

Dairymen Take

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Senators, dairy industry leaders, and just plain dairymen.

At the head table were the secretaries of agriculture from Delaware and Maryland. The New Jersey, Virginia and West Virginia departments of agriculture were also represented. Phil Alampi himself wasn't there because he was sick in bed. Notably absent was the secretary of agriculture from the nation's fifth largest dairying state - Pennsylvania. "I was surprised and disappointed that no one from Secretary McHale's office was there," we were told by Boyd Gartley, Inter-State director of public relations. "We had a thousand people from Pennsylvania there, but not one of them came from McHale's office."

Had he attended, James A. McHale would have heard dairymen like Kenneth Rutt, from Quarryville in Lancaster County, telling about the economic losses they must bear because milk prices today are below what they were a year ago. "Even though I'm getting less for my milk, I'm paying 97 cents more this year to produce a hundred pounds of milk. The dairy farmer is simply not getting his fair share. The government has used dairymen as a political football for too long. We must get what we need to stay in business. We must stand up and be counted," Rutt said.

While there was nothing but gloom to be heard from the floor where the dairymen

spoke, there were some rays of hope emanating from the speaker's dais. Pennsylvania Republican Senator Hugh Scott said, "We must convince the Administration and the Congress that the dairy industry is near collapse because of grain prices and other costs which it cannot control. I am here today on behalf of the Pennsylvania farmer and the Pennsylvania consumer."

"My goal is to secure adequate and fairly priced supplies for the market at a price which sustains the livelihood of the Pennsylvania dairy farmer. We are asking for a small increase in the federal milk marketing order. I promise you we will not rest until this goal is accomplished."

In a joint letter to hearings that followed the Parke-Sheraton meeting at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Scott and Senator Richard Schweiker said they took "strong exception to the recommended decision dated November 13, 1974, denying an increase in fluid milk prices paid farmers."

That proposed action "will have a significant impact in Pennsylvania," the Senators said, "because Pennsylvania has 16,000 dairy farmers."

"If milk marketing orders which force the farmer into an intolerable cost-price squeeze are permitted to stand, the consumer may well be deprived of quality dairy products at any price - because the American farmer cannot be expected to survive in today's economy in a deficit situation," they said.

In his remarks, Scott also



Thousands of men and women from dairy farms in a five-state area jammed a cavernous meeting hall in Washington's Parke-Sheraton on Tuesday

morning to tell their woes to the nation's press, and to hear promises of help from a number of Congressional leaders.

promised that he would arrange a meeting with a Mr. Seedsman, one of President Ford's economic advisors and a member of the Council of Economic Advisors. That meeting will take place on December 4, and will likely include Inter-State top management, Mr. Seedsman and Senator Scott.

Another important message came from Congressman Ed Jones, a Tennessee Democrat who is chairman of the Dairy and Poultry Subcommittee of the House Agriculture Committee. He pledged to do everything he could to help the dairymen get what they needed.

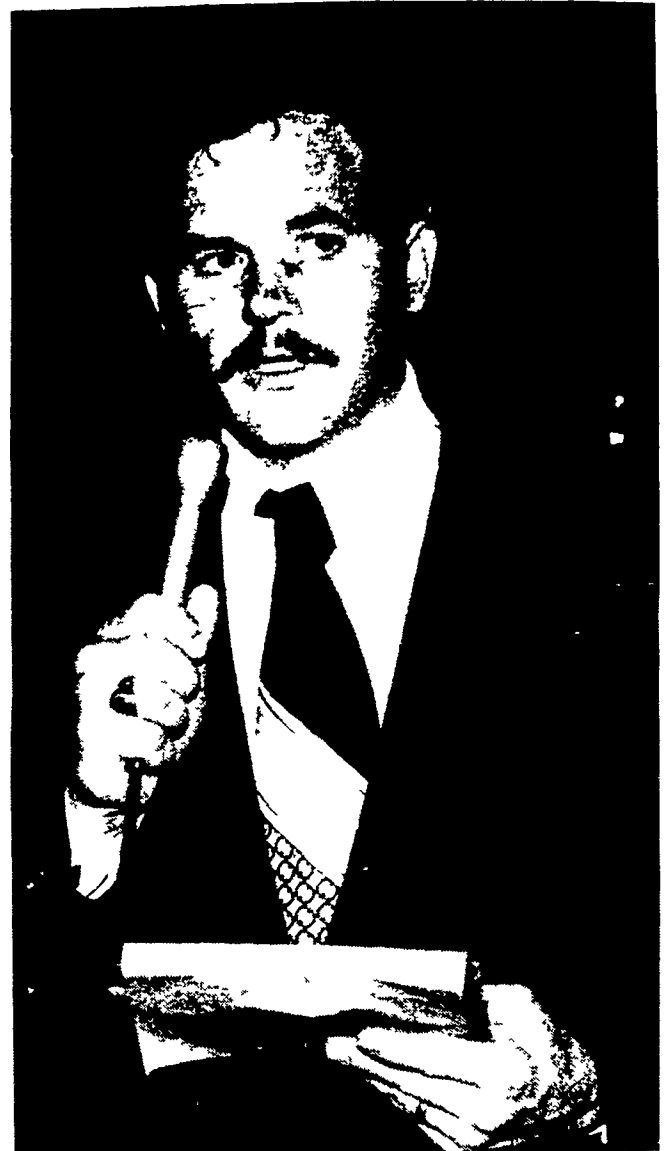
Congressman Bud Shuster, a Bradford County dairyman who represents Pennsylvania's Ninth

