

# Across the Editor's Desk

Tony T Dechant national president of the Farmers Union, made what the NFU's public relations people termed a "turn around" speech and a "dramatic appeal" at the March 12 NFU annual convention in Denver, Col on March 12. The last two pages of the nine page statement are in full as follows:

"I have said to you this evening that we are dealing with a sick society. The illness is not limited to agriculture. I told you a year ago that the problem was not ours alone, but it was America's problem. That fact is now realized by more and more people. More voices are joining us. More are saying the economy must be freed of domination by the few. More are saying our democracy must be perfected, not destroyed. More are saying the environment must be protected.

"More are saying that our cities must be made safe. They are saying, sensibly, that we are dealing with a sickness.

"The Denver Post said on March 1: The police are not medical men. They can act against the symptoms, but not against the disease. And the laws are not medical prescriptions. They were designed to keep order in a healthy society, not to treat deep-seated malignancies in a sick one.

"We must restore order in our society. We must restrain the patient, but we must not confuse restraint with treatment.

"Many are recognizing that treatment demands a relief of the congestion of our urban areas. We hear talk of a single city stretching from New England to Florida. We know that this will only compound the problems, problems not only of physical pollution, but social and economic pollution.

Our problems cannot be solved unless we rebuild rural America. Opportunities and services must be provided in the small towns and rural communities. Education and health complexes must be dispersed. Industries must be built in open fields. "High rise philosophy" must give way to open space ideals. Highways must run to rural areas, not just away from them. They must carry people to rural America, not just to the cities.

The nation's priorities must center around people, not things; around necessities, not luxuries, around life, not death. "We must turn America around. We can do it."

"We must start where we are, in the Farmers Union, in our own communities, fighting for rural America. No state legisla-

tor, no county judge, no governor, no political official at any level, should be excused from the battle. It is not just the farmer's battle. It is America's battle. It is not just a battle to be fought in Washington, but in every county seat and state capitol and at every crossroads in the nation.

"We must help America find its new frontier. In the early days of our nation, Europe faced some of the same problems of blocked roads to opportunity, social sicknesses in its central cities, and crowded conditions. Its frontier was America itself.

"A great statue was placed in New York harbor symbolizing the meaning of America to the crowded masses of Europe. Now, I submit to you, Europe's problems have become our problems. The huddled masses yearning to breathe free are in our own cities.

"The time has come to erect a new Statue of Liberty. This one should be in the great heartland of rural America. Its message should be directed to the masses of our own cities. You know its message, for you have read it in books, and you have been inspired by its power. Let me repeat it for you:

Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses, yearning to breathe free,

The wretched refuse of your teeming shore

Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me

I lift my lamp beside the golden door!

"We will make America once more the land that keeps its promises—its promises of liberty, justice, domestic tranquility, and economic security for all.

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## Maryland Holstein Tour Set April 2

The Lancaster County Holstein-Friesian Association's annual Lancaster County Holstein Tour will be held Thursday, April 2 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Buses will leave the Lancaster Shopping Center promptly at 8 a.m. for a tour of Holstein operation on the Maryland Eastern Shore.

The farm of Edwin Fry, National Holstein director at Chestertown, with over 2,000 acres and a large herd of Holstein, will be toured.

The farm of Carl Leonard at Kennedyville will show one of the high producing herds in Maryland. Leonard's operation

includes a 100 stanchion barn with many labor-saving methods.

The tour also includes Herr's Potato Chip Plant at Nottingham and Remington Arms, a private game preservation.

Fry has arranged an Eastern Shore fish fry, which will be served for our dinner by a Ladies' Auxiliary. This is included in the \$6.25 cost.



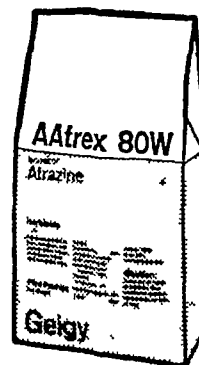
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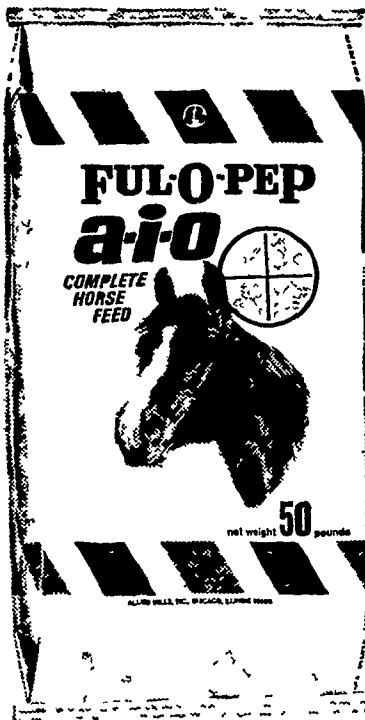
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