

WASHINGTON REPORT

Congressman Edwin D. Eshleman

16th District-Pennsylvania

It used to be that members of Congress were thought of as "protectionists" or "free traders" being "high tariff" Congressmen or "low tariff" Congressmen. The argument stems from men or "low tariff" Congressmen. You may remember those terms from your studies of American history. The terms describe the foreign trade argument which occupied Congressional attention 100 years ago.

The argument was not about whether the United States should have tariffs to protect its own goods, but about how high those tariffs should be.

Today, the argument is considerably different. The debate is about whether we should have tariffs or whether we should relax all barriers to selling imported goods in this country. Con-

gressmen are classified as either "protectionists" or "free traders". The argument stems from the freer trade policies undertaken by the United States several years ago, and the hardship to some American industries which has resulted from those policies.

The hardships that have been caused are well documented. The footwear industry, which plays such a prominent role in our local economy, has taken a real beating from foreign imports. Imported shoes are made from materials that cost less, by labor which costs less, and therefore can be retailed in American stores for much less than comparable American goods.

Francis Cole Voted Eastern President

A new slate of officers was elected by the board of directors of the milk bargaining cooperative, Eastern Milk Pro-

ducers, at a meeting in the Association's headquarters in Syracuse, N.Y., June 10.

Francis Cole, Cedarville RD, Ilion, N.Y., became president for the coming year after having served the past three years as vice president of the nearly 10,000 member cooperative.

He replaces Howard Merrill of Walton, N.Y., who took over the increasingly important role of treasurer.

Dwight Burnham of Vergennes, Vermont, a long time legislator and eastern district director from the state was elected vice president as he enters his sixth year on the board of directors.

The office of secretary went to Robert Baldwin of Maryland, N.Y., who has been active on various committees within the organization.

Harold W. Rotz, District 15 Director from Waynesboro, Pa., and E. R. Smith, District 11 Director from Seneca Falls, N.Y., joined Cole, Burnham and Merrill to comprise the executive committee.

domestic goods and their imported competitors. Because, unless we do, there will be dozens of American industries and thousands of American jobs seriously threatened and very likely lost.

There is a great deal of merit in the argument that the United States benefits most by encouraging freer trade in the world simply because we have the most products to sell.

There also is merit to the argument that it would be disastrous to the cause of world stability to shut the developing nations out of an opportunity to compete in the world's most profitable market, the United States.

Finally, free trade does have the advantage of giving the consumer more goods from which to choose in a more varied range of prices. Such arguments dictate that we do as much as we can to keep our doors open to foreign products.

But, free trade should not be synonymous with self-destruction. We need to find an acceptable formula for permitting fair competition between certain

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Cole was raised in Ilion N.Y., located along the Mohawk Valley just west of Utica, New York. He married Grace Smith of nearby Litchfield 32 years ago.

For the past 25 years the Coles have lived at their present address, a 150 acre farm with 50 head of holsteins. Here they brought up their four children, three of whom are now married.

The new Eastern President is also a member of Farm Bureau, Grange and Winfield Lodge 581 F.&A.M. Cole is currently serving as Patron of O.E.S., Winfield Chapter 418, West Winfield, N.Y.

The election was held by Eastern's 15 member board, as is customary, at its reorganizational meeting the day following the Annual Convention.

Holstein Fieldman Named

James E. (Jay) Howes, a junior in Agricultural Economics at Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., has been appointed interim Holstein fieldman in Eastern Pennsylvania, effective June 3.

He will continue through August 31, at which time Carl Brown will begin work as full time fieldman. Brown is currently completing work on his Masters Degree at Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

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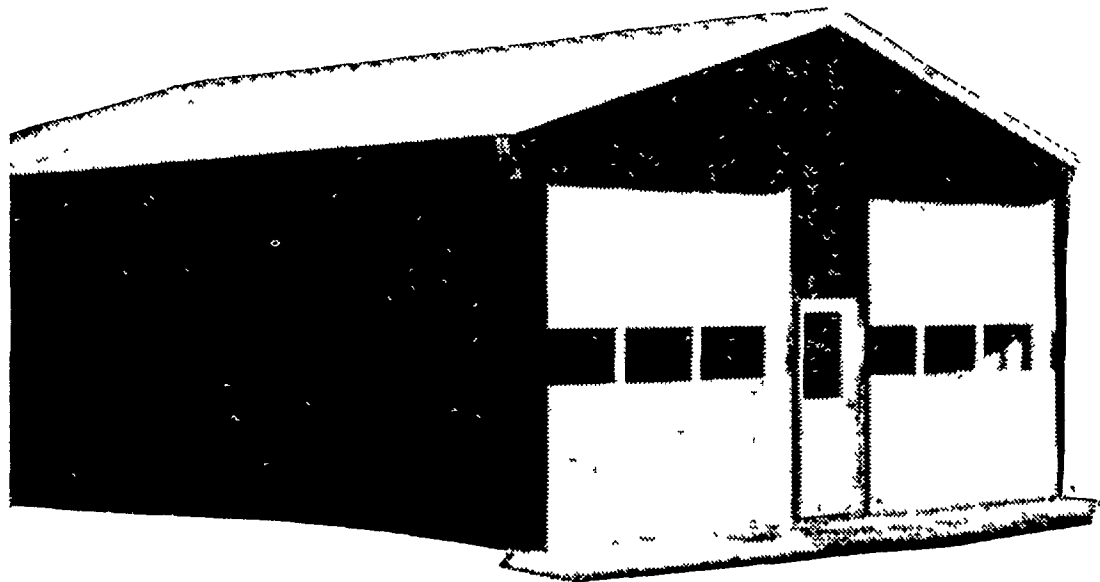
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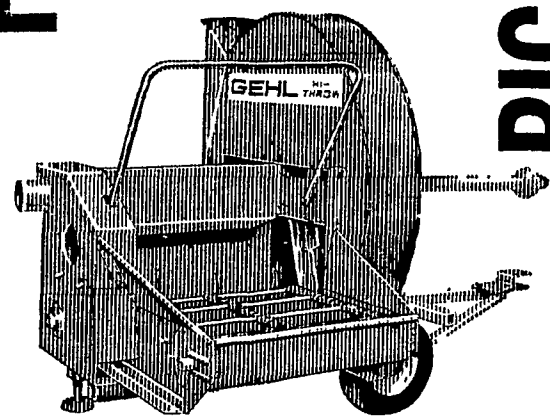
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