

FARM TRENDS

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They Kill Cows, Don't They?

NFO members, protesting against the government mandated Class 2 milk price, are reportedly set to slaughter 50,000 cows with calf over the next few weeks in order to reduce the amount of surplus milk going to market. The move is termed a "symbolic" gesture, even by NFO members, and the slaughter of only pregnant cows is supposedly meant to heighten the symbolism. A. F. Moyer Co., a Souderton, Pa. slaughter house, killed 125 NFO cows this week.

Orval Bass Replacement Announced

Warren Archibald, presently working in Kittanning, Pa., will become Lancaster County's new district conservationist as of May 20, it was announced Wednesday night at the Lancaster County Conservation District monthly meeting. Archibald replaces Orval Bass, who was transferred to a similar post in Missouri. Area conservationist James Olsen, who made the announcement, said the county will also get a new conservation technician, Larry Zuschlag, as of June 10.

Small Rail Groups Seen Needed

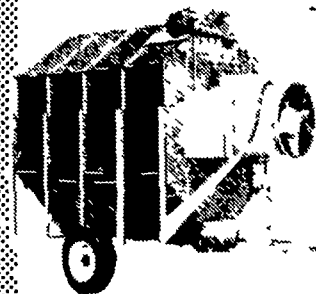
In a message this week to businesses and communities along railroad branch lines, Donald W. Parke, executive vice-president of PennAg Industries Association, urged them to form shipper's organizations to help preserve their rail service.

"We suggest this for all Pennsylvania businesses and communities, even though their branch lines have not been threatened with loss of service under the Secretary of Transportation's first proposal for restructuring Northeast railroads", he said. "The only way to respond to proposed changes is to have data collected and ready to use. A shipper's organization can collect such data and be the spokesman for the branch line. We are not suggesting high-powered, monied groups, but an informal organization to get information together now, to be ready when needed. We have no idea what the next version will be like, but chances are it will be different. We do know the reaction time to that proposal will be 60 days."

The state-wide organization's Executive said that sweeping changes are planned to revamp the rail system. One version has already been published. PennAg believes that unless the U.S. Railway Association completely changes the first version, it will cause economic havoc to rural communities in the Northeast and Midwest.

"PennAg is not interested in preserving rail service where none is needed", Parke concluded, "but neither does it want to see service denied because of inaction, complacency or defeatism. Date and information is the most effective response."

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PSU To Hold 7th Annual Ag Alumni Meeting

College of Agriculture graduates of The Pennsylvania State University will hold their seventh annual alumni meeting of the University Park campus May 11. The program opens at 9 a.m. in the Agricultural Administration Building, with registration from 8 a.m.



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"Forests Are More than Trees" will be the 1974 program theme. The morning session in room 301 will feature a slide lecture presentation by the staff of the School of Forest Resources and wildlife management extension. Dr. W. W. Ward, Director of the School of Forest Resources, will be in charge.

Ag. Alumni President Paul S. Harner of State College, class of 1939, will conduct the annual business meeting at 9 a.m. May 11. A morning program for wives will be held in the Agricultural Administration Building.

Banquet speaker will be Dr. George E. Brandow, professor of agricultural economics, who was one of 11 Penn State scientists and educators visiting China in February. Dr. Brandow's observations of China will be presented in an illustrated slide talk. The banquet will start at 7 p.m.

The banquet will feature alumni awards to outstanding College of Agriculture students in four year and two year programs. Group singing will be led by A. Brooks Corl of Pine Grove Mills with Kenneth W. Hylbert of State College at the piano.

Returning alumni will

Growing Degrees, Rainfall

A report from Penn State of weekly crop and weather round-ups with a report on weather conditions for the week ending April 29.

In Lancaster, the average temperature for the week was 56 degrees, one degree more than the normal average for the time of year.

Growing degree days for crops that start at 40 degrees totaled 389 degree days or 90 more than the normal average. For crops starting at 50 degrees growing degree days totaled 142 which is 77 more than average.

Rainfall for the week was very slight. Rainfall measured from April 1 was 4.86 inches, 1.38 inches more than the normal average.

enjoy a full day of activities, including the annual Blue-White football game in Beaver Stadium. A chicken barbecue will precede the game.

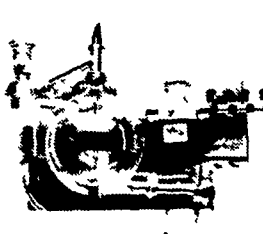
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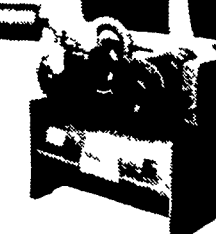
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