

Butz Advises Culling Beef Breeding Herds

Secretary of Agriculture Earl L. Butz suggested today that the time is right for cattlemen to cull their beef breeding herds.

If cattlemen will cull their herds now, while prices are strong, they can fill in with younger replacements and get in better shape to supply the markets in the months and years ahead, Secretary Butz said.

The Secretary said this would get more total pounds of beef on the market to help fill the present strong consumer demand, and that with younger herds of female

stock, cattlemen will be in a stronger position in the years ahead to handle whatever economic conditions might prevail in the industry.

The Secretary cited the decline in cow slaughter from six million head in 1970 to 5.5 six million as evidence of the rapid buildup in the national beef cow herd.

"Live cattle prices at midwest terminals have been holding at strong levels," Secretary Butz said. "The benefits to producers by selling cull cows at this time are obvious."

The Secretary acknowledged the strong consumer demand for beef. He pointed out that while beef slaughter in January was about eight percent higher than it was a year ago, the consumer demand was so strong that prices were higher, rather than lower,

as one would ordinarily expect. "By culling his beef breeding herd now, a cattleman will be in a better economic position to meet whatever demands the market makes of him in the future," Secretary Butz said.

Juniata County Farmer Heads Rural Affairs

Secretary of Agriculture Jim McHale has appointed a 30-year-old farmer-businessman to be director of the Bureau of Rural Affairs.

H. Richard Hostetler, Mifflintown R.D. 2, is the first to hold the \$15,387 post which came into being after the Division of Rural Development and the Division of Consumer Affairs were separated from the Bureau of Markets.

McHale said, "A bureau devoted exclusively to rural development and consumer affairs will enable the Department of Agriculture to deliver more services to all citizens of the Commonwealth."

The Juniata County native operates a cattle feeding facility and is also treasurer of the Simon Publishing Company, Mifflintown. The appointment was effective March 21, 1973.

Hostetler is a graduate of Lycoming College, Williamsport, majoring in business administration with minor interests in economics and political science. He has been active in political circles having served four years as deputy chairman of the State Democratic Committee and is presently a state committeeman from the 33rd Senatorial District.

Hostetler is married and the father of three children. He and

his family will continue to reside at Mifflintown, R.D. 2.

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