

# Lancaster Farming

VOL. 18 No. 35

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, July 21, 1973

\$2.00 Per Year

## FARM TRENDS

A summary of market  
and commodity news for  
the week ending July 21 by **Dick Wanner**

### PORK - SKY'S THE LIMIT

Pork prices were off and running Thursday morning after the announcement that the price ceiling on all agricultural products but beef had been lifted. In Peoria, hogs were fetching \$50 to \$50.50. Saturday's hog auction at Vintage was too late for this issue of LANCASTER FARMING, but prices were expected to approach or even top Midwest levels. Some pressure on the hog supply eased off in recent weeks when the giant Penn Packing Company in Philadelphia closed its doors and sent its 500 employees home. The company hopes to reopen Monday morning, but labor difficulties may keep it closed awhile longer.

### BEEF - OUT IN THE COLD

Beef was the only agricultural product not exempted from price controls by President Nixon's announcement on Wednesday. Retail prices will remain at the March 29 level until September 12, when the beef freeze will be lifted. Prices on local auctions had hit record highs this week in anticipation of a lifting of the freeze. Surprisingly enough, Nixon's statement didn't seem to affect auction prices here or nationally. On Thursday, cattle prices again boomed to a new high at the New Holland Sales Stables.

### EGGS - DOLLAR A DOZEN

That's what some eggmen are predicting by September 1. As the freeze lifted, prices jumped up on egg markets all over the country. Thursday's Urner Barry quote was at 74-cents and headed higher.

### MILK - STATE UPS PRICE

The Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board Wednesday afternoon posted a \$1.00 increase for Class One milk throughout most of the Commonwealth. Exempted from the boost are dairymen in the Western counties and around the Philadelphia area. In PMMB Market Area 4, ten counties in the South central part of the state, the price will go from \$7.27 to \$8.27 for Class One milk. The order is expected to have little impact locally, since most independent dairymen have been getting \$8.19 from their dairies since the middle of March. It was then that most local dairies initiated a voluntary price hike to farmers, and a consequent increase to consumers. Milk producers who ship to federal order markets will not be affected by the PMMB order. One dairy industry spokesman said the \$1.00 increase wasn't enough anyway, because it didn't take into account all the increased costs farmers have incurred recently. Besides feed, these costs include taxes, equipment, labor, fuel, paper products and a multitude of other farm inputs.

(Continued On Page 40)

## Pa. Ayrshire Club Holds Annual Meet

The Pennsylvania Ayrshire Club held their 52nd Annual Field Day last Saturday at Milton Brubaker's Spruce Villa Dairy farm just outside Lititz. A crowd of Ayrshire dairymen traveled from around the state to the farm for chicken dinners, fellowship, contests and speeches.

One of the speakers was Roy Breneman, a Willow Street native who's now a dairy specialist with Agway's Harrisburg office. Breneman talked about meeting the challenge of high feed costs.

"We'll probably never go back to the old feed prices," Breneman

told his audience. "But on the other hand, we'll probably never go back to the old milk prices, either. So while your costs may be higher, your returns will keep going up too."

Careful feed management, though, will always be an important part of the dairyman's profit picture, Breneman noted. "You lose money when you feed either too much or too little protein and energy," he said. "A ration that's high in corn silage, for example, can supply too much energy. For maximum herd health, and for maximum in-

(Continued On Page 13)

### Other Foods Exempt. . .

## Phase 4 - Freeze Stays on Cattle

Cheers and chuckles greeted the sight of a man riding a bull into the auction show ring at Lancaster Stockyards on Wednesday. When that bull sold for 56.25-cents a pound, the conversation got so loud that the auctioneer had to gavel the jocular crowd to a quieter level.

But after the auction, there were no jokes when cattlemen learned they'd been left out in the freezing cold by the Administration's Phase IV economic game plan. Beef was the only agricultural commodity to have a government-imposed retail price ceiling after Wednesday. That ceiling remains at the March 29 level and will continue in effect until September 12.

In the few days prior to the Washington announcement, beef cattle prices at local auctions had been hitting record highs. On Thursday, the day after the announcement, there was some expectation prices would weaken at Thursday's New Holland

auction, but again, new highs were set. Slaughter steers ranged from \$50 to \$51.60 with one going for \$52.10. The high for the week was the bull mentioned earlier, a Tees Water, that went for \$56.25.

While the news may have been bad for beef processors, it was bombs away for practically every other foodstuff in the market. Hogs jumped a phenomenal \$5 in Peoria on

(Continued On Page 12)

## Highest Priced Bull is As Gentle as a Lamb

Probably the last thing you'd expect to see on a Wednesday afternoon at the Lancaster Stockyards is a man riding a bull. There are usually a lot of bulls at the Yard for Wednesday's cattle auction, but most of them aren't in any mood to be ridden.

It was no ordinary bull, however, that was, in fact, ridden into the show ring. It was a Tees Water bull, and it brought what could be the highest price ever paid hereabouts for a slaughter animal. Yount Brothers of Terre Hill paid 56.5-cents a pound for the 1290 pound brute. It was a price sure to bring a smile to the face of Abraham Kilheffer, Lititz RD2, the farmer who's been

feeding the bull since last fall. In his 50 years of farming, Kilheffer has never done quite that well with a bull.

Richard Hooper, of J. M. Hooper, Inc., got the bull last fall on a buying foray into West Virginia. Hooper recognized the double-muscling hindquarters which characterize Tees Water animals, and he brought it along home for Kilheffer, one of his oldest feeder customers.

The Tees Water trait is a genetic anomaly which shows up in perhaps one out of every 15,000 cattle, usually a black beef breed. It was first noticed on a cattle farm in England, near the river

(Continued On Page 40)

### Farm Calendar

Monday, July 23

7:00 p.m. - Fulton Grange annual picnic, Grange Hall.

PVATA Conference - Penn State University.

(Continued On Page 12)

## York FLBA, PCA Conduct Annual Meet

The York Federal Land Bank Association and the Carlisle Production Credit Association held their joint annual meeting on Thursday at the South Mountain Fairgrounds at Arendtsville, York County. Some 1100 people attended.

Kenneth F. Miller, FLBA manager, reported that the loan volume for his organization had increased by some \$3 million over last year. Re-elected for three-year terms on the FLBA board of directors were Richard K. Smyser, York County, and Harold M. Herr, Adams County.

Robert Stover reported that PCA volume had increased by some \$700,000 over the previous year. Samuel W. Musser, Sr., Shippensburg, was re-elected to the PCA board.

The two organizations have a total membership of some 2000 farm families in York, Adams, Franklin, Fulton, Cumberland and Perry Counties. Their main office is in York, with branches in Gettysburg, Carlisle and Chambersburg.



Lancaster Farming Photo

It's not every day you'll see a bull ridden into the auction show ring at the Lancaster Stockyards. It happened Wednesday afternoon, though, with Nelson Green showing how it's done.