

**Milk Marketing**

(Continued from Page 1)  
 Department of Agriculture proposed to Philadelphia milkshed farmers, while New York market dairymen would increase their take by only 6 cents per hundredweight, according to Gaitley.

**SENATORS SPEAK**

Separate strong appeals to Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman to retain the present Delaware Valley milk marketing order have been made by both of Penn-

sylvania's Senators, it was disclosed earlier this month. Senator Hugh Scott, Republican, told the Secretary that hearings concluded last November 24th on the Department's proposal to abandon the order in favor of another form of marketing, showed that 90 percent of present dairy farmers and handlers under the order want it retained with amendments to render it more enforceable.

Citing recommendations made by the dairymen to

strengthen the order, Scott recalled that President Johnson, on March 8, 1965, promised that people would "Get the observance of the law and the enforcement of the law if they want it, insist on it, and participate in it."

"My constituents, responsible, law-abiding citizens who contribute significantly to the economy of our State," the Senator wrote the Secretary, "want enforcement, insist on it and have demonstrated a desire to participate in it now."

"I would appreciate word as to what is being done to give it to them so that here will be no excuse to terminate Order 4 or the handler pool, which has worked well for us."

Senator Joseph Clark, Democrat, told the Secretary in a letter that "it seems to me that present Delaware Valley Order 4 producer interests and desires are paramount and should be supported."

"It seems to me" he added, "that the system which Philadelphia producers have developed under the Act fits into the general philosophy of our most recent legislation. The handler pool provides them with the same results which Congress thought was proper as it passed the recent dairy legislation."

The Delaware Valley Milk Marketing order provides for a so-called handler pool of a type in effect on the market for twenty-three years.

**SOME DISAGREE**

Not all local dairy farmers agree that Order 4 should be retained. One dairyman's wife from the eastern part of Lancaster County contacted by this reporter said "It is about time these inequities cease." She was speaking about the 50 cents to \$1.00 per cwt less they are getting for the milk from their 29 cows

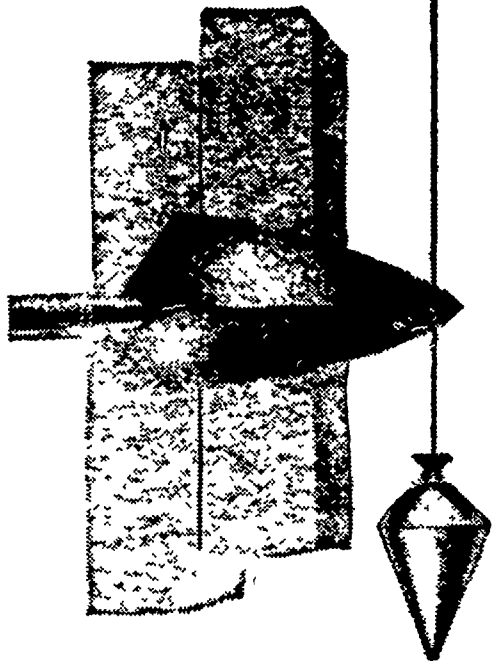
shipped to the New York-New Jersey milk marketing area.

"During the month of January 44.3 percent of our milk went for the \$3.43 class III price," she said. "We do believe that we are forced to absorb some of their (order 4) surplus as it finds its way into our pool. It is only a guess how much less they would get or how much more we would receive if these two orders were merged, but it would even it up somewhat, at least."

And so the words both for and against the Delaware Valley Milk Marketing order continue. But the only words of any real significance must now come from the Secretary of Agriculture. Officials of Interstate say he has no time limit. His report may come next week, or it may take six months. But when it does, it is certain that every Lancaster County dairy farmer will be affected in one way or another.

**POTATO STOCKS UP**

Stocks of potatoes in the hands of state growers, dealers and shippers February 1 were estimated at 2,200,000 hundredweight, 16 percent more than on the same date last year according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service.



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