

Lancaster County Farmers Assn. Meets

The Lancaster County Farmers Association met last Friday night at the Farm and Home Center with James Kreider, Quarryville RD1, president, conducting the meeting.

Committee reports were given by various committee chairmen. Harold Rohrer reported on the progress and plans of livestock marketing.

Earl Newcomer talked about the Safemark supply program handling tires, tubes and batteries for members.

William Guhl reported that about 200 county farmers are now using the Farm Management Business Analysis Service provided for members.

Membership is near 1,100 families — an all-time high, reported Jim Shertzer, membership chairman. Farmers wishing to become members should contact any director or committee chairman mentioned. The secretary is James Martin, Strasburg.

Mrs. Helen Wivell announced plans of the women's committee to conduct a Farm Safety Contest and a talent contest to be held in conjunction with the Ladies Day Program scheduled for late April.

J. Wilbur Sollenberger, Smoketown, and Mark Campbell, Lititz, were introduced as representing the Farm Family Insurance Service in Lancaster County.

Following Chet Heims' remarks, a question and answer period was followed by refreshments served by the Women's committee.

The Washington Congressional Tour will be held Tuesday, March 14 and Wednesday, March 15 at the Quality Motel, Capitol Hill, located at 415 New Jersey Avenue, Northwest, Washington, D. C. The Congressional Banquet will be at 6:30 p.m. A briefing session for PFA members will be held at 1 p.m. at the motel. At

2:30 p.m. PFA members will visit Congressmen in their office.

Wednesday morning the group will visit the Department of Agriculture, and we are expecting Secretary of Agriculture Butz to speak. Ten Lancaster County members plan to attend.

Home Rule Charter legislation is the major legislation before the General Assembly at this time. The Constitutional Convention mandated that the General Assembly would enact legislation indicating the guide line under which local government municipalities could set up Home Rule Charters. The four-year periods ends April 23, 1972.

Seven bills have been introduced on Home Rule Charter. As of this date, one bill, Senate Bill 752, has passed the Senate. This will be drafted by the Local Government Commission, and along with House Bills 1774 and 1566 which are nearly identical to Senate Bill 752, are the best so far as Farmers' Association is concerned.

An important amendment was added Tuesday, February 8 to Senate Bill 752, which reads as follows:

"No municipality shall enact or promulgate any statute or regulation with respect to definitions, sanitation, safety, health, standards of identity or labeling pertaining to the manufacture, processing, storage, distribution and sale of any foods, goods or services subject to any commonwealth laws or regulations unless such municipal statute or regulation is uniform in all respects with such commonwealth laws and regulations."

The importance of this amendment lies in the fact that there will be uniform laws in the Commonwealth rather than each municipality enacting statutes or regulations in these areas. Without this amendment there could be mass confusion, par-

ticularly in the food and services business.

Of major importance to farmers is a bill, namely Senate Bill 1031, which is presently in Local Government Committee of the House. This bill, which has already passed the Senate, excludes silos and other structures used for processing or storage of animal feed or animal waste in determining the value of the real estate of a farm for property assessment and taxing purposes. This bill is in the Local Government Committee.

If any of the House Members in your district are members of the local government committee, you should contact him and ask him to support Senate Bill 1031 when it is considered by the Local Government Committee, members were urged.

House Bill 1343 is presently in the Senate Committee on State Government. This bill sets up the following committee to determine where Harness Racing Research Funds should be spent:

"A committee to include in its membership the Secretary of Agriculture, the Dean of the College of Agriculture at the Pennsylvania State University, (and) the Dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania, the chairman of the Agriculture Committee of the Senate, the chairman of the Agriculture Committee of the House of Representatives, five persons designated by the Pennsylvania State Council of Farm Organizations, the chairman of the State Harness Racing

Commission or his designate, one person designated by the Pennsylvania Canners and Fruit Processors Association, one person designated by the Pennsylvania Millers and Feed Dealers Association, one person

designated by the Pennsylvania Association of County Fairs and one person designated by the Secretary of Agriculture from his staff."

Why this Bill?

(Continued on Page 9)

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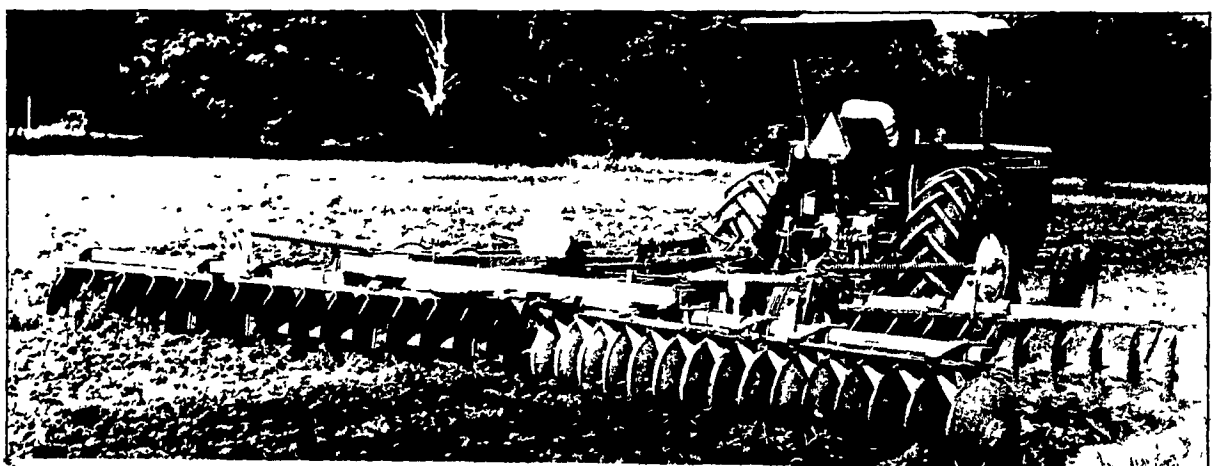
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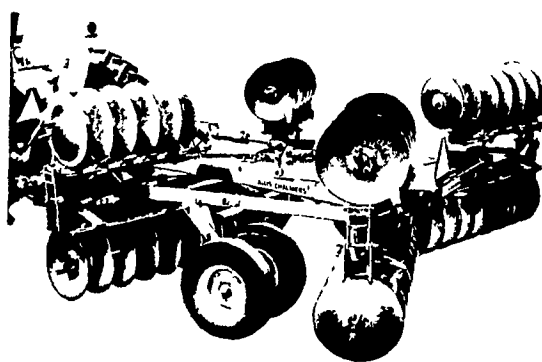
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