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# Lancaster Farming

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## FARM TRENDS

A summary of market and commodity news for the past week

by Dick Wanner

### U. S. Pledges to Meet Farm Fuel Requirements

Fuel suppliers will be required to meet 100 percent of the farmer's needs, we were told this week by Ralph Jackson, executive vice president of the American Soybean Assn.

Jackson and Ad Blankestijn, vice president of FEDIOL (Federation of European Oilseed Processors) met this week with John Hill, deputy administrator of the Federal Energy Office for clarification of the rules and regulations regarding farm fuel supplies.

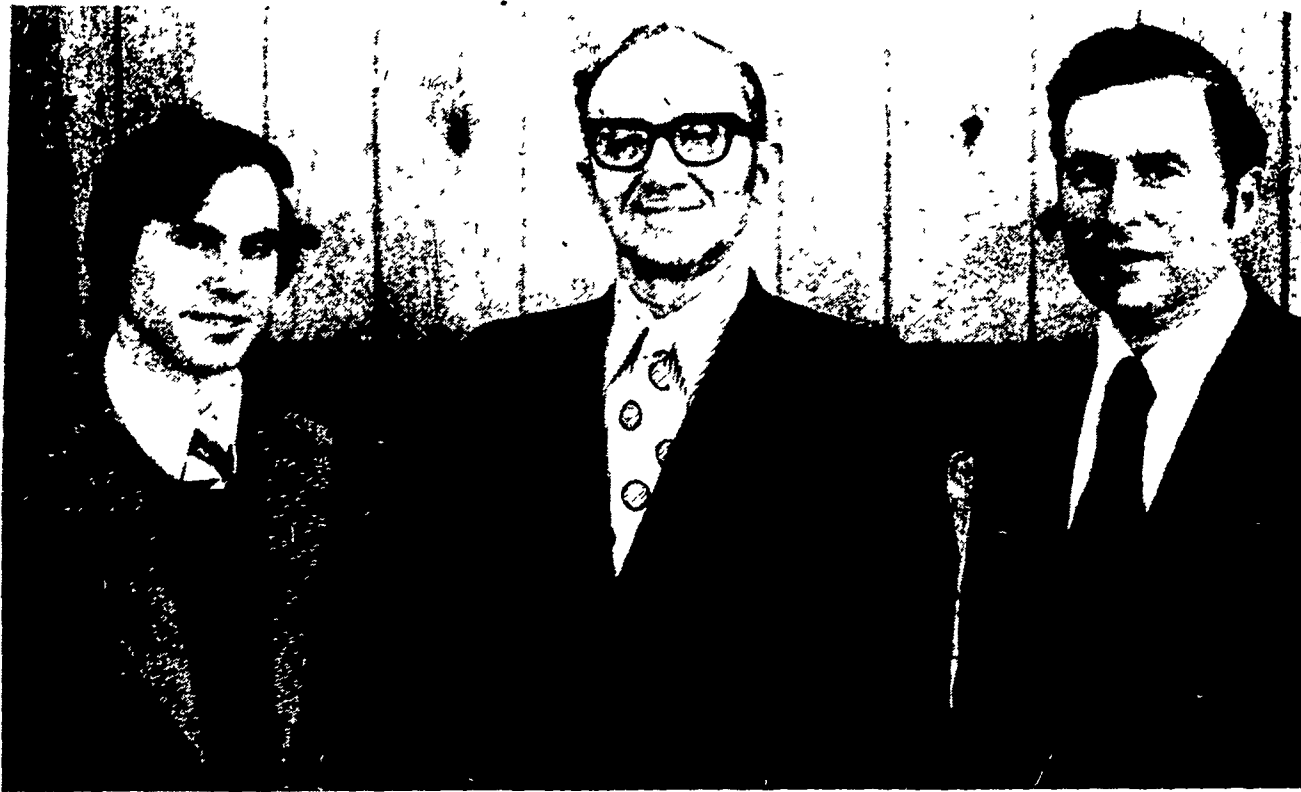
Federal regulations issued Jan. 15 provide for 100 percent of agriculture's current requirements for propane, butane, diesel fuel, gasoline and residual fuel. The regulations define agricultural activities as planting, cultivation, harvesting, processing and distribution of fiber, timber, tobacco, food intended for human consumption and animal feed.

Ships arriving in U.S. ports to load soybeans and other agricultural products will get the fuel they need to return to their destination, according to Ad Blankestijn. European nations are providing all the fuel ships need to get to U. S. ports.

"Until now, we have been concerned that the ships would not get enough fuel to return to Europe with agricultural products," said Blankestijn. All other cargo and freight are allocated 110 percent of their 1972 requirements.

"Requiring fuel suppliers to meet farmer's needs will help the farmer finalize his plans for 1974. Farming involves enough guess work without the fuel problem," said Jackson.

"I am sure that our farmers have taken necessary steps to ensure the proper use of fuel and will conserve energy whenever possible. These new regulations are necessary not only for the farmers, but for the nation. If the production and distribution of agricultural products is stopped or even slowed down, the nation itself must either stop or slow down in direct relationship to agriculture," said Jackson.



Preston Newcomer, left, is the newly elected director of the Mount Joy Farmers Cooperative. Reelected to the board at the group's annual meeting Thursday were Lewis Bixler, center, to a three-year-term, and Albert Fry, Jr., to a one-year term.

