

## Dairy Ass'n In Favor Of Milk Commission

Dairy farmers and milk dealers wholeheartedly favored the concept of milk control including the establishment of fair minimum prices for farmers and consumers at an all day meeting in Harrisburg May 23. The group representing nearly 30 dairy organizations, met to evaluate the state's milk pricing laws at the invitation of the Pennsylvania Dairyman's Association headed by Paul J. Anthony of Strasstown.

Dr. C. William Pierce, agricultural economist from Pennsylvania State University laid the groundwork for the meeting by discussing and analyzing the history of Pennsylvania's Milk Control Law. Dr. Pierce noted that Pennsylvania dairy farmer income has increased at a faster rate than has dairy farmer income in adjacent states. On the other hand statistics show fair milk prices have been maintained for Pennsylvania consumers.

The group generally agreed that milk control has been a vital force in assuring adequate price levels for producers and fair prices for consumers in Pennsylvania. The decision to endorse continuation of milk control by the group, (representing thousands of dairy farmers and milk dealers), was based upon the "long range stabilizing effects of the law on all segments of the economy."

Further study was recommended to pinpoint benefits of milk control and to consider possible changes in the law or its administration. It was recognized some changes might be necessary to keep pace with economic and technological developments in the industry.

Inadequate public explanations by the Milk Control Com-

mission of its aims and accomplishments was discussed. Dairymen present felt that much milk control criticism was due to a general unawareness of the results of a quarter of a century of price control.

Milk control has leveled the economic peaks and valleys of producers and dealers enabling them to operate on long range policies with more attention to efficient operation and quality than would otherwise been possible according

to one presentation accepted by the group. The report pointed out that milk control had made available to the consumer higher quality milk, better service, and prices comparable with those in similar economic areas.

The fact that dairy industry stability under milk control is brought about at low cost, was also discussed by the dairyman's group. Considering the total value of the milk produced in Pennsylvania, the investments of dairy farmers and milk dealers, and the contribution of milk to the health and welfare of Pennsylvania

consumers, the cost of price control of less than a fraction of a cent per hundredweight per year was felt to be remarkable.

Delegates at the meeting consisted of representatives from dairy co-operatives, dealer associations, artificial breed organizations, Dairy Council, Dairy Herd Improvement Associations and dairy breed groups.

There is no advantage to pay more for white or brown shell eggs of the same quality, grade and size, says Catherine Love, Penn State extension consumer economics specialist. Shell color doesn't affect the flavor, nutritive value, or cooking performance of eggs. Neither is shell color a guide to yolk color, deep yellow yolks are an indication of the type of feed laying hens eat.

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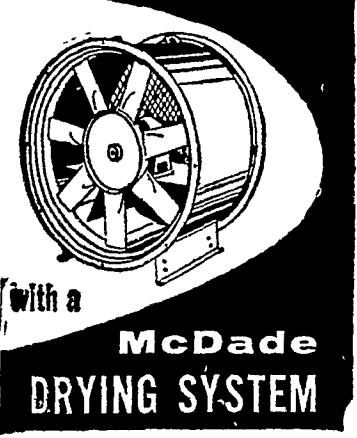
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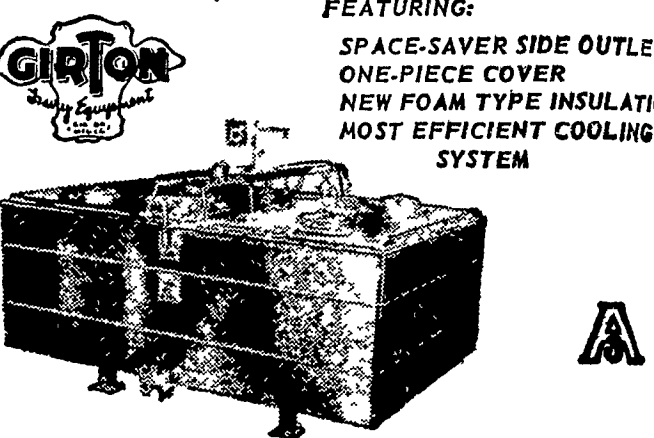
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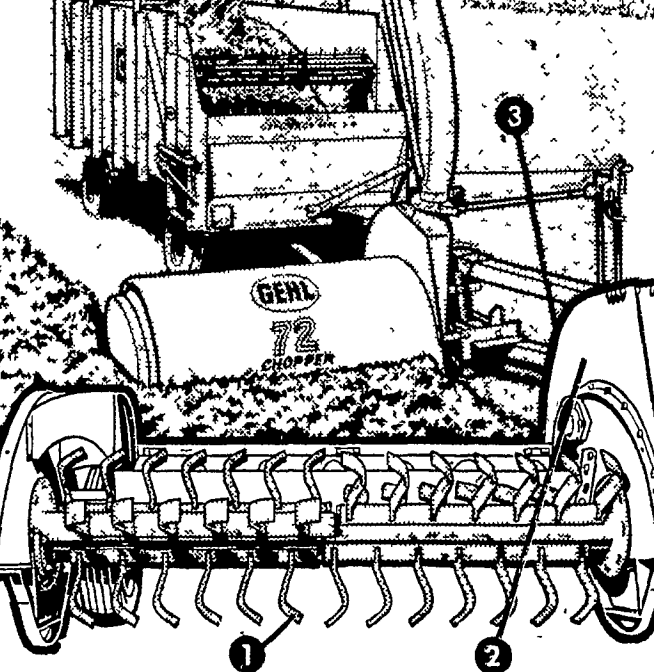
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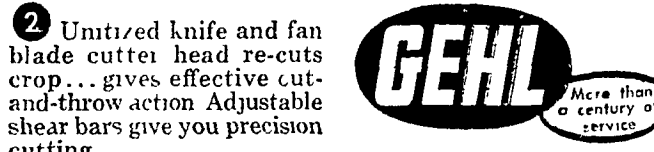
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