

Brunthaver Sees

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Chinese have been stockpiling some supplies of food for the past 10 or 15 years. They're saving some American wheat, but the bulk of it is being used."

As to the Russian charge, Brunthaver disdained the story as a political gesture by Senator Walter Huddleston (D-Ky) to "embarrass the administration." The assistant secretary said he called Huddleston after hearing of the charge and asked him for the names of the ships reportedly seen unloading American grain at Italian ports.

One of the ships seen unloading was Scandinavian, not Russian, and the wheat which was going onto the dock had been bought in the U.S., but on the open market. And the second ship to which Huddleston referred had embarked not from the U. S. but from Brazil.

On another front, economic

controls, Brunthaver was bluntly critical of the administration's efforts. "Trying to control the economy was a mistake," he commented. Brunthaver said the attempt to control prices, particularly food costs, had failed, and that the failure illustrated the pitfalls of government meddling in the marketplace.

"The administration stands for less government involvement in every sector of the economy, and that includes agriculture," Brunthaver went on to say. "Since farm programs were first begun, in 1932, Washington has poured \$83 billion into agriculture, trying unsuccessfully to balance supply and demand. But now we're getting out of agriculture, and we think everybody will be better off."

Brunthaver said that last year, U. S. Treasury payments to farmers totalled some \$4 billion.

This year that figure will shrink to \$2 billion and next year, he said, "We expect zero payments for farm subsidies."

Along with farm subsidies, the administration wants to eliminate export controls, such as those which now exist on soybeans and certain feed grains. Brunthaver criticized a bill recently introduced by Senator Jacob Javits which would curtail exports.

The intent of Javits' bill is to insure that pantries in this country are filled before any food is sold overseas. Javits also hopes that his bill would hold down prices for consumers.

The net effect of the Javits bill, though, according to Brunthaver, would be to lower payments to farmers, with a subsequent drop in production, and a shortage of, market basket items. And even higher food prices. "You can't encourage farmers to increase production by putting a lid on prices," Brunthaver said. "If the American consumer wants more, she'll just have to be willing to pay more. I am opposed to government intervention as a means of insulating the American consumer against the growing and legitimate demands for food from people overseas."

In his talk, Brunthaver said that he was very bullish on American agriculture. His optimism was based on three major factors:

The first was population growth around the world coupled with a 3-4 percent annual growth in real per capita income among all the world's people. More people will need more food, and with more money they'll be able to buy more and better food. Brunthaver predicted burgeoning demand for pork, chicken and beef from countries whose people now get most of their protein from cereals.

Secondly, Brunthaver said, many governments, like the Soviet Union, have enacted positive programs to feed their people. "In the past," he commented, "these governments would see that the people were fed if food was available. If there was no food, the government didn't worry too much about people starving. Today, the threat of political reprisal is compelling those governments to insure food supplies for their people."

And finally, access to the

Solanco Fair Schedule

Wednesday, September 19
11 a.m. - Judging Dairy Cattle.
7:30 p.m. - Formal Opening of the Fair.

8 p.m. - Entertainment: Solanco Sing Out Group; Pa Dutch Humorist Merritt Freeman.

Thursday, September 20
12:30 p.m. - County-Wide Tractor Driving Contest; 4-H, FFA and Open Class.

1 p.m. - Swine Judging.
6:30 p.m. - Baby Beef Judging.
8 p.m. - Tug of War Contest; Entertainment.

Friday, September 21
10 a.m. - Baby Parade.
2 p.m. - Fat Hog and Baby Beef Sale.
6:30 p.m. - Parade.
8:15 p.m. - Jacobs Brothers Entertain.
9 p.m. - Rural Youth Awards
9:15 p.m. - Jacobs Brothers Entertain.

Chinese and Russian economies will prove a boon to American farmers, in Brunthaver's opinion. It will also, he said, keep this country from developing an insurmountable balance of payments deficit.

The main thrust of Brunthaver's speech was that demand for food products, particularly overseas, would keep farm prices strong and retail food prices high. He pointed out, though, that strong food prices would benefit fully a third of the nation's labor force, because that is the portion which derives income from the sale of products, directly or indirectly, to and from the farm.

At PennAg

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and Robert B. Graybill, Pennfield Corporation, Lancaster, Penn. - Treasurer.

