



A severe thunderstorm passing through the Kutztown area last week is blamed for the complete destruction of this barn, owned by the landscape contracting firm of Shupp and Nolfe. Horses in the barn were saved,



however damage of other contents such as landscaping material, equipment and hay, were extensive and a complete estimate of the loss has not been determined. More than 60 firemen from three companies fought the blaze.

Butz sees co-op program with South America countries

Washington, June 26 — Secretary of Agriculture Earl L. Butz said recently that the United States sees "substantial opportunity for new cooperation in agriculture with the governments of Brazil and Venezuela." Returning from a 9-day trip to the two South American nations, the Secretary said that both Brazil and Venezuela should provide growing markets for

U.S. farm products. "While Brazil is a major competitor of U.S. agriculture in world trade of some products, I see many opportunities for cooperation - in building markets, in trade liberalization, and in improving agricultural technology," Secretary Butz said. He added the following points:

1. We will explore with American producer and

trade groups opportunities to work with Brazil in expanding the world market for soybeans and soybean products. There is an enormous opportunity to increase the use of soybean meal in livestock and poultry feeding around the world, as well as within Brazil. There is potential for enlarging the world market for soybean oil, particularly through the retail merchandising of "identified" soybean oil - that is, oil labeled as a soybean product, not simply as vegetable oil. There is also an opportunity to increase the use of soybean proteins directly as human food - in the traditional forms developed in Asia and in the products of modern protein technology. The United States and Brazil, as the world's dominant soybean exporters, would both benefit from an overall expansion in worldwide use of soybeans.

2. Brazil and the United States, as major exporters of agricultural products, have a common interest in liberalized trade. I discussed with Minister of Agriculture Alysson Paulinelli of Brazil the need for joint consultations as we move forward in the Multilateral Trade Negotiations in Geneva. The Minister and other Brazilian officials recognize that our two nations have a similar interest in lowering barriers to trade in agricultural

products. Last year, Brazil exported \$4.5 billion of agricultural products, with coffee and sugar making up over half of the total. The United States exported \$22 billion in agricultural products, with grains accounting for half.

3. Brazil has graduated from the kinds of technical assistance based on financial aid from the United States. The Brazilians are interested, however, in an exchange of technical teams, particularly in fields of soil and water conservation, irrigation, and the U.S. "extension" system of transmitting new research and technology to farmers. We will be working with

Brazil in these areas on a reimbursable basis.

"Venezuelan officials also expressed an interest in 'importing' agricultural technology from the United States," Secretary Butz said. "They are especially interested in seed improvement. Venezuela is a deficit food producer, and has used its rising petroleum revenues to sharply increase its imports of farm products. In 1974, the United States exported \$323 million worth of farm products to Venezuela.

"In both Venezuela and Brazil, we discussed the need for efficient production, with trade based on comparative advantage. Brazil, for example, shipped \$302 million of coffee to the United States last year,

while the United States shipped \$171 million of wheat and flour to Brazil. Brazil can produce tropical products that we need, while we have an advantage in producing certain temperate zone products. This should be the basis for an expanding trade," Secretary Butz said.

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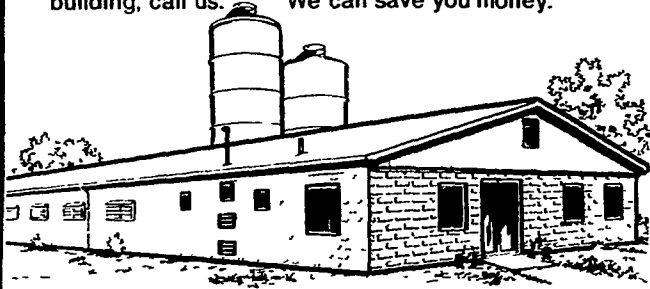
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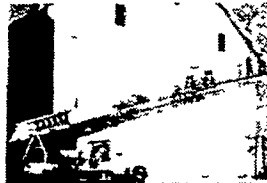
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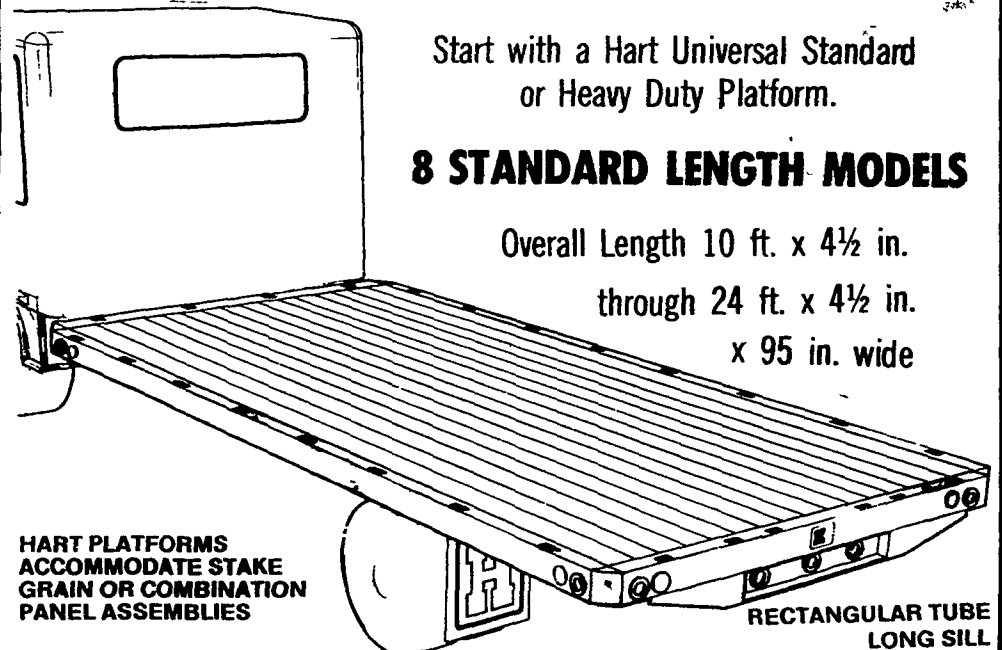
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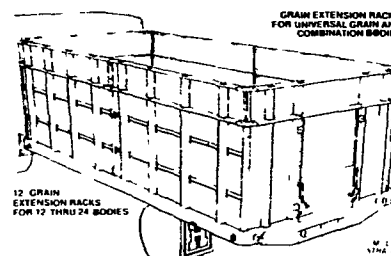
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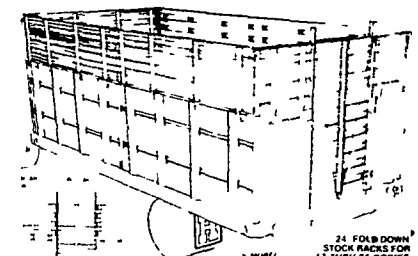
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