

Stop Pollution, But Also Beware of Famine, Speaker Urges

Until world population growth is checked, control of crop pests remains vital in maintaining food production in spite of the continuance of pollution problems, a professor of plant pathology at Pennsylvania State University declared here during the recent Lime and Fertilizer Conference

Dr Herbert Cole Jr, a member of the College of Agriculture Pesticides Research Laboratory faculty, said, "Pollution, both from industrial wastes and pesticides, are part and parcel of human population problems In the crowded mid-20th century, we can neither tolerate pollution nor crop

losses" In any discussion on the pollution potential of pesticides, the biggest mistake made is one of generalization, Dr Cole emphasized. The person critical of pesticides lumps all forms together and the defender also places them in one group. "To defend or condemn all

materials used for insect, plant disease, and weed control accomplishes nothing," he said "Environmental pollution problems with pesticides range from rather high concern with certain stable insecticides such as DDT and its relatives to almost no concern with certain fungicides"

food than ever before," Dr. Cole pointed out.

He noted that the alfalfa weevil is an example of an insect pest that initially caused devastating economic effects in Pennsylvania and required intensive regular insecticide applications in order to maintain alfalfa production With time parasites and predators have built up and the weevil has become much less important economically. Integration of these natural balances with occasional insecticide treatments is effective in eliminating economic loss in many fields.

"Perhaps in the absence of sprays to control the alfalfa weevil, the 'balance of nature' would have suppressed the weevil after several intervening seasons, but complete alfalfa crop losses would have severely reduced cattle and milk production before the balance was achieved," Dr. Cole said

Advocates of the "balance of nature" theory in solving our pest problems must keep in mind that famines and mass starvation have often followed while civilization waited for the balance of return, the Penn State professor added Nature, indeed, does have a balancing effect, but help is often needed in keeping it.

"Man's use of pesticides certainly has created pollution problems, but when speaking in terms of quality and quantity of crop production, the overall effect has been more and better

Lancaster Co. Poultry Assn. Meets

At the recent meeting of the Lancaster County Poultry Association, Irvin Musser reported banquet plans for late October, possibly at Plain and Fancy

Stanley Musselman reported good attendance at all three educational meetings All felt they were very successful Another one is scheduled for June 10.

Aaron Glick reported 173 members at present. This is 50 more than last year.

Loria Weigard reported on promotion being planned He reviewed last year's distribution of 50,000 place mats to restaurants

Homer Bicksler reported Adams and York Counties are also interested in distributing place mats Lower prices could be quoted for larger quantities A motion was passed to budget \$200 for promotion.

A motion passed that the Poultry Association hold monthly meetings the first Monday of each month

The Sertoma Club hopes to sell

20,000 chicken halves at its annual chicken bar-b-que at Long Park. They asked for help and ideas to construct a float for the Loyalty Day Parade A queen (county or state) will be provided for the parade

Jay Irwin explained the proposed revenue sharing program President Nixon proposed. The money now going to Extension and 4-H would be given to state

governors for their distribution. It could mean any changes or possibly the end of Extension as we know it

Members were urged to watch carefully the progress of this program with the possibility of action needed to insure continuation of County Extension programs.

Association Secretary, John J Oberholtzer

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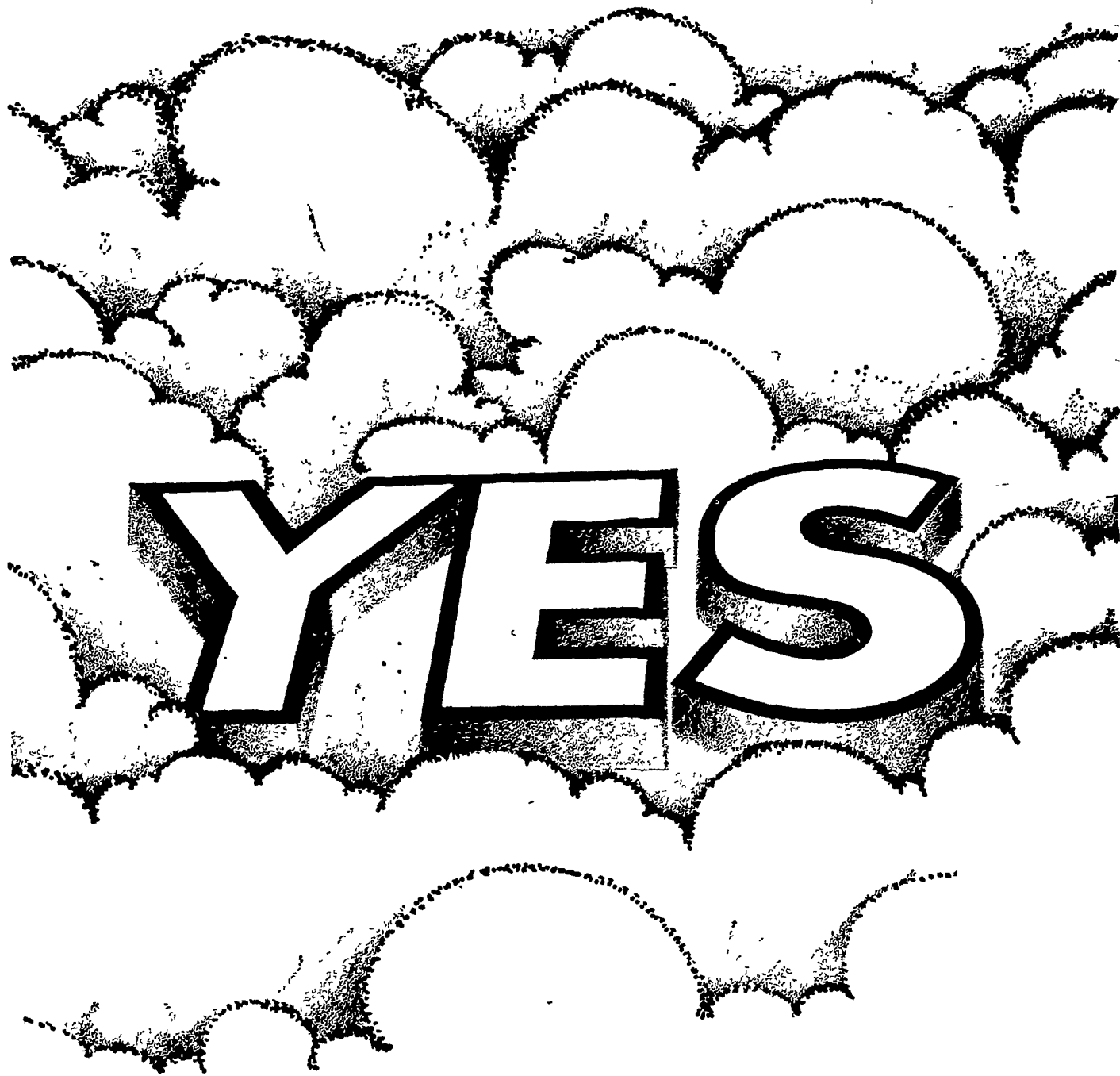
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