



GEOnotes

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The Extra Credit Opportunity of a Life Time

West Europe, North America & the South Pacific

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Based on textbook (pp 313- 314), farms became links in the chain of agribusiness that include the inputs of mechanization, seeds, fertilizers & pesticides, farm management skills, the outputs of crop and animal products. More capital was required to become part of this chain, so farms mechanized and grew in size, while farmers and farm laborers became fewer. As is related to its animal products in Western Europe, according to <http://www.nytimes.com/2000/11/19/weekinreview/19DALE.html>, Living with mad cows: Suzanne Daley describes that as a wave of fear of mad cow disease gripped France last week, large number of French consumers had the same reflex. Mr. Tchernia claims the French government has had a poor track record of keeping the public informed about health danger. Western Europe agricultural technology has improved since WW II with the EU Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). Yet, like the 'mad cow' problem in British [sic] in 1980 and 1990 and this time in France, there are still some problems to be worked out.