

Eshelman

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bill last year, and will probably vote against a similar bill introduced this year. Walker added, though, that he expects this year's bill to get a much more sympathetic hearing by the Congress.

Donald Hershey, president of the Lancaster County Farmers Association, a PFA affiliate, told Walker that the organization favored an economic formula for milk pricing to replace the present system. Federal order prices for milk are currently determined by the Minnesota-Wisconsin series which depends on the price of butter.

Hershey explained that in order to raise milk prices now, the U.S. Department of Agriculture must first hold public hearings, and even if an increase is allowed, it is always several months before the increase can be made effective. PFA's proposed economic formula would take into account four main factors: the ability and willingness of the consumer to buy; the cost of producing milk; alternative opportunities for the farmer to

invest his capital and labor; prices of butter, non-fat dry milk and cheese. Under the proposal, prices would be adjusted up or down on a quarterly basis, rather than annually as they are now.

Yost also told Walker that the group would like the Congressman's support in backing a recommendation made Monday by Secretary of the Treasury William Simon. Simon recommended to President Ford that the U.S. impose countervailing duties on cheese imported into this country from European Economic Community countries. Yost pointed out that some EEC countries subsidize the production of cheese, which means it can be sold here at a price which tends to hold down the price of American made cheese and milk. A countervailing duty would add a tariff equal to the amount of the EEC subsidy,

and therefore bring the price of foreign cheese more in line with domestic product. Yost suggested that the Congressman write to President Ford urging him to approve the imposition of countervailing duties, and Walker replied that he thought Eshelman would support the dairy farmers.

Other delegations of Pennsylvania farmers visited throughout the day with the Congressmen from their districts as well as Senators Scott and Schweiker. Both Senators and most of the House members from the Keystone state were at PFA's legislative banquet on Wednesday evening.

Senator Scott said the Senate was considering a bill to increase the rail subsidy plan from its present two years to eight years. He said this plan would help farmers because it would guarantee rail transportation for their farm products as well as

their produce. Senator Schweiker took the podium after his senior colleague, and wholeheartedly endorsed every one of the PFA ob-

jectives. "I like the milk pricing scheme, and the countervailing duty on cheese imports," he said. "I think your estate tax

proposal is right on target, too. Our present inheritance tax laws are squeezing the family farm right out of existence."

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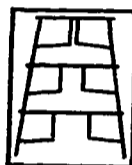
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25th Year Open House At Stauffer Diesel, Inc.

Some 300 people attended a 25th anniversary open house celebration at Stauffer Diesel in New Holland last Wednesday and Thursday. On Thursday, Daniel K. Blank, Leola RI, was honored with a special gift for being the firm's very first diesel customer a quarter century ago.

According to Stauffer officials, the guests consumed 70 pounds of hot dogs on Thursday, as well as quantities of buns, cookies, chips and sodas. Films of the company's Hesston, Deutz and Papec equipment lines were shown, and door prizes were awarded.

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