

# Agnew

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understand the great frustration of the housewife. She is aware that the prices of other things she buys are also up. But she doesn't buy new furniture, or new clothing or a new television set every week.

"She does shop for groceries every few days, however, and she is extremely conscious of changes in the cost of food.

"Then, when she reads in her newspaper, or sees and hears on radio or television, that farmers are to blame for the high cost of food, she's angry.

"Farmers, knowing the equally

bitter frustration of seeing everything they buy go up and up in price, while the already thin profit margin narrows even more, are tempted to lash back when blamed for high prices.

"This dramatic controversy is grist for some of the media. They play the game of advocacy journalism - choosing their side and developing their conclusions first, then hammering on whatever facts support their preconceived conclusion," Agnew asserted.

"If the general public is going to get the facts, you're going to have to present them. This is a challenge not many farmers or their organizations have really faced up to yet.

"It's a whole lot easier to talk to those who already know your side of the problem, and are sympathetic to your point of view, than to attempt to present the facts to a suspicious, and often hostile audience," the vice president asserted.

Gently chiding farmers for a lack of educational efforts, Agnew said, "When was the last time your organization made a concerted effort to tell the consumers of Philadelphia, or Baltimore or Trenton what's really taking place in the dairy industry?"

"I'm not talking about disseminating information to your members or to others in the trade. I'm talking about in-

forming the families whose income comes from factories and refineries and department stores," he declared.

Agnew warned his audience that unless farmers educate the public there could be dire consequences for the farmer and America.

Defending the Nixon Administration's farm and economic policies Agnew said, "The public also needs to learn the weaknesses of (food price) controls - how they can dry up supply without satisfying demand - thus leading to rationing and black market activities."

"In the food-cost battle, efficient production is the best friend the consumer has. Only as it is profitable to produce will more food appear on the supermarket shelves."

Agnew said the Nixon administration "intends to do everything in its power to see that productivity continues to increase."

"For people engaged in agriculture," he said, "our goal is to help farmers obtain more income from the marketplace and close the gap that exists between the average income of farm and nonfarm families.

"And we are making progress toward that goal. We have just completed a year of record net farm income nationally - \$19.2 billion - and we're shooting for a new record of \$21 billion in 1973. Farm prices have strengthened. The demand is strong here at home. And farm exports are headed for a record \$11 billion total this fiscal year."

Agnew then declared that the

## Fulton Grangers Selling Cookbooks

Fulton Grange 66 held its regular meeting April 23 at Oakryn. Master Richard Holloway was in charge of the business session when the Charter was draped in memory of Edgar K. Brown.

Fulton Grange will present the program at the County Grange visitation meeting May 1 at White Horse Fire Hall when Salisbury Grange will be the host. The theme of the program will be "100 Years For Pennsylvania State Grange."

The Women's Activities committee is still selling Pennsylvania State Grange cookbooks. They must have all applications in to enter the National Grange sewing contest by April 30 and the dresses will be judged at the next meeting of Fulton Grange May 14.

The Lecturer, Mrs. J. Stanley Stauffer Jr., presented the program which featured a reading by Mrs. Thomas Bradley "Telling It Like It Really Is." Amos Funk of Millersville spoke on The Land Use Assessment referendum which will be on the

biggest enemy to farmers and all Americans is inflation.

"Costs are rising faster than productivity, and the pinch is felt first, and probably hardest, at the farm level. And government spending is rising faster than revenues, compounding the inflationary pressures."

"One way to curb inflation is to stop spending money for low priority, or unneeded, projects. Another is to eliminate the overlapping programs that compete with each other for federal dollars.

"The federal government already takes 20 percent of the Gross National Product. State and local governments take another 14 percent. Even citizens not on the public payroll are working for government about one-third of the time.

"This administration finds that statistic deplorable. When President Nixon submitted the 1973 budget to the Congress, he called for an expenditure of \$246 billion, based on a full employment surplus of \$700,000. By July 1 of last year this balance had been disrupted by additional Congressional appropriations."

Agnew declared, "... President Nixon is leading the crusade to keep down taxes and choke off inflation. For the stake is American jobs, American taxes, the prices you pay for land and machinery and the prices urban Americans pay for milk and cheese and butter."

Primary Election ballot May 15. After explaining it he urged everyone to vote for it.

The next meeting, May 14, will feature a fashion show of Easter dresses made by the Grange women.

## Farm Calendar

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Monday, April 30

- 10 a.m. - South Central (Area No. 4) Milk Marketing public hearing, Agriculture Building, Harrisburg.
- 6:30 p.m. - Fruit Growers and Honey Producers annual meeting and banquet, Meadow Hills Dining House.
- 7:15 p.m. - Penn Manor 4-H Cooking and Sewing Club, Penn Manor High School.
- 7:30 p.m. - 4H County Council meeting, Commonwealth National Bank, Lititz Pike.

Tuesday, May 1

- 1:30 p.m. - Area Public Speaking and Parliamentary Procedure Contest, Brownstown Vo-Tech School.
- Lancaster County Farmers Association meeting, Farm and Home Center.
- Grange visitation meeting, White Horse Fire Hall; Salisbury Grange, hosts.

Wednesday, May 2

- 6:30 p.m. - Lancaster County Bankers banquet, Host Town Motel.
- 7:30 p.m. - Red Rose 4-H Baby Beef and Lamb Club, Farm and Home Center.
- 6:30 p.m. - PP&L Environmental Conference, Farm and Home Center.

Thursday, May 3

- 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. - Spring Homemakers Day, Cochranville Fire Hall.
- 4:30 p.m. - LCVATA meeting, Pequea Valley High School.

Friday, May 4

- 7 p.m. - Silver Spurs 4-H Club meeting, Manor View Acres.

Saturday, May 5

- 7 - 10 p.m. - York 4-H County Council sponsoring dance, York County 4-H Center.

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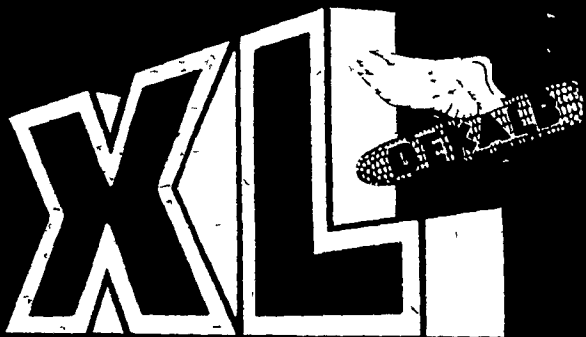
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