

# Tobacco Men Oppose State Cigar Tax

## ● Cigar Tax

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seemed to make the most impression on the local group were those who could speak Pennsylvania "Dutch." Several of the congressmen could speak at quite fluently.

The lawmakers assured the farmers of their interest in the views expressed. Such excerpts of the impromptu speeches as "Definitely against it" (the cigar tax), "I'll do everything possible", "I don't think you'll have any trouble from the Lancaster area congressmen", and "We can defeat it if we stick together", showed the local representatives in Harrisburg to be also against the tax.

The congressmen addressing the local farm group were: Sen Richard S. Snyder, Sen Clarence F. Manbeck, Rep Sherman Hill, Rep. Harry Gring, and Rep. Eugene Rutherford. Reps Marvan Miller and Jack Horner were unable to meet the farmers because of other appointments at the time.

The congressmen thanked the farmers for coming and invited them to sit in the visitor's gallery and to make themselves at home. Many of the farmers did attend the law-making sessions and they were introduced as a group in both the House and Senate.

### What Was Accomplished?

The general feeling expressed by members of the farm group to Lancaster Farming was that something was accomplished — mostly in the area of bringing attention to the tax and how it would effect farmers.

A report from Harrisburg Thursday indicated that the tax may never get to the House of Representatives for a vote. To quote from the report:

"The proposed 35 percent



Farmers Oppose Cigar Tax

state tax on cigars and tobacco products other than cigarettes appears to be dead.

"The Republican leadership was reported to have given up any hope of passing the cigar tax at a late Wednesday afternoon caucus of GOP House members. At least 28 members said they would vote against the revenue bill listed as producing \$8.8 million a year.

Rep Eugene S. Rutherford, R-Lancaster City, said he was receiving support for his amendment to the Pennsylvania cigarette and tobacco products tax act, which eliminates the portion dealing with cigars and other tobacco products.

"I am very hopeful."

Passage of his amendment



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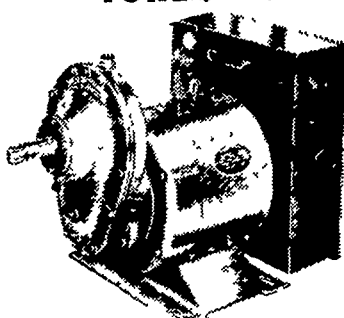
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Welcome From Senators Snyder and Manbeck Inside The Capitol.

would definitely kill the proposed tax on cigars."

And on Thursday evening it was reported the cigar tax is "dead". Gov Raymond P. Shafer told newsmen following his appearance at a dinner meeting of the Lancaster County Shrine

Club held at Dutch Town and Country Inn, at Vintage, that the elimination of the 35 percent tax on cigars and tobacco products other than cigarettes from the new tax package "must make Lancaster County feel very happy."