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farm prices. We're not trying to shock people. We're got to get rid of the bad image people have of the NFO."

Max Bennett, an NFO representative from the national office, concurred with Charles' statements about the group's changing tactics. "We just don't do those things anymore," he said. "Those early holding actions were to get attention. We couldn't do any collective bargaining until we made

people aware of the fact that we did have the backing of farmers. Now that we're a matured organization, we can bargain in more civilized ways."

According to Bennett, NFO collective bargaining has paid off with long-term contracts with several packing houses in the Midwest. One such contract was inked by Missouri Beef Co. officials after a 52-day hold out by NFO members in 1968. Today, the contract

people aware of the fact that with Missouri Beef has a sixwe did have the backing of month term and calls for 500 head per day.

Bennett said the NFO objective in getting contracts is to assure farmers of receiving a price that will return the cost of production plus a reasonable profit. "We're not saying the middleman should get less, or the packer should get less, or the consumer should pay more. All we're saying is that the farmer should get more."



Consumers hauled NFO beef away by the box-load, the arm-load and in single bags. Some bought as much as 100 pounds, and one restauranteur was negotiating for 500 pounds of the

lean ground meat on Monday in Harrisburg. In all, more than 13,000 pounds of meat was sold from the back of this truck in the East Park Shopping Mall.

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, Feb. 15, 1975—19

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