

Class I sales booming

Caution for quality continues

By Dieter Krieg
NEW PARK — Class I milk sales in Federal Order 4 are "booming" — up 18 per cent over the previous year, members of Maryland Cooperative Milk Producers were told here last Tuesday.

R. L. Strock, manager of the 1021-member cooperative, which was established in 1918, made the announcement at the annual dinner meeting for District 7 MCMP members.

A number of topics were brought up in speeches, including grain sales to Russia, dairy imports, MCMP business statistics, cooperative memberships and dealings, as well as current and future milk prices. The grain exporting ban, following a promise on the part of the government that markets would be guaranteed if farmers went all out for production, was criticized by several speakers and cited as a reason for a growing public mistrust of government.

With the market for milk booming, Strock reminded

his audience that quality control assurances cannot be relaxed. In fact, there has been a trend for more stringent regulations regarding antibiotics, water, bacteria, or somatic cells in milk. He explained why a cooperative must be on the lookout for such problems:

"Sometimes . . . there is a feeling that your cooperative is a policeman. It isn't. It simply is trying to keep you out of the kind of trouble that results in a lost market for you and your fellow members. Recently, one of the major Baltimore dealers, in an effort to be the 'good guy' for all its producer suppliers who were not members of a cooperative, made the mistake of not following up on high counts, not pointing out violating conditions on the farm, not checking for antibiotics, not properly supervising the sampling of milk at the farm. The result was a non-passing score on a U.S. Public Health Service inspection. They came within a technicality of doing those farmers out of a

market for their milk and severely reducing the sales opportunities of the dealer. We would be doing you a great disservice if we abdicated our responsibilities for the good guy role and you failed to obtain a passing USPHS score."

Elaborating on the subject briefly, fieldman Tom Moore announced that each load of milk is routinely checked for antibiotics. He asked that farmers also be careful about keeping their milk house records posted and up to date, and that a sanitizing solution be made available for dippers. Concluding his remarks, he stressed the need for mastitis control and prevention, adding that it will translate into more of that "white gold."

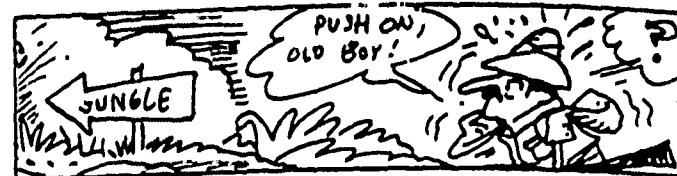
MCMP, which operates its own hauling fleet, claimed it has been able to resist trucking rate increases in the past, but may have to raise fees in the future if fuel prices continue to go up as they have. Strock observed that a five cent increase in the price of a gallon of fuel figures out to be about a 1/2-cent per hundredweight increase in hauling. In a related matter, Herbert Wessel, president of MCMP, noted that the cooperatives truck garages and service center may have to be relocated because of zoning difficulties in their present

locality. He pointed out that the facilities are in need of remodeling.

Also speaking at the meeting, which had two dairy princesses present and a number of guests, was Emory Kilgore, District 7 director. A dairyman from Airville, he has served in that capacity for several terms and was re-elected again on Tuesday.

Two MCMP members were honored during the event because of 25-year membership records. Merle Bowman was cited as a 25-year individual membership member, while Ellis Crowl received a similar honor for the family membership category.

A total of 106 persons attended the dinner-meeting, held at the Centre Presbyterian Church.



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York ASCS offering repair deal

YORK - The York ASCS office is offering help to farmers who suffered losses due to the heavy rainstorms which swept through the area several weeks ago. According to County Agent John Smith, the ASCS office will cover up to 80 per cent of the costs of repair in certain situations. He reminds farmers that if they want to participate in this program they must be signed up no later than 30 days after the damage occurred.

Pesticide users are reminded that by October 1 of next year they will have to

be licensed. Details have not yet been made available as to which pesticides will be restricted, but to avoid a hassle later, farmers are advised to take steps towards licensing.

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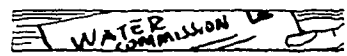
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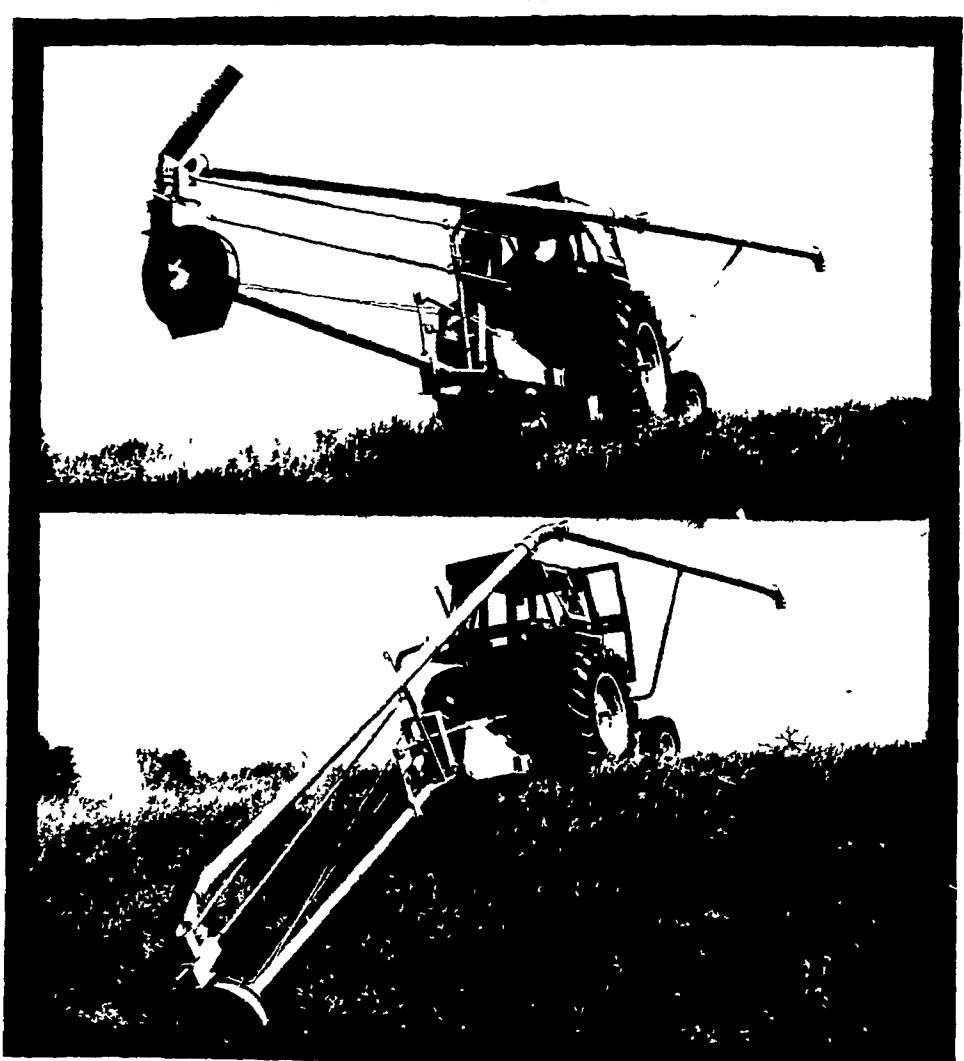
On October 25 1775 Dr Isaac Senter Surgeon of the American forces enroute to Canada described the hardships of the journey. He wrote in his diary "Our bill of



fare last night and this morning consisted of the jawbone of a swine destitute of any covering. This we boiled in a quantity of water with a little thickening (of flour)



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