Analyzing Rural Growth

An analysis of the pattern of public investments in three rural communities, issued last week by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), points out that communities may use very different options for funding captial expenditures depending on population shifts.

The report by USDA's Economic Research Service details the patterns, magnitude, and sources of funds used for selected capital expenditures in three rural communities in Washington state between 1930 and 1965. In one community the population was growing, in another it was stable, and in a third, declining.

The growing community invested in municipal services at a level approximately six times greater than the declining community and three times greater than the stable community over the 36-year period. Similarly, expenditures per capita for education in the growth community was \$402 greater than expenditures in the declining community and \$88 greater than the stable community, (constant

Each community used a distinct set of options for funding municipal capital expenditures. The growing community relied primarily on special property assessments on local parcels of property (the local improvement district) and increased its bonded indebtedness. In contrast, the declining community used outside financial aid tergovernmental transfers) to finance over half of all capital investment.

The stable community funded a significant part of its total expenditures tergovernmental transfers. However, the largest single source of its investment capital came from surpluses from current revenue, accruals, investment earnings, short-term indebtedness, and miscellaneous sources.

A copy of "Public Investments and Population Changes in Three Rural Washington State Towns,' AER 236, is available free on postcard (please include zipcode) or telephone (447-7255) request from the Office of Communication, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

Fur Dealers Warned About Meat Sales

The Department of Agriculture has notified all licensed Pennsylvania raw fur dealers against illegal sales of carcasses for meat comsumption.

Secretary Jim McHale disclosed that through a recent investigation by department food inspectors, it was learned that meat from animals who have died other than by slaughter is reaching the market for consumer comsumption. This includes carcasses of muskrat, raccoon and opossum.

As a result, McHale has ordered a crackdown on dealers who are not denaturing their skinned carcasses immediately.

Glorio J Patsy, acting director of the Bureau of Foods and Chemistry, explained that under the General Food Law meat from animals that have died other than by slaughter is considered adulterated. Further, the law

Neppco Charts New Directions

"The best service the Northeastern Poultry Producers Council (NEPPCO) can perform for its members now and in the immediate future is to act in the multiple capacity as a watchdog, a voice, and an information clearinghouse for the industry in the Northeast," declared NEPPCO's Executive Director, Richard I. Ammon, in addressing the annual meeting of the Vermont Poultry Association, held here today in conjunction with the Vermont Farm Show in Barre's Memorial Auditorium.

Speaking on "NEPPCO and the New Poultry Politics", Ammon first recounted how and why NEPPCO was organized and briefly reviewed its major accomplishments over the 41 years of its existence. Last fall, he said, new officers and a number of new directors were elected to the Council's Board. One of the first actions of this new Board was to order a restructuring of NEPP-CO to meet three basic objectives:

1. That membership in NEPP-CO be structured around the people who own birds;

2 That filling the needs of members be the overriding objective of all of NEPPCO's programs and activities; and,

3. That the past casual relationship between NEPPCO and its affiliated state associations be strengthened so that all services and activities regional and state offices.

To meet these objectives, Ammon continued, the Board directed the staff to begin immediately to set up a program that will be known as AID, meaning "Action in Depth", which will be able to help members with technical, legislative, regulatory and interindustry problems.

The Technical AID program, he expalined, will operate like this. Whenever a producermember runs into a problem relating to ecology, or waste disposal, or residues, or a special or unusual disease, or housing, or nutrition, or any similar technical matter, he simply calls the NEPPCO office. NEPPCO will have an up-dated file of the most knowledgeable people in the Northeast on that particular problem - the person or persons to contact to get the answer - and, depending on the situation. NEPPCO will either direct its member to that person or obtain the answer for him.

Other programs will be somewhat similarly structured and all will be coordinated with state poultry association, college and state government officials.

To do these things requires a sizeable membership with a broad base of industry support, Ammon pointed out. Accordingly, the most intensive membership drive in NEPPCO's history will be launched in another month with Dr John Dodge of Agway, one of NEPP-CO's new directors, as General Chairman.

Turning to the political scene, Ammon concluded his remarks with a review of the changes taking place in the Department of Agriculture and in the Congress. as well as the probable thrust of legislation this year.

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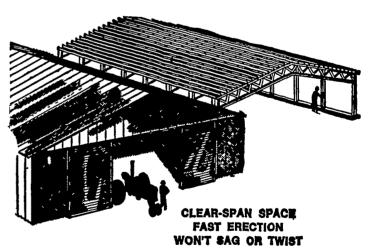
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provides that possession of adulterated meat is considered evidence of intent to sell the meat.

Patsy said the law requires that the meat be denatured with kerosene or some other agent approved by the department, thereby rendering the meat unfit

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