lives in an apartment in Dunkirk.

The appearance of the farm has changed little through the years. Mr. and Mrs. Skinner have modernized the house, and a large shed has been added at the rear.

The old cow barn, relative of the years of general farming burned in 1923, but the former horse barn is still in use.

An eight-acre section of land and a house, directly across Route 20, which originally was part of Reuben Taylor's farm, has been purchased by Mr. Skinner. Sections of the farm not devoted to grapes are now meadow.

The Skinners have a daughter, Barbara Jane, a registered nurse, who is married to Walter H. Moor, Fredonia. They live in Peninsula, Ohio.

# Conservationists Meet Next Week

Warren.—Plans have been announced here for a technical meeting at State College by the Soil Conservation Service Tuesday through Thursday, announcing the plans for the Mr. Keefer State Conservatism for the service, stated the conference will be held to discuss technical subjects dealing with the conservation of renewable natural resources: soil, water, forests, and wild life.

Attending this meeting will be Ralph G. Eckert, work unit conservatologist in Warren County.

About 60 will attend the conference, being held for the benefit of work unit conservatologists or technicians who work in the counties helping farmers make soil surveys and conservation farm plans, and assisting in the installation of the conservation practices.

Others attending the meeting from the service will include area conservatologists and state office personnel.

Climaxing the conference will be a banquet Thursday evening, with Miles Horst as guest speaker. Miles Horst, secretary of agriculture of Pennsylvania, and Dr. Robert M. Saiter, chief of the Soil Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

# Pennsylvania Leads All States In Bangs Testing

Harrisburg, Pa.—Control of brucellosis, or Bang's disease, of cattle has advanced in Pennsylvania to the point that State Secretary of Agriculture Miles Horst Thursday declared all cattle should be tested by Jan. 1, 1957.

Full cooperation of dairy and beef cattle owners in the federal-state program of eradication of their No. 1 livestock disease enemy will be needed to reach that goal, he told the third annual meeting of the State Brucellosis Committee. Members were present from practically every county.

Among all states, Pennsylvania now ranks first in the number of herds tested for brucellosis, second in number of cattle tested and second in number of herds certified as brucellosis-free, Mr. Horst said.

# TWO LESSONS TUESDAY

Levans.—The Levant Home Bureau will meet at 30 A.M. Tuesday at the home of Mrs. Clayton Ball, Levant-Kennedy Road. Mrs. LeRoy Elleman will give the first lesson on "Foods We Need and Why We Need Them."

Mrs. Ernest Carlson will give a lesson on "Nylons and Synthetic Fibers."

# TRACTOR LICENSE POSED

Harrisburg, Pa.—A bill to require licensing of tractors and other agricultural machines was introduced in the Senate Tuesday.

Under the measure, a fee of two dollars would be charged for the issuance of the license.

# CANING LESSON TUESDAY

Falconer.—The James Stet Home Bureau will meet Tuesday at 7:30 P.M. at the home of Mrs. Sam Valvo, 106 West James Street, for the first lesson on "Chair Caning" to be taught by Mrs. Elton Stearns.

# Conservation Farm Visits

By RALPH G. ECKERT  
Soil Conservation Service  
Warren, Pa.

If the old saying, "If March comes in like a lion it will go out like a lamb," holds true I know quite a few people that are looking for the lambs. If they don't soon find them I am afraid that there will be a lot less sheep around later as more wool will be needed for protection from the wind, snow, cold, and rain.

During the heavy rains Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning I got to thinking about the increased amount of erosion caused by the rains. I saw the evidence of this erosion in Conewago Creek in the very muddy color I saw water as it ran off of good pasture, clear and free of soil particles.

Where then did the Conewago get its change in color? Some from the roads and highways, but most of it from the unprotected fields, poor pastures, and idle farms with the good cover gone and gullies taking over the fields. Areas like this line the course of the creek from its start to end where it empties its silt and debris-laden load into the Allegheny River, already overburdened with what was once good top soil, lime and fertilizer plus some of the sub-soil.

From there it will be carried down and deposited where it will do a too good a job of clogging navigation channels in the Mississippi and the Gulf of Mexico to where, at a cost of thousands of dollars, it will have to be removed.

I wonder just how many people, when they see the rain, realize exactly what an important factor the individual erosion drop plays in the soil erosion throughout the country. When we consider that approximately 90 per cent of our farmland is sloping, this factor becomes more and more important.

Extensive research has been carried on by W. D. Ellison, U.S. Navy, and Forest G. Bell, U.S. Army, and Bert D. Robinson of the SCS, in erosion caused by raindrops and during rainstorms.

When a heavy rainstorm, like we had this week, hits the bare ground or a poor pasture there are two forces that work on the soil. First the explosive force of the raindrops which hit the ground, and second the flowing water that carries the exploded soil particles away.

We will continue from this point next week as there is too much to be covered in one item.

meanwhile, Erastus served as a volunteer in the War of 1812, and was wounded at the Battle of Queenstown. He returned to Portland in 1815, bought the main portion of the present farm from his father and built a log house. He married Elizabeth Matheson Feb. 4, 1819, and they had three children—Gordon M. Edward, and Charles G. In 1824, Reuben and his son, Erastus, built Taylor's sawmill on Correll's Creek, 20 rods north of the railroad. This mill was in operation for about 20 years, and its product included lumber used to build Reuben's home and later, in 1836, Erastus' plank home which in its modernized form is the main section of the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Skinner.

Reuben died in 1833 and his widow, Anna, died in 1846. Both are buried in Evergreen Cemetery, Portland. Their lands on the south side of Route 20, were sold from the family by Anna before her death.

Erastus operated a general farm until his death Aug. 17, 1857. That year, Gordon purchased for \$1,500 the interests of his brothers—Edward and his wife, Jeanette, and Charles and his wife, Juliet.

Gordon Taylor was born May 10, 1821. He and his wife, Catherine, had three children, Susan Jane, Erastus Henry and Almon.

Gordon continued to manage the land as a general farm. He was elected supervisor of the Town of Portland in 1860, and died March 4, 1861. His widow lived until 1914.

Farmer at 14

E. Henry was 14 at the time of his father's death but he took over the operation of the farm until 1874. He married Ada Munson, Portland, in 1875, and moved to another farm where he remained the rest of his life. That farm is now owned by Elliot Pratt.

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