

Clean

(Continued From Page 1)
would be evaluated on the basis of individual need. In response to a question from the audience, Bass said

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that a farmer could spread manure every day if he had enough land to handle the quantity, and if he kept manure out of any streams. "If you have strips and are doing a good job of conservation, you shouldn't have any problem," he said. Another questioner wanted to know if farmers would be required to fence off the streams running through their properties in order to keep livestock out of waterways. "Under the present law, you don't have to keep your cows out of the stream. But if we don't do a good job of policing ourselves, that could change." Bass told about a dairy farm he'd seen where cows had to stand in a stream to eat from a feeder. "That guy was using the stream to haul his manure away, and if a lot of this goes on, we'll see some

stricter laws." A conservation plan; Bass said, would indicate how intensively a farmer could use his land without running afoul of the law. "The plan costs you nothing when you get it from us," Bass pointed out, "and it doesn't obligate you to anything." A listener wanted to know how long it takes to recoup the cost of a conservation plan. "Strips don't cost very much at all, and they don't hurt yields in the beginning. Terraces should pay their way after seven to ten years, and they could lower your yields for maybe two or three years." Another farmer in the back of the room shouted, "Why should the guy who works five days a week tell the farmer who works seven days a week what to do?" One man wanted to know why the farmers shouldn't sell all their cows and let the city folks go hungry. Still another asked what was the use of trying to save topsoil if the East was just going to get built up anyway. The questions revealed an underlying air of frustration which the farmers feel as they face 1977 and the costs of complying with a law they don't understand. The audience, for the most part, was quiet and attentive, but

there were some hostile challenges issued and there was some grumbling from time to time. Afton Schadel, representing the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources, took the podium after Bass. Schadel began his talk in Dutch, and told the farmers that he had run a 500-acre truck farm in Schuylkill County for 20 years until a

personal tragedy caused him to leave the farm for a job in Harrisburg. "I believe in conservation and erosion control," Schadel said. "We worked for eight years to get good laws for erosion control, and now that we've got them I think they should be obeyed by everyone." Schadel pointed out that many of the erosion control

regulations were aimed at builders, but that it was not right to impose restrictions on industrial earth-movers without imposing the same restrictions on agricultural earth-movers. Schadel said that an SCS conservation plan wouldn't cost farmers anything, and it would automatically exempt them from the provisions of the Clean Streams Law.

Red Rose DHIA Officers Elected

The Red Rose Dairy Herd Improvement Association held its regular quarterly meeting Monday night at the Farm and Home Center. Officers and board members for the coming year were elected. The board approved an increase in DHIA testing fees, to be effective June 1. The new schedule will be explained at a later date. It was explained that an increase was necessary because the association had been operating at a loss for the past few years. Pay

increases to the testers and an anticipated retirement program were also cited. Plans were made to attend the Southeast District directors meeting on March 8 in Montgomery County.

New board members elected at the meeting are: J. Robert Kendig, Conestoga, John B. Groff, Mt. Joy, Elam J. Stoltzfus, Narvon, and Roy C. Neff, Paradise. Directors appointed to represent the various breed associations are: James Martin, Stevens (Ayrshire), Arthur Breneman, Willow Street (Guernsey), and Robert E. Landis, Lancaster (Holstein). In all, there are 19 members of the local DHIA board.

Robert L. Kauffman, Jr., Peach Bottom RD2, was reelected to another term as president of the association. James G. Kreider, Quarryville, was chosen vice-president, and James Eshelman, Mt. Joy was named secretary.

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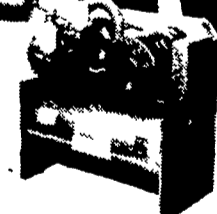
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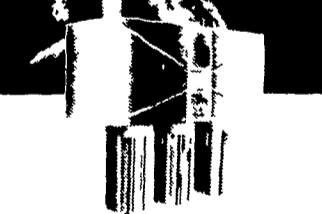
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