

Future okay if pride in work

By Dieter Krieg
LANCASTER - "Let's see to it that we'll have leaders who will lead rather than follow. As long as we have people who take pride in what they're doing and in what their cooperatives and country stand for, we'll have a good future."
Those were some of the remarks made by Ronald Goddard, executive vice president and general

manager of Agway, who was guest speaker at the Garden Spot Agway Unit's annual dinner meeting recently. Affiliated with Agway's predecessor organizations since 1935, and general manager of the 11-year old cooperative since 1969, Goddard warned the more than 350 people in attendance that there are some threats being made which would hamper activities of farmer

cooperatives and possibly leave them powerless. This is why we must be careful whom we elect, the executive continued, and take steps to inform legislators how we stand. Goddard described Agway as one of the strongest and financially sound cooperatives in the Northeast and cited the "genuine thought which went into it" as a chief reason for it. "We are very close to the criteria which was designed to be the perfect criteria," he explained.

He noted Agway's commitment last year which set a ceiling of 1.75 cents return for each dollar of sales in order to hold down inflation. "This was done at a time of shortages," Goddard exclaimed, "and anytime you have shortages, you might see some price gouging. That's why Agway made the 1.75 cents to the dollar commitment. We set a standard for ourselves, and for others to follow," he boasted.

According to figures released by the Garden Spot Agway Unit, business for member stores moved up 53 per cent in four years. Goddard praised committee members and Agway's area

stockholders for the performance.

The Garden Spot Unit generated over a nine million dollars worth of business during the past fiscal year - a significant contribution to Agway's overall sales total of over a billion dollars.

Goddard noted that this year it won't be necessary to set a price ceiling because the laws of supply and demand are in order. An average price increase amounting to around two to four per cent over last year is expected, according to Agway's economists. That compares with an