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# Lancaster Farming

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## Lyng Tells Ag-Industry Group . . .

# USDA to Stay, Subsidies to Go



Richard E. Lyng, assistant secretary of agriculture for the U.S., said that the USDA was in no imminent danger of being dissolved, but that huge subsidy payments to large scale farmers were most likely on the way out. He spoke here on Thursday night to a capacity crowd at the Chamber of Commerce annual agriculture-industry banquet in the Farm and Home Center.

## Eggmen Meet Here

Eggmen from around the state as well as some from New York and New Jersey gathered at the Farm and Home Center on Tuesday to discuss the economics of egg pricing.

The day was spent in discussing the reasons for pricing problems, current research aimed at solving the problems, committee pricing, market orders, marketing information, and the work of Egg Clearinghouse.

Resource people attending were: Samuel Berenson, manager and vice-president of

Chick Sales Egg Farm in Hanover; Kermit Birth, professor of agricultural economics extension at Penn State; Dr. William Henson, an agricultural economist with the USDA, located at Penn State; Jay Irwin, associate county agent for Lancaster County; Maurice Pickler, producer-distributor from New London, North Carolina and a director of Egg Clearinghouse, Inc.; Kink Souders, Manager of Producers Pride, Coatesville, and a director

(Continued On Page 34)

## Bollinger Reelected

Elam Bollinger, Manheim R1, was reelected president of the Lancaster County Holstein Association after that group's annual meeting on Tuesday night at the Good 'N Plenty Restaurant.

Other officers elected during a director's reorganization meeting were: vice-president, Paul Welk, Quarryville, R2; secretary, Vernon Umble, Christiana R1, and treasurer, Curtis Akers, Quarryville, R1.

During the dinner meeting, members reelected two directors and picked one new

member to serve on the board of directors. Reelected were John Harnish, 1036 Beaver Valley Pike, Lancaster, and Clyde Martin, East Earl R1. Newly elected was Shelley Shellenberger, Mt. Joy, R1.

Over 200 members attended the meeting. Also attending were Donna Book, Lancaster County's dairy princess, William Nichol from the Pennsylvania State Holstein Association, Carl Brown from the national association, and Elvin Hess, president of the state association.

"Legislative reapportionment since 1965 has given farmers less of a voice in Congress. The one man-one vote rule has put more political power in the cities. This complicates the farmers' problems, because city-dwellers don't understand anything about farming."

This was part of the message delivered on Thursday evening by Assistant Secretary Richard E. Lyng, U.S. Department of Agriculture. Lyng spoke at the annual agriculture-industry banquet sponsored by the agriculture committee of the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce. He talked to a capacity crowd in the large banquet room at the Farm and Home Center.

Farmers will continue to have an ally in Washington, however,

Lyng said in response to a question from the audience. There had been some speculation earlier this year that the USDA would be disbanded and its work spread out over a number of other government agencies. The speculation was sparked by a presidential report which recommended such a rule.

"At one time this was a possibility," Lyng admitted, "but the President has changed his mind."

Lyng also hinted that huge subsidy payments now going to large scale farmers will gradually be eliminated. He pointed out that this move wouldn't effect area farmers too much, however, because the bulk of today's subsidy payments are going to cotton growers.

The secretary, however, defended the government's need to pay a farmer not to produce excessive amounts of some farm products.

"With high food prices, why pay farmers not to produce?" he asked. Answering his own question, Lyng explained that the alternatives would be for farmers to either produce too much or too little. Since underproduction would only lead to hunger, he said the government encourages farmers to produce "just a little too much."

"We must provide a way for the farmers to hold back production and still make a living," he said.

Lyng went on to say that if agriculture is to remain a healthy part of the nation there must be

(Continued On Page 4)



Assistant U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Richard E. Lyng, left, spoke here on Thursday night at the annual CoC agriculture-industry banquet. Lyng is

shown here with Amos Funk, center, representing agriculture, and George Delp, representing Lancaster County agriculture.

## Farm Calendar

Saturday, November 18  
3-8:30 p.m. — Town and Country Garden Club Flower Show, Farm and Home Center.

Farm-City Week, November 18-23.

Sunday, November 19  
1-7 p.m. — Town and Country Garden Club Flower Show, Farm and Home Center.

Silver Spurs 4-H Horse and Pony Club Bowling party, Lancaster Lanes.

Monday, November 20  
7:30 p.m. — Manheim Young Farmers meeting, vo-ag department, Manheim Central High School

(Continued On Page 29)

## Garden Spot Agway Holds Annual Meet

Some 325 Agway members from the Garden Spot zone attended that organization's annual meeting on Monday night at the Farm and Home Center.

Reports on operations were given by Mark Hess, store manager for the five Agway stores in the Garden Spot zone. Area manager Arthur Cochran came to the meeting from Harrisburg to report on state-wide operations.

Comments were also heard from county extension personnel

Max Smith, Jay Irwin and Joan Lucas.

There were four committeemen elected to three-year terms during the meeting. Reelected were Roy H. Book, Ronks R1, and John W. Sangrey, Conestoga R2. Newly elected were John R. Groff, 37 Quarry Road, Leola, and Donald L. Hershey, Manheim R2.

The group was entertained by the Garden Spotters quartet, and there were 25 door prizes awarded.