



# Eastern Milk Coop Holds Banquet

Robert E. Martin, New Holland RD1, was re-elected president of the New Holland local of the Eastern Milk Producers Cooperative Association at a banquet recently at Blue Ball Fire Hall.

The banquet was attended by Freeburn Love, East Waterford president, and John York, general manager, who was speaker.

Other officers elected were: Wilmer Benner, Denver RD1, vice president; Mevin Weaver, Lutz RD1, secretary; Leroy Smucker, New Holland RD1, treasurer; Paul Burkhardt, Manheim RD3, delegate, and Enos Weaver, Kirzers RD1, alternate delegate. Only new officers were Benner and Enos Weaver.

In addition, Alfred Wanner, Narvon RD2, was introduced as a candidate for director of a

new district being created by Eastern to cover Lancaster and Chester Counties and part of Delaware. It will be the 15th district. Overall, there are about 200 locals such as New Holland and a membership in Eastern of about 9,000, it was reported.

Wanner said, "Marketing is becoming more and more important. We have to turn to a cooperative of some kind and I think Eastern is the one."

In his talk, York covered a wide range of topics and issues relating to the milk industry. These included federal policy relating to milk, general problems of milk marketing, including an over-supply of milk in the Northeast, difficulties farmers have in maintaining an orderly market in the face of closing of many milk processing plants, and efforts by Eastern to insure markets for farmers.

York reported he expects the blended price for milk in 1970 to run about 15 to 20 cents higher than in 1969.

He also noted that Eastern Milk Producers has spent \$45,000 on scholarships in recent years.

A general problem of agriculture and the dairy industry, York said, is that "we have a consumer oriented economy."

He continued, "The Department of Labor glamorizes the rising cost to consumers, but the Department of Agriculture doesn't play up the rising costs to farmers. Somebody has to tell consumers that if we don't have a healthy agriculture we won't have a healthy urban area as well."

He also said, "The Department of Agriculture doesn't seem to have the interest in farmers we think it should have."

He indicated that metropolitan newspapers are running stories on the high cost of living based on Department of Labor statistics, but is not getting



While daddy and mommy listened to all the talk about milk at the Eastern banquet, these little girls had to entertain themselves as best they could. They were

somewhat restless and inclined to eye things closely, but well-behaved. Cute little milk drinkers, wouldn't you say?

## Farm Calendar

- Saturday, April 25**  
14th annual Mennonite Tricounty Relief Sale, Twin Slope Farmer's Market West of Morgantown
- Tuesday, April 28**  
6:15 p.m.—Sew Smart, Channel 33.
- Wednesday, April 29**  
7:00 p.m.—Area FFA public speaking parliamentary procedure contests, Garden Spot High School, New Holland
- Thursday, April 30**  
6:15 p.m.—Sew Smart, Channel 33.  
8:30 p.m.—Joint bee keeper-fruit grower meeting managing bees for orchard pollination
- 8:00 p.m.—H officers' training and new leader orientation, Farm and Home Center.
- Saturday, May 2**  
Lancaster Pony Club House Show, John Gibson Farm, Drumore.

off-setting cost figures from the Department of Agriculture

He noted that Eastern has "been fighting Washington for appropriations for the school lunch program. A study in Rochester (N.Y.) showed six to eight per cent of the milk is sold in the schools."



John C. York

"This affects the sale of class one milk and therefore the rate of pay to milk producers. We hope to get these school milk programs continued because this is essential to you."

Many farmers have been losing their milk markets as milk processors go out of business in recent years and, as a result, a major function of Eastern has been to find new markets. By mid-April Eastern was faced with finding new or alternative markets for 150 dairymen, York said.

He indicated the trend to fewer processing plants will continue. (A major move in this direction was the recent closing of many facilities by Borden's.) A hearing is pending in New York because they won't expand then bonding, he said.

He thinks there will be some problems in the future and "that's why Eastern is here." While Eastern is taking on additional responsibilities, costs have gone up and a one cent across the board increase in the firm's fees may be necessary, he said.

He noted the move underway to make dairymen participate in marketing promotion. A referendum on this issue was defeated in Pennsylvania and it is uncertain, he indicated, if it will be revised. Such a proposal was defeated in Minnesota.

Eastern favors what York terms a "positive letter" in which farmers are sent a letter. If they keep the letter they agree to participate in a marketing program, if they return the letter, they refuse to participate.

York noted that the new federal milk order for Philadelphia which puts Baltimore, Washington and Philadelphia in one market, will probably become effective in the near future and "can have a long range bearing" on milk marketing. A clause in the new order says if farmers are not in a cooperative

the feds deduct a sum and perform certain services, but if the farmer is a member of the cooperative, the cooperative performs these services.

On the contrary, he said, New York has coop payments and Eastern is opposed to that. (New Holland farmers market milk in New York's order two.) Some coops wanted market service payments of five cents and other payments of two cents for the Philadelphia area, but Eastern successfully opposed that, he said.

Speaking on the factors that make milk marketing a complicated process, York said, "Milk is hard to store, it can't be transported far, there is a seasonal pattern of production and sales, and varying sanitary requirements. Milk is an extremely complicated product to market and a lot of people don't appreciate this."

In the New York market last  
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## Ayrshire Convention Has Large Attendance

The National Ayrshire Convention in Lancaster County April 14-16 had the largest attendance of any convention in the past five years, with 300 attending the banquet and a total of about 400 participating in various segments of the convention, Milton Brubaker, a Lutz Ayrshire farmer, reported.

Among actions of importance to state farmers at the convention was the election of Bob Craig, owner of Craay Farm, Waynesboro, as region 3 director. Region three includes Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey and Delaware. The Penn State graduate replaces Clifford Rice of Reedsville, who stepped down.

Ardrossan Farms, Villanova, won the second Place French Trophy for high Ayrshire herd production in the nation in the 100 cows or over category.

# Why Aren't You Getting 150 Bushels of Corn Per Acre?

Mr. Farmer, are you producing 150 bushels of dry shelled corn or 30 tons of corn silage per acre?

If not, you should be, according to Charles Ackley, Ephrata High School vocational teacher.

At least that's what Ackley recently told Ephrata Young Farmers.

Said Ackley, "The common corn yield in our area at this time should be 150 bushels of dry shelled corn or 30 tons of corn silage per acre. Is this an average yield on your farm?"

"If your answer is yes, keep up the good work and continue

to strive toward higher possible yields.

"Also, share your management practices with your many neighbors who end up with much lower yields."

Ackley advised the following practices and steps for increasing yields to the 150 bushel-30 ton level.

Take a soil test and follow all recommendations.

Select an adapted hybrid and seed 18,000 plants per acre.

Use minimum tillage practices.

Plant when soil temperature reaches 50 degrees (May 1-10).

Plant one inch deep in cold,

wet, and heavy soils and 3 inches deep in warm, dry, and light soils.

Use proper planter plates and a planter that is kept in good condition.

Consider 20-30 inch rows for populations over 18,000 plants per acre.

Operate planter under four miles per hour.

Use recommended weed and insect controls as needed. Destroy old corn stalks in the fall.

Obtain a Penn State "1970 Agronomy Guide" from the county agent and study the recommended practices.