At the same time the members elected as new Directors, Ray L. Martin, Montgomery-Bucks Farm Bureau Co-op Association, Souderton; William Tuman, Honesdale Milling Company, Inc., Honesdale; and Paul E. Orner, Columbus Milling Company, Columbus. Re-elected as Directors were William E. Angstadt, Reading Bone Fertilizer Company, Reading; Paul E. Homan, Central Soya Company, Inc., Ravenna, Ohio; and James W. Leeser, Rhoads Mills, Inc., Selinsgrove.

During the three day meeting over 300 representatives of Pennsylvania agribusiness firms attended meetings and discussions covering a wide range of topics. Speakers included Pennsylvania legislators, federal officials, educational and industrial representatives. Topics covered included state, national and international market problems and outlooks, fuel supplies, an insight into what's happening in Washington, an up-date on Penn State's College of Agriculture, plus many of the problems facing business today.

Farm Calendar

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Quarryville, September 19-21.
8 p.m. - Chester County Dairy Feeding meeting, Central Chester Vo-Tech Cafetorium; Richard Adams, speaker.

Thursday, September 20
Second Annual PA-MD Guernsey Sale, Guernsey Sales Pavilion; 11 a.m., meeting; 6:30 p.m., - Sale.

Saturday, September 22
Harvest Fair, Schaefferstown, September 22-23.



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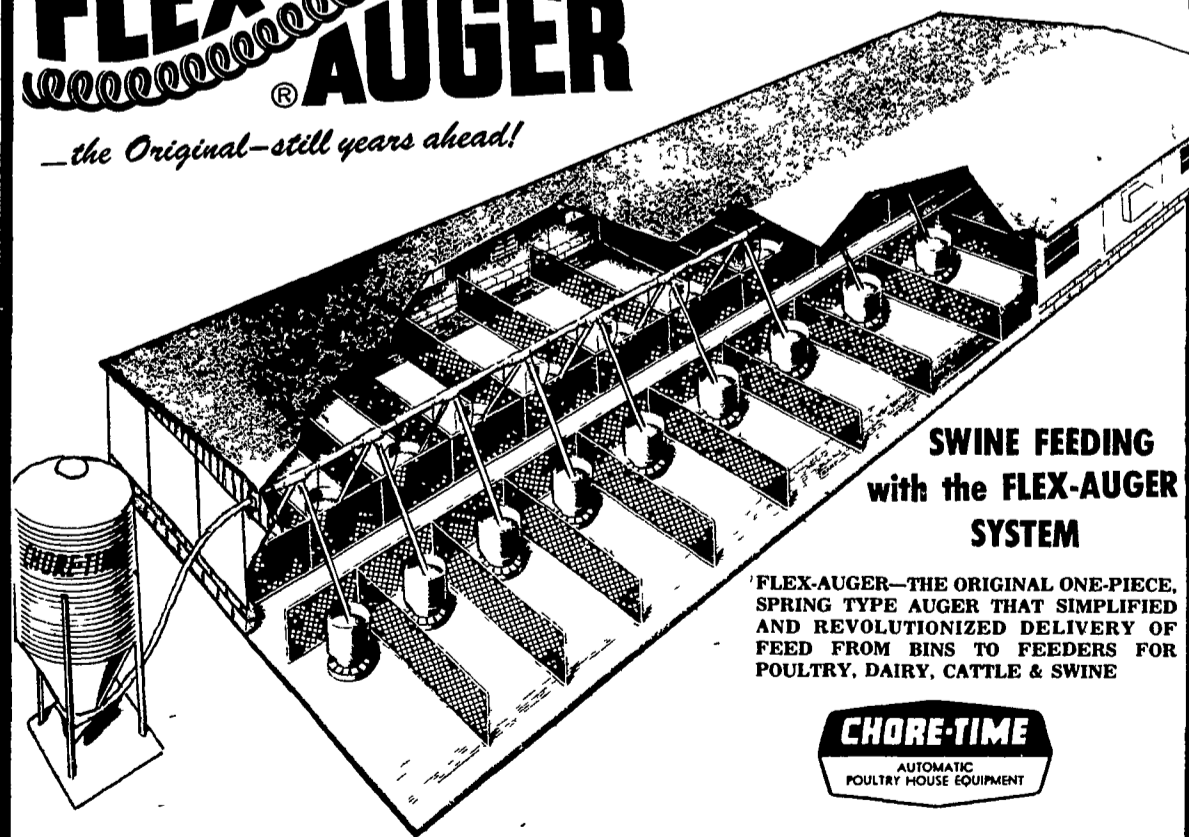
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