## Mt. Joy Coop Members Meet

David Putney had some bad news and some good news for the Mount Joy Farmers Cooperative Association on Thursday during their annual meeting at Hostetter's Banquet Hall in Mount Joy. Putney, a Harrisburg attorney, works for the Mount Joy group as well as a number of other cooperative associations.

Putney's bad news was that the Internal Revenue Service is trying to change a long standing rule that makes farm cooperatives exempt from corporate income taxes. Patronage payments to members have always been taxable, Putney noted, but these payments would be reduced considerably if corporate taxes were deducted from the

cooperatives' income.

Good news, at least for the cash basis farmers in the group, was that the IRS will now allow deductions from current year income for feed purchased one year and consumed the next. "However," Putney cautioned, "the expenditure must be a payment and not a refundable deposit, and there must be an agreement to deliver at a specific time and a specific place."

County Agent Maxwell M. Smith addressed the group, too, and urged the farmers to consider the public relations aspects of their farming operations. Smith stressed the need for maintaining clean, attractive farmsteads. He said as housing developments spring up in farming areas, farmers will have to cultivate friendly

relations with their neighbors if they want to stay in business without constant complaints about the noise,

odor and dust that go along with farming.

Lewis Bixler, president of  
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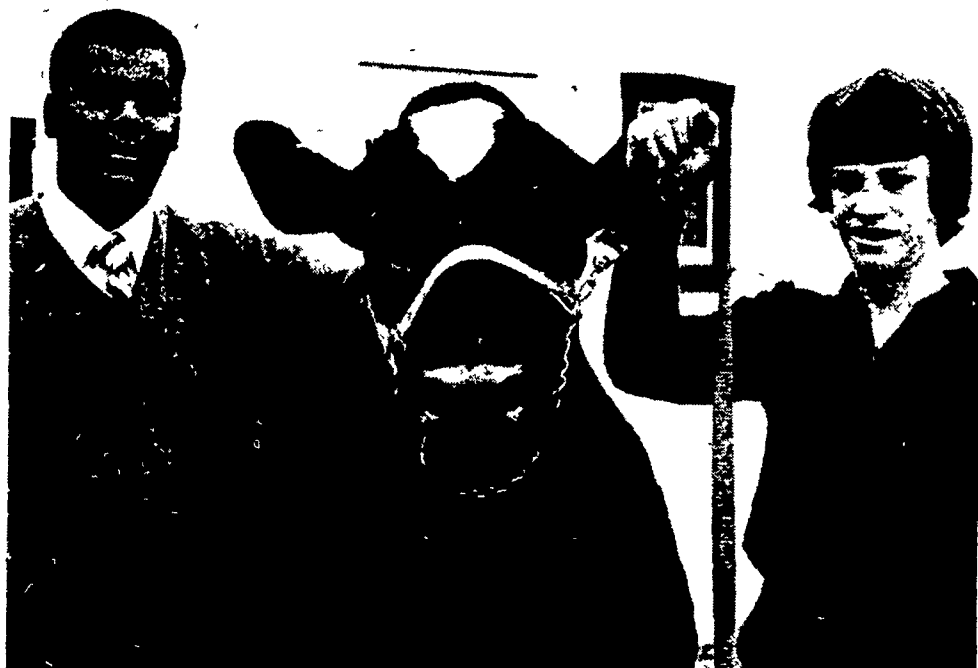
## Outlook Hopeful for State Pesticide Law

Pennsylvania's attempt at legislation regulating pesticide useage is moving closer to reality, according to Donald W. Parke, Executive Vice-President of PennAg Industries Association in comments before the Annual Lime, Fertilizer and Pesticide Conference at Pennsylvania State University, January 25.

While legislation has been considered for years by the General Assembly, progress was hampered by lack of details as to Federal amendments which would establish standards and guidelines for states to follow. With recent Federal legislation, this problem has now been largely eliminated, although many unknowns still have to be regulated. "We hope H.R.-588 which has already passed the Pennsylvania House of

Representatives unanimously will compromise the environmentalists, the agriculturalists, the Federal regulators, not to mention the poor taxpayer who will have to foot the bill for a whole new regulatory group," Parke said. "H.R.-588 was developed through the Department of Agriculture with the assistance of a committee of farmers, agribusiness leaders, educators and government. Every effort was made to obtain legislation which would conform to the Federal standards."

Details of the proposed legislation including licensing, registration, records, liability and penalties were covered by Parke as well as other legislative matters of interest to the fertilizer industry.



Alton Daw, left, took time out from a busy schedule Thursday to pose for a picture with Jeff Martin and the cow which is Jeff's 4-H project. Daw is staying with Jeff's family, the Robert

Martins of New Holland, for a short time while he's in Lancaster County observing vo-ag and farming techniques.

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## Guyana Ag Teacher Observing Vo-Ag, Farm Programs Here

It's an accepted fact that America has a wealth of knowledge and experience to share with developing nations. We have marketing, transportation, political, communication, research and other systems with ef-

ficiencies unmatched anywhere else in the world. Observers come here to learn and to carry their observations back to their home countries. Today, the flow of information is largely outward from the U.S. to the

developing nations. This is true in farming as well as other fields.

That flow may reverse some day, particularly if we must learn to deal with the problems of shortages rather

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