

Dr. Gordon M. Cairns, third from right, Dean of the University of Maryland College of Agriculture, is presented with a letter of appreciation from the State Soil Conservation Committee for his "20 years of distinguished leadership" in Maryland soil conservation work. Dr. Cairns, chairman of the Committee from 1951-1971, was honored at the recent Winter Conference of the Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts (MASCSD). Also participating in the presentation ceremony are: left to right, Dr. Frank L. Bentz, vice president for agricultural affairs,

University of Maryland; U. S. Senator J. Glenn Beall Jr, of Frostburg (Allegany County); Wilbur Paul, new State Soil Committee Chairman, of Mount Savage (Allegany County); Fred Bull, former Secretary to the State Committee; and Wilbur F. Ward, MASCSD President, of Dunkirk (Calvert County). Dr. Cairns was cited for "the many Conservation Programs implemented or developed under his leadership, which have been models for other states, and which have both benefited and distinguished Maryland Soil and Water Conservation."

USDA Announces Corn Buying

Secretary of Agriculture Earl L. Butz recently announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture will soon purchase corn in the open market.

The action is prompted by the large 1971-crop corn production which is now estimated at more than 55 billion bushels. This record crop reflects the response of farmers to the threat to corn supplies by corn blight which did

not materialize to the degree expected. Because farmers responded by planting extra acreage to assure adequate supplies of feed grain at home and abroad, the big crop has brought a sharp drop in the corn prices.

The purchase operation will firm up farm prices and will provide reserve stocks to meet domestic requirements during periods of short supply. This action, combined with the already strengthened and broadened commodity loan program, as well as the recent large sale of U.S. corn to the Soviet Union, gives farmers a wide choice of alternatives in handling and marketing this year's corn crop, the USDA said.

Secretary Butz pointed out that record quantities of corn are going under loan earlier in the season this year than ever before. A preliminary report indicates that nearly 240 million bushels of 1971-crop corn had gone under loan through November 26. This is more than 2½ times the previous record amount of corn put under loan from the beginning of harvest through November. Additional extensive use of the loan program by farmers will continue the advance in corn prices which has been underway in recent weeks.

With the announced purchases will be at market prices, specific amounts to be purchased and prices to be paid will be a continuing determination.

Faulkner Resigns As VP at UEP

Jerry Faulkner, executive vice president and general manager of United Egg Producers since its inception, has resigned effective January 15, according to Fred Adams Jr., president.

Faulkner's resignation was regretfully accepted by the UEP Executive Committee which met in Atlanta for the purpose of reviewing plans for the organization's 1972 activities.

Adams said, "We will begin immediately looking for the most capable man available to fill the managerial position." In the interim period, Dr. Gene C. Masters will assume the position of manager, Adams reported.

Dr. Masters has been UEP's Director of Statistical Analysis Department for more than an year. Prior to coming with UEP, Masters spent several years with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He gained his Ph.D. in marketing last year at the University of Georgia.

Scabies Quarantine Placed In 34 Texas Counties

A Federal quarantine has been placed on 34 Texas counties in the northern panhandle by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to stop the interstate spread of psoroptic cattle scabies.

"The Department is counting on the support of farmers and ranchers in the quarantine area to bring this cattle scabies outbreak to a halt," said Secretary of Agriculture Earl L. Butz. "I recognize that the quarantine is an inconvenience to cattlemen shipping animals to market. But I can assure them that we will do everything to make sure cattle will move through trade channels as quickly—and as safely—as possible."

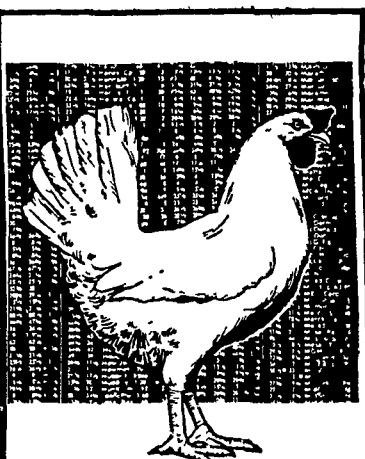
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