5 Point Agricultue Program

adopted by the Lancaster Cham- munity and trade problems in her of Commerce to strengthen which the Chamber is interest-ed The agricultural task group, the agricultural relations of the composed of Lester Brubaker, chamber and to give more em- 350 Strasburg Pike, John Mcphasis to the business of farming

The program, adopted as part interviewed numerous farmers of the current development program of the chamber will see the appointment of a committee on agriculture in the chamber and one or more of the committee members will attenl meetings of the County Agricultural Coun-**C**1

The Chamber will also consider the establishment of an annual L-F (business-farm) Day.

A legisative and public relations program to combat the litkering of farm lands and rural highways will be sponsored by the Chamber.

Farmers and farm organizations will be encouraged to seek membership in the Chamber of Commerce

And significant agricultural events will be reported in the membership bulletin of the Chamber

This program of work, of which the agricultural program is a part, was adopted as a goal and guide for the next three to $f \in e$ years

The program was adopted upc recommendations given by on petty thieves, rubber check members of special task groups passers and the like

A five point program has been which delved into various com-Grann, Lancaster, Walter Dunlap Jr, Lancaster and Robert Best, Lancaster Farming editor,

and farm leaders to find just what the farmer needed and wanted from the Chamber of Commerce.

The Harry Krusz and Co. pub-Neb, is assisting the Chamber in the development program. This firm noted that agriculture is one of the greater industries of the Lancaster area and felt that a good consistant farm pro gram was needed by the Chamber

The Chamber of Commerce serves as a clearing house for specific information on local industrial, commercial and agricultural activities, as well as historical and statistical data; it registers magazine solicitors and performs many of the "Better Business Bureau" functions in the area

The chamber also participates in Sale Days promotions, in Christmas street decorations, and has a relay system of warnings

Government Reveals Added Details standin under this second prior-Chamber of Commerce Adopts Of 1959 Conservation Reserve

Additional details of the 1959 tional average rate of \$10. Conservation Reserve of the Soil

Bank were announced by the US. Department of Agriculture Wedfor an early start on signup under the program late this sum mer and early fall.

Under present plans, the signup period will begin about Sept 1, although definite opening dates will be set locally by State Agricultural Stabilization and Conserto close about Oct. 10 vation Committees It is expected

Aseries of regional meetings is being held with ASC and other lic relations firm of Lincoln, interested Departmental field personnel to acquaint them with details of the 1959 program. On scheduled through Aug 2 the the basis of these meetingsgroundwork will be laid for making the program available to farmers through county ASC offices

The Conservation Reserve is being opened early this year because the other phase of the Soil Bank - the Acreage Reserve these "ceiling" rates. In cases - -will not be in effect in 1959.

MAJOR CHANGES in the 1959 Conservation Reserve from the program in effect for contracts beginning this year are. 1 An increase in the national average annual payment for Conservation Reserve land to \$13 50 acceptance. per acre from the previous na-

2. Additional incentives including a payment of 10 per cent above normal rates, for farmers to put all eligible land on their nesday as plans were being made farms in the program for at least 5 years

3. A priority system for accept ing Conservation Reserve contract applications.

UNDER THE PRIORITY sys te m,preference will be given farmers who had all their cropland in the Soil Bank in 1958 the Conservation Reserve and the Acreage Reserve together and are now offering to put into the Conservation Reserve the land that was in the Acreage Re serve. After this priority will be given farmers offering land at lowest rates compared with applicable maximum rates for their farms.

County ASC committees will establish a maximum annual payment rate per-acre for all land offered for the program and farmers will have the opportunity to offer their land at ess than where participation in the pro- tional "non-diversion" land in the gram might exhaust available program. Non-diversion land does funds in a county or more land is offered than it woud be desir- duction in Soil Bank "base" able to contract in one year, of- crops

fers at lower-than-maximum

In cases of applicants of equal (Continued on page thirteen)

be applied - offers of lowest rate per acre, offers of total eligible acreage, offers of contracts for the longest period

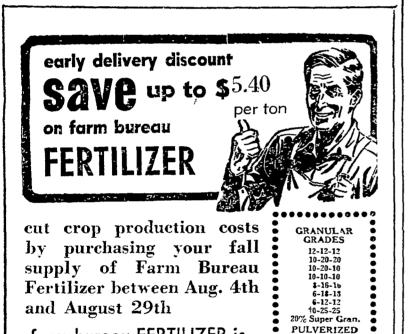
The rates of annual payments for individual farms, upon application of farmers, will be set by county ASC committees on the basis of average land on the farm, taking into consideration productivity, agricultural value, and rental rates for similar land in the locality. Individual farm rates may vary above and below the average annual payment rate established for the county. An upper limit of no more than 20 per cent of the value of the ldan on the individual farm is required by law.

The regular maximum payment rate may be earned by putting in the program land which during the past two years (1957 and 1958) has been in Soil Bank "base" crops (grains oilseeds and row crops) or from which tame hay has been harvested for hay or silage during the same period and a corresponding reduction is made in Cojl Bank base crops.

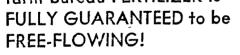
A lower rate of per-acre payment, 50 per cent of the regular maximum rate for the farm, may be earned by putting addi-1.ot require a corresponding re-

ON FARMS WITH a Soil Bank rates would be more certain of "base" of over 30 acres, for each acre put in the reserve at the

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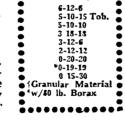
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