

## National Farmers Organization Backs Administration Program

The National Farmers Organization this week came out in favor of the farm bill as reported out of the House Agriculture Committee.

In a letter to all the members of the House of Representatives, the organization representing farmers in eight corn belt states, took a stand in favor of the pending legislation.

Robert E. Casper, vice president and legislative representative of the group, wrote in the letter, "The National Farmers Organization has, up to now taken no stand on the proposed new farm legislation. The national board of directors of the NFO, meeting May 18, 1962, said national board consisting of members of both political parties, has decided to issue a statement in support of the Bill reported out by the House Agricultural Committee".

With reference to the case of the "so-called Estes affair", the letter said in part "We think it is more important to realize that the real scandal lies in the passage of programs by Congress that have cost billions of dollars in the handling and storage of farm commodities for which there has been no immediate market, and the failure of farmers and farm organizations to accept their responsibilities in adjusting supply to demand."

Casper said his organization believes farmers must adjust the supply of goods to meet the demand whether there are farm programs or not.

But, he pointed out, if there were no orderly programs to help the farmer make this adjustment, it would be made through "some sort of chaos in our agricultural system".

He said the NFO believes the farm problem is primarily the responsibility of the farmer, and that he should expect no more exemption from responsibility for solving his problem than exists for the taxpayer.

"For those who believe in so-called free markets and the elimination of government from the picture, they will, for the first time, have a chance to vote for this . . . We do not believe they should expect more," the letter continued.

Casper said the NFO took the stand because they believed the older farm organizations (Grange, Farm Bureau, and Farmers Union) had reversed their stands on farm legislation. He cited congressional debate on the legislation passed in 1954 in which it was stated that "Farm Bureau had written the bill," and Farm Bureau and county agents were accused of packing public meetings held for discussion of the proposed bills. In 1954, Casper said, both the Farmers Union and Grange opposed the bill vigor-

**Rich Soil Needed --** If you're planning to plant vine crops, such as cucumbers, squash, pumpkins and muskmelons, you'll need a good rich loam soil containing plenty of organic matter, explains James O. Dutt, vegetable extension specialist. Vine crops also need plenty of fertilizer and insect control. If irrigation is needed do it in the daytime.

**Control Flies --** Sanitation is still the most important factor in effective house fly control programs, according to Penn State extension entomologists.

ously claiming that it registered farmers.

He said, the NFO believes farmers can and should do many of the things for themselves that they now expect the government to do for them.

"We support such legislation as will best maintain our present social economics, and political structure and will aid farmers in their efforts to help themselves," the letter concluded.

## Guernsey 4-H Holds Judging Practice Meet

A session of practice judging was the main feature of the recent meeting of the Guernsey 4-H club at the home of Hervey Ferguson, Kirkwood R1.

Official judge at the practice session was Byron Ginter, a student in dairy husbandry at the Pennsylvania State University and a member of the University dairy judging team. Ginter, who will be working during the summer on the

Harry Mumma farm at Manheim R1, gave a set of reasons for his placing of the classes. He will be a senior student when he returns to campus in the fall.

A total of 33 members, out of a membership of 42, were at the meeting.

At the July 11 meeting on the farm of Robert McSparran, Peach Bottom R1, a fitting and showing demonstration will be presented. Mary Ellen Mumma, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mumma, Manheim R1, and winner of the county Guernsey fitting contest at the 1961 county 4-H dairy roundup, will pre-

sent a fitting demonstration. Last year's champion Guernsey showman at the 4-H roundup, Donald Ankrum, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Ankrum, Peach Bottom, will demonstrate showmanship.

During the 20 years, before World War II, Americans consumed about 20 pounds of butter and margarine per person each year. Wartime shortages contributed to reduce combined consumption to a record low of 14.4 pounds in 1946. In 1947-49, usage of the two spreads was 16 pounds and has since increased to only 17 pounds, still 15 per cent below the 1935-39 average.

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