

Dr. Goddard Urges 'Intelligent' Approach to Environment

Planned, guided and balanced conservation, development and use of natural resources were called for recently by Dr. Maurice K. Goddard, Acting Secretary of the State Department of Environmental Resources.

Potato Grades Changed

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has reminded members of the potato industry that the revised U.S. grade standards for potatoes are effective Sept. 1, as announced last November.

USDA's Consumer and Marketing Service has prepared a leaflet for the potato industry describing the main changes in the standards, C&MS-91, "The Revised U.S. Grade Standards for Potatoes," and copies have been sent to growers' and trade associations.

Anyone who wishes a single, free copy of the leaflet may obtain one by writing to: Information Division, Consumer and Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

The main changes in the standards are that they reduce the percentage of defects allowed and tighten requirements for cleanness in potatoes marketed under the U.S. grade standards.

Use of the grade standards and the fee-for-service Federal-State inspection program is voluntary.

Addressing the luncheon meeting of the 43rd Annual Conference of the Water Pollution Control Association of Pennsylvania at Pennsylvania State University, Dr. Goddard pointed out that man can adapt nature to a degree to improve his environment.

"I am not saying that our environment has not been desecrated, that it has not been polluted or that corrective action is not needed," the Commonwealth official declared.

"What I am saying is that if the changes necessary for man's welfare and well-being are carried out with due regard to minimizing disruption and damage to the ecology and environment, they are not always bad. In fact, many times such changes bring actual improvement — something is sacrificed, but more is gained."

Dr. Goddard advocated an intelligent rather than an emotional approach to resolving the conflict between resource use and environmental conservation. He said that all alternatives and their impacts must be studied and weighed before action is taken.

"In short, if we are going to translate ecological concern into ecological action, all of us, in

every profession and every walk of life, need to arrive at a basic understanding of the issues involved in the environmental threat," he stated.

Dr. Goddard asked the more than 300 Association members at the luncheon for their support in helping the Environmental Resources Department carry out existing environmental protection programs. He expressed concern that additional environmental protection legislation should not be passed until the Department has the capacity to handle it.

According to Dr. Goddard, there is need for at least 300 more persons to help enforce the programs for which the

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outlined the organizational plan for the Environmental Resources Department and cited some of the criteria which is being used in the Department's enforcement program.

Chairing the luncheon session was William E. Sacra Jr., of William E. Sacra and Associates, York, the Association's retiring President.

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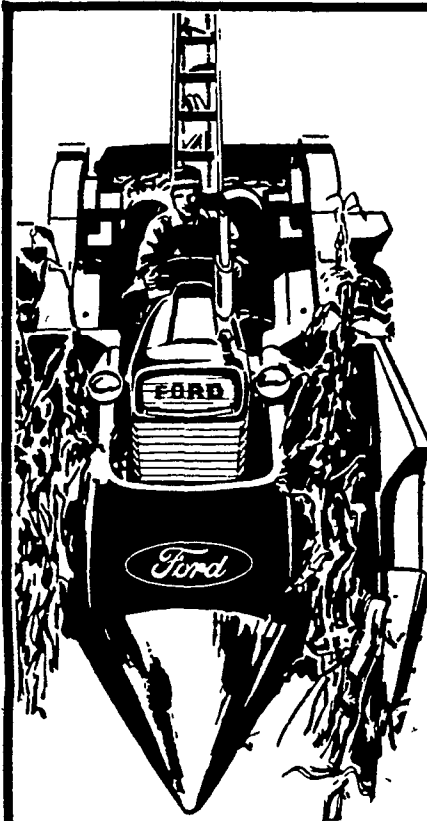
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