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MAR 28 1967

# Lancaster Farming

MAR 20 1967

VOL. 12 NO. 17

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, March 25, 1967

\$2 Per Year



FOLLOWING ANNUAL MEETING of Atlantic Breeders Cooperative members Wednesday, featured speaker State Secretary of Agriculture Leland H. Bull, left, is shown with four ABC directors whose years of service to the cooperative total nearly 100. From the left they are: J. Lewis Williams, 1966 president; Mark N. Witmer, past president; Abner Risser, 1966 vice president; and Samuel B. Williams, Jr. L. F. Photo

## Governor Will Tolerate No Violence In Pa. Milk Strike, Bull Advises

"Governor Shafer has made it known that he will not tolerate any violence in Pennsylvania during the current milk holding action," state agriculture secretary Leland H. Bull told dairymen Wednesday.

He noted that "some dumping is going on in the western part of the state, and that the state police have been alerted to watch the situation closely."

"If you hear of anyone having trouble call the state police they'll cooperate," Bull promised.

Speaking at the third annual meeting of Atlantic Breeders Cooperative at Meadow Hills Dining House, the Secretary said that last year the state's agricultural production hit a value of \$900 million for the first time in history.

### SIGNPOSTS TO THE FUTURE

He noted that this represented an increase of \$116 million over the total reached four years ago but added, "It is questionable whether this increase has matched the rising cost of things farmers must buy."

Bull said he was "deeply concerned about the controversy

## Farm Calendar

- March 28-7:30 p.m., Ephrata Farm Electricity Course, "Farmstead Wiring Layout and Emergency Power Generator"; at Ephrata H. S.
- 7:30 p.m., Organizational meeting, Penn Manor 4-H Community Club, at Ann Leort Elem. School.
- March 30-7:30 p.m., Spring meeting of Lancaster County Farmers' Assn., at Strasburg Fire Hall.
- 7:30 p.m., Organizational meeting, Willow Street area 4-H community club, at Pequea Twp. Elem. School.
- March 31-8 p.m., Horse owners informational meeting at Bareville Fire Hall.

## Final Horse Meeting Planned For March 31

The final countywide horse owners' informational meeting will be held on Friday, March 31, at 8 p.m., at the Bareville Fire Hall. Associate county agent Win Merriam announced this week.

Featured speaker will be James Gallagher, horse specialist at Penn State University. He will discuss, "The Foot and Its Care", and "Stabling and General Management During the Show Season".

As with the two previous meetings, Merriam noted, all interested horse owners in the county are invited. "This is not a 4-H meeting," he added.

## Holstein Assn. Tour Set For April 5th

The Lancaster County Holstein-Friesian Association announced this week that its annual tour this year will be held on Wednesday April 5. Buses will be leaving from the Conestoga Transportation Company terminal, 825 East Chestnut Street, Lancaster at 8 a.m. according to tour committee chairman Titus M. Hurst.

The tour this year will visit four dairy farms in Chester County, plus the famed Longwood Gardens.

The farms of Donald Hostetter, Gideon Stoltzfus, John Umble, and Tom McCann will be visited. Several of these dairymen are outstanding purebred breeders, others have the latest equipment systems which will interest dairymen.

Lunch, which will be served family style in the Atglen Fire Hall, is included in the \$5 per person tour charge.

Anyone interested in visiting neighboring Chester County on this tour is urged to contact Hurst, or other committee members—Jay Landis and Paul (Continued on Page 9)

and criticism that besets the dairy industry."

One major problem, he said, is going to be supplying enough milk for the expanding population. He pointed out that although per cow output had increased nearly a ton of milk in Pennsylvania, since 1960, there are now 117,000 less cows in the state.

On a per capita basis, Bull noted, there were 59 quarts less milk per person in 1966. This was partially balanced by a declining per capita consumption, he added.

### SLIM MARGIN

In comparing production and consumption of milk in the U.S. at this time, the Secretary said it comes down to one quart per person per month. "That's a mighty slim margin between supply and demand."

(Continued on Page 9)

## Farmers' Assn. Sets March 30th Meeting Date

The Lancaster County Farmers' Association will hold its Spring meeting on Thursday, March 30, at 7:30 p.m., it was announced this week by association public relations director James Martin.

Featured speaker for the annual affair will be Hollis Hatfield, administrative secretary for the Pennsylvania Farmers' Association. Hatfield will discuss legislative matters in which the association is involved at the state level. Martin said.

In addition, a representative of the National Livestock and Meat Board will give an illustrated talk on "The Work of Meat Promotion."

The meeting is scheduled for the Strasburg Fire Hall, Strasburg, Martin noted.

## Top Dairymen In Lancaster County Reject NFO Action

by Don Timmons

With milk dumping this week in the streets of Pennsylvania and 24 other states, accompanied by reported vandalism and violence, we asked several leading Lancaster County dairy farmers for their impressions.

The general feeling of our dairymen ranged from "sympathetic" to "it's against all moral standards of decency to dump food away", with the majority apparently leaning more toward the latter sentiment.

### DO FARMERS NEED BETTER MILK PRICE?

With the whole National Farmers Organization effort directed toward securing better milk prices for the nation's dairymen, it was surprising to be told by several of the farmers interviewed in Lancaster County that the present milk price was sufficient to enable an efficient operator to make money. All agreed it was unequal to good wages many others enjoy in our economy when one considers the seven-day week the farmer puts in, and his increasing investment in land, buildings, livestock, and equipment.

**WILL NFO EFFORT SUCCEED?**  
No dairyman consulted expressed much hope for an NFO

price victory. Some thought it might gain the organization some members, but didn't feel it would affect the milk price—at least, not more than temporarily.

The general consensus was that NFO wasn't getting enough cooperation from members or non-members to bring sufficient pressure to bear in the marketplace. As one dairyman put it, "You can't get the job done with only one-quarter or one-fifth of the supply controlled."

### FARMERS' IMAGE

Some felt the sensational publicity the milk strikers were receiving was damaging to the consumers' opinion of farmers. But several others said the public eye has to be opened to the farmers' problems in making a living. One farmer noted, "You can't worry about the public image at this point. The present effort will dramatize the farmer's need for action."

### WILL YOU JOIN NFO?

No dairyman we spoke to during this interview had ever been contacted by an NFO organizer, but we did talk with one county farmer earlier this week who had been approached several times by NFO. He mentioned however, that after (Continued on Page 9)

## Chester Countians Urged To Join And Support NFO

Approximately 45 dairymen and other interested persons gathered at the Honey Brook Grange Hall Wednesday night for an informational meeting sponsored by the National Farmers Organization (NFO).

**MILK HOLDING ACTION**  
J. Winfield Trego, Eagle area dairy farmer, and one of only three Chester County dairymen who have been actively cooperating with the 25-state NFO milk holding action, was unofficial spokesman for the group.

Referring to graphs and figures from a book by Frank Leroux called "The Farmers' Worst Five Years—1961-1965", Trego observed that average farm net income is at its lowest point since the Depression years, that, in relation to in-

come of the rest of the population, farmers are in a mighty poor position. He added, there is no surplus and he doubted there ever had been.

**DUMPING COSTS MOUNTING**  
Trego told Lancaster Farming by phone on Thursday that it is costing him approximately \$75 to \$80 a day to dump the milk from his 55-cow herd in the gutter.

How long can he continue this practice? "I can keep dumping it" my milk for about one month," the dairyman said. He added that if the NFO effort is unsuccessful in getting contracts for Chester County dairymen, both he and his brother will plan to work their way out of the dairy business as soon as possible.

Trego, who farms on rented ground, said dairymen can not continue to operate at present prices.

### HIGH-PRICED LAND

"There's not much land down this way that's not worth at least \$1000 an acre," Trego noted, adding that too many farmers are now living off of loans made on their land in order to meet operating expenses.

### NFO IN 25 STATES

According to NFO field representatives Dave Elwell of Woodstown, N.J. and Les McNamara of Kennett Square area, (Continued on Page 8)



Temperatures for the next five days are expected to continue below the normal range of 54 to 34 degrees. Little day-to-day change is expected.

Precipitation may total 1/2 inch, melted, says the weatherman, but he wouldn't say whether it would occur as snow or rain. He does look for one or the other on Monday or Tuesday.