Congressional District, spoke passionately about the need to preserve the dairy industry in Pennsylvania.

As the morning hours waned and drew on into the early afternoon, the crowd at the hotel thinned out, boarded buses and headed crosstown for the USDA building. There, they had a chance to speak for the record. In a very unusual move, the USDA officials agreed to hear more testimony relating to the October milk price hearing in Chicago. It was there that dairymen and dairy groups from all over the country asked the USDA to place a floor under the Minnesota-Wisconsin milk price series which determines the price of milk in all 61 federal milk marketing orders. The USDA turned down those requests, at move which resulted in Tuesday's peaceable, orderly gathering of dairymen at the doorstep to the department of agriculture building.

The hearing judge, John Campbell, and John Knebel, a USDA lawyer, listened attentively while one-by-one, dairymen walked to the microphones to speak their pieces.

Reactions to the meeting from one Inter-State official were of guarded optimism. "I'm glad we got both parties there - we got both Senator Scott and Congressman Jones," Boyd Gartley said. "And I'm especially glad that we got all those people there to tell their story without a single incident of disorder. It was a quiet and peaceful day, and for that I'm thankful. I'm also glad that we got the USDA to reopen the hearing record. We can't do anything more now. We just have to wait."



Kenneth Rutt, a Lancaster County dairyman from Quarryville, told the people in Washington that dairymen had to stand up and be counted.



Mowry Prince Corinne, a Bedford County Holstein, shattered the world's milk production record on October 25 in her 319th day of lactation. Corinne is on her way to a

50,000-pound year, and on December 11, her 365th day, she'll be guest of honor at the biggest party ever thrown for a cow. She's owned by Mowry Farms of Roaring Spring, Pa.

Bedford Co. Cow Is New World Champion

Mowry Prince Corinne, EX (92) 2E, a nine-year-old registered Holstein-Friesian cow, owned by Mowry Farms, Roaring Spring, Pennsylvania, has set a world's record for milk production for all breeds. The former all breed record holder was Patsy Bar Pontiac, EX (91) 2E, whose production at 8 years, 6 months, for 365 days, was 45,280M, 4.9

percent and 2,194BF. Patsy captured the record in the summer of 1974.

With Corinne's record still in progress, she has passed the former record holder's 365-day milk production in only 319 days. Her credits to date are at 9 years, 9 months, in 305 days; 44,144M and 1,360BF, and in 319 days, she has 45,736M and 1,405BF, thus moving her into first place. She has 46 more days

before completing her official 365-day record, and is currently producing 107 pounds of milk per day. This gives her an opportunity of topping 50,000 pounds of milk.

A celebration to honor Corinne has been planned at Mowry Farms on December 11, 1974, upon the completion of her 365-day record.

American Viewpoints



I am convinced that the office of the President is not such a very difficult one to fill, his duties being mainly to execute the laws of Congress.

— Admiral George Dewey



As she related her own, intensely personal message about the cost price squeeze on her Maryland dairy farm, Mrs. Dorothy White had to stop several times as she verged on the point of tears.