

Clem's Farm

Farmers invest huge amounts of money to grow crops: seed, fertilizer, weed spray, bug spray, fuel to run the equipment, plus the cost of the equipment. Then they cool their heels and wait for a return on their investments. The farmer is the only businessman who pays retail price for all his input and sells his output at wholesale prices. Clem Faist was a good farmer and this story tells a little bit about his farm south of Freeport, IL.

Let's start with some great old pictures of farming south of Freeport many years ago.

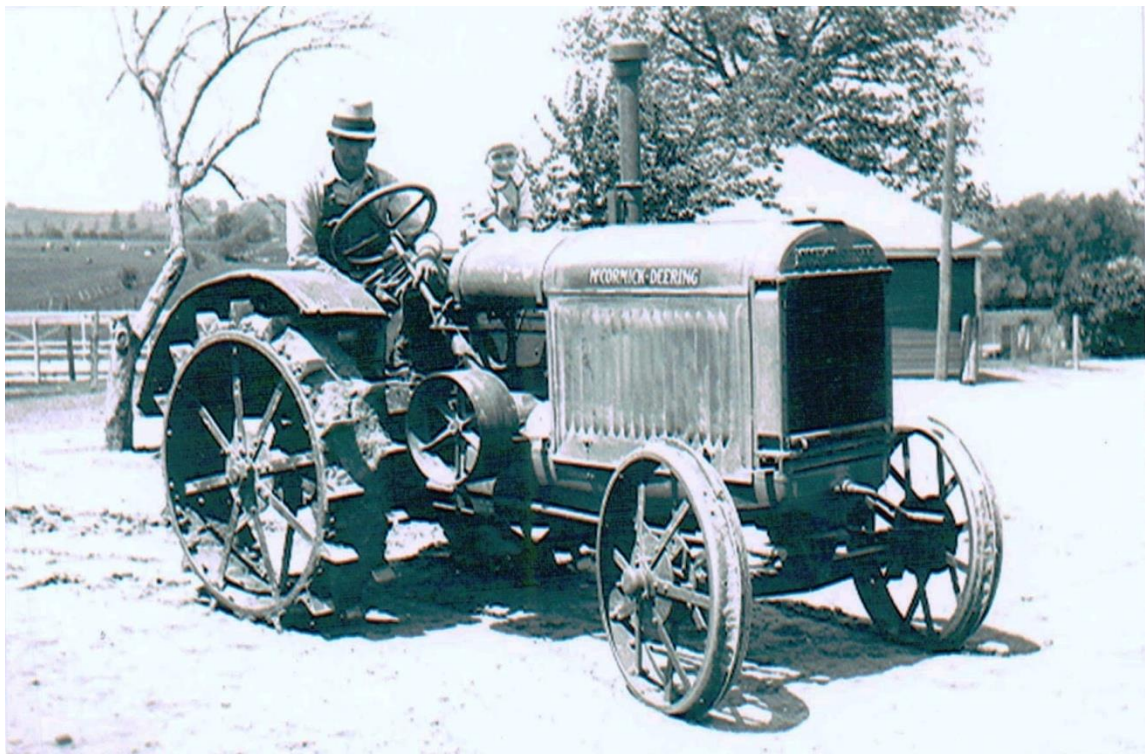
This first picture is of Clem Faist and his brothers Al, George and John at the Joseph Faist farm. This is looking toward Walnut Road. Note the boys are all wearing bib overalls.



In 1937 Clem was farming on his own and he and his daughter, Marion, were busy hauling bovine excretory exhaust (Have you figured out that term yet? It looks pretty apparent to me.)



Clem's little girl was right there beside her daddy in the fields along Walnut Road.



In 1938 Clem got a second helper, a little boy named Robert. Below are some more cool old pictures. By then the family lived on Florence Road. In 1939 the kids were supervising as neighbors helped with the hay crop. Aren't those some magnificent teams?



In 1941 Clem and Arvilla bought the farm on Florence Road.

Charles Lamm, et al., to Clemens
A. Falst and wife, w. d., land in
Silver Creek township.

Robert grew and became his daddy's right hand man. The picture below (1946) is taken just north of the house. A big John Deere and modern tillage tools would have made short work of that job but they got it done, too, in a slower, gentler world.



Yup, there was plenty of bovine excretory exhaust on Florence Road too.



I have no clue where this next picture (BELOW) was taken nor the identity of the little boy but he sure was proud to be helping.



The horses were an important tool at corn planting time.



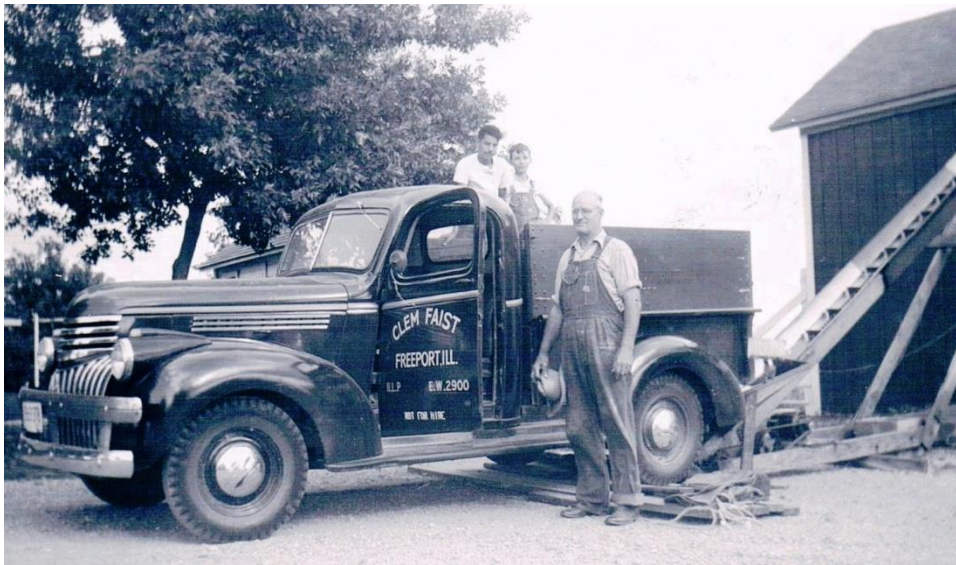
Hay making time was easier with extra help from neighbors. Clem is the first man on the left and the little boy with a soda is Robert. Rich Meyer thinks the taller boy is Irvin Wubbena and the man next to Clem is Ralph Wubbena. He thinks the fellow on the far end of the rack is Duane Drake and the Jeep may have belonged to the Bratrtruds, who went around the community doing custom baling.



The oats harvests on Florence Road., south of Freeport, IL. were a busy time. One early picture shows Clem Faist and Robert with Raymond Hoefer's pull-behind type combine in 1947.



Oats was stored in the granary and the picture below shows oats being unloaded from Clem's truck. I can't ID the people....the man was possibly from Baileyville.



In 1955 Clem sold his dairy herd and concentrated on grain farming.

**PUBLIC AUCTION
OF DAIRY HERD**
Having decided to quit dairying
will sell all of my dairy cattle,
located five miles south of Free-
port on U. S. Highway 26, then 1/4
mile east of Florence Road.
MAY 11TH, 1955
WEDNESDAY
1:00 O'CLOCK (CST)
24 HEAD HOLSTEIN CATTLE
BANGS TESTED
13 milk cows, some fresh—5 to 6
weeks, 4 to freshen in May; 3 two
year old heifers to freshen in
May; 4 yearlings, calfhood vacci-
nated; 4 heifer calves, 6 weeks
old; 1 veal calf. All of the cattle
are bred to Northern Illinois
Breeding Co-op.
1 Surge milking unit
14 ten gallon milk cans.
Not Responsible For Accidents
TERMS—CASH
CLEM A. FAIST, OWNER
E. L. OTTO, CLERK
AL VAN LOH, AUCTIONEER

In 1965 Clem and Arvilla moved away from their farm to a pretty house in Forreston, IL.

Farewell Picnic

On Sunday a group of 60 present and former neighbors attended a farewell picnic at Krape park in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Clem Faist, Freeport, Route 1.

The Faists have lived on a farm near Freeport since 1937 and will be moving to Forreston this week.

The cake, decorated by Mrs. Richard Meyer, featured a sugar cube house on top, complete with battery-operated light, reminding the couple to "keep the home fires burning."

Mr. and Mrs. Faist received a lamp from the group. A social evening followed.

Arrangements for the picnic were made by Mrs. Alfred Meyer.

