

# Homes Away from Home Expensive for City Escapees

(Continued from Page 3)  
includes wives.

"Many city dwellers moving to the country do not stay over four years. They find it impossible to earn a living, run out of money, and are forced to return to the city. Farming requires investment in stock, expensive equipment, and—to make it pay—knowledge, experience, and lots of hard work. Many come unprepared, and leave, disillusioned," claims Mrs. Valero.

"If I had known what I was getting into when we decided to buy the farm, I don't know if I would have done it or not," said Mrs. William Glenn, whose husband is co-owner of a Houston paint factory. Their farm is located in Carmine.

"Keeping a weekend home involves the extra expense of driving back and forth. Also, when you get there, you can't sit back and enjoy it. You've got to clean it because it's going to get dirty if you are there or not," Mrs.

Glenn said.

The Glenn house was partially rebuilt and remodeled after they bought it six years ago, but the job is not yet completed.

"The two front rooms are my next goal. We also have a garden. We thought that we would try to save a little and grow our own food for the

fun of it. But we're never here to take care of it, and it doesn't seem to be producing much," Mrs. Glenn fumed.

Some people moving to the country have been there before. Vernon Plueckhahn, who was born and raised in Carmine, was forced to move to the city after he married.

"We tried to stay in Carmine at

first, but we just couldn't make any money here then," claims his wife, Evelyn. After a 10 year absence, the Plueckhahns returned to Carmine with their two daughters and started a successful business of raising chickens.

Small towns that have always depended upon agriculture for their existence are hoping that the new,

wealthier weekend dwellers will help about them.

What the result of the trend toward weekend homes will be is impossible to say in certain terms even after two decades. These homes are not founded upon the idea that they are to support their owners. Rather, they are now becoming items to be cherished, with fulfillment and satisfaction being the

only things expected in return. Perhaps this is a reflection upon the affluence of modern America. More realistically, it is the adjustment of society in a successful manner to a new system once the old one becomes outdated. Small farming for pleasure is losing its appeal and is being replaced by leisure farming for pleasure.

## Army Offers Active Duty Preference

Army ROTC cadets will now be able to plan their active duty preference a year in advance, thanks to a new policy set by Brig. Gen. Wilfrid K. G. Smith.

Graduates will receive their preference on proper recommendation, said Smith, deputy chief of staff at the Army Training and Doctrine Command, Ft. Monroe, Va.

A&M and five other military schools are now receiving this preferential treatment giving the Army ROTC cadets their choice of active duty or active duty for training.

"Last year 38 per cent of our non-scholarship cadets who requested two years active duty were denied because of lack of space," said Col. Thomas Parsons, professor of military science and commandant of the Corps.

"We had to compete with every other ROTC school for active duty slots. The new Department of the Army policy means we are no longer faced with that situation. We don't commission anyone we don't think should have a two-year assignment," said Parsons.

He said the policy will provide a definite assist in maintaining A&M's status as the nation's largest Army ROTC program.

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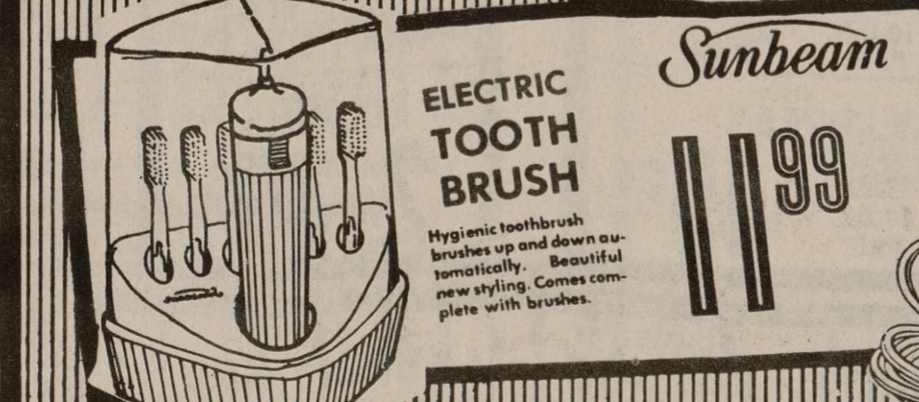


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