

Inter-State Economist Views Milk Marketing

"When Milk Order 4 was changed to a market-wide bill three years ago, this caused an increase in the number of dairy producers, particularly transfers from New York Order 2 to Delaware Valley Order 4," explained Dr. Paul E. Hand, Secretary and Economist for Inter-State Milk Producers' Cooperative as he summarized Federal Order activity to the dairy farmers from

Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey and Pennsylvania at the Philadelphia annual meeting recently. "It is expected that the base plan will discourage such transfers in the future until our Class I (bottled milk) utilization and blend price is substantially improved," he said. Dr. Hand announced to the dairy farmers that "the principal change affecting the economic activity of dairy farmers who are members of Inter-State Milk Producers' Cooperative was the merger of the Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington Milk Marketing Orders into the Middle Atlantic Milk Marketing Order. The farm price level for bottled milk was altered slightly by the introduction of the direct delivery differential for dairy plants within 55 miles of Philadelphia. There will be virtually no change on the overall farm prices of the dairy farmers shipping milk into the Delaware Valley by the combining of the three Federal Milk Orders."

"During the past year there was a further decline in the Class I (bottled milk) utilization compared to the previous year. This decline was at a much lesser rate when compared to the previous year. The improved relationship," Dr. Hand continued, "has been largely the result of a slight decline in the number of dairy farmers producing milk. Another feature of the new

Middle Atlantic Milk Order is the introduction of market service payments to the Delaware Valley for the first time. Market service payments," Hand asserted, "have been used in almost every other Federal order except the New York-New Jersey Order and the Philadelphia Order. The New York-New Jersey Market Order has had cooperative payments which are a direct payment from the market administrator to qualified cooperatives." Dr. Hand explained.

Inter-State's economist told the convening dairy farmers that he had presented testimony in St. Louis, Mo. during the Federal Milk Hearing for the U. S. Department of Agriculture to consider an economic-type milk pricing formula which would regulate milk prices (Class I) in all 62 Federal orders. "This proposed formula," Dr. Hand asserted, "would have substituted ten economic factors, including prices of the manufactured milk products of butter, milk powder, and cheese."

● Farm Calendar

(Continued from Page 1)

- Wednesday, December 9**
 9 a.m.—District 4-H Beef Show, Sale at 1 p.m., Lancaster Stock Yards.
 Lancaster County Soil and Water Conservation District Farm and Home Center.
Thursday, December 10
 7:30 p.m.—Manheim Young Farmers, Square Dance, Brunneville Fire Hall.
 7:45 p.m.—Quality Milk Control, Garden Spot Young Farmers, Field trip to Penn Dairies.
 Extension and Home Economics Staff Meeting, Penn State, December 10-11.
Friday, December 11
 7 p.m.—Pennsylvania Egg Marketing Association Meeting, Schrafft's Restaurant, New Cumberland.

Guernsey Cow Produces

Lebanon Valley H. Glow, a junior four year old Registered Guernsey cow owned by Jacob N. Smith & Son, Palmyra, has completed an official DHIR actual production record of 14,190 pounds of milk and 622 pounds of butterfat in 305 days two times a day milking, according to The American Guernsey Cattle Club.

WASHINGTON REPORT

Congressman Edwin D. Eshleman

14th District—Pennsylvania



Should candidates be permitted to buy their way into public office? This is a question which needs an answer from the Congress. The issue of campaign financing has become quite serious, particularly since the spending spree in many Senatorial and Congressional races this fall. Congress passed legislation earlier this year designed to halt the excessive use of money in political campaigning. The bill was admittedly narrow in scope because it dealt only with expenditures for radio and television. But I voted for this narrow effort as one step in the right direction.

The legislation struck President Nixon as being only a token attempt in an area demanding broad-based reform. He vetoed the campaign financing bill and asked Congress to consider a more far-reaching program to limit political spending. Recently, when the Senate upheld the President's veto, there was an indication that Mr. Nixon's criticism will be heeded in the future. The next legislative effort, hopefully in the near future, should encompass all facets of campaign financing. A bill should be passed that abolishes the enormous advantage which big campaign spending gives to men of wealth. It should assure that campaign costs do not afford an opportunity for special interests to "buy" a candidate.

There has been far too much tokenism already in the business of political spending. The Federal Corrupt Practices Act, which now requires candidates for Federal office to file financial reports, has become a farce. It is a modern farce because it was not strong enough medicine in the beginning. Candidates who spend hundreds of thousands of dollars on their campaigns legally can report no contributions or expenditures under the law's provisions. On the other hand, the law actually discourages a candidate from disclosing the complete story about his campaign finances.

I can use my own experience as an example. I intend to be open and above board about contributions and expenditures made on my behalf as a candidate. In other words, each year I make a full disclosure of where my funds came from and for what they were spent. But, because of the way the regulations are stated, I must file a technically questionable report. In strictly literal terms, my disclosures are improper because they go beyond the scope of the

law. But in terms of self-satisfaction and the public interest, I think my financial statements are correct and justifiable. Perhaps, if Congress responds to this national problem, by the time the next filing of campaign spending statements rolls around, all candidates will be required to give a full accounting of receipts and expenditures.

Important Decision

Chief Justice Marshall described the most important decision ever handed down by the U.S. Supreme Court as being the Marbury case decision which held that the Supreme Court had the power to declare invalid any act of Congress it considered unconstitutional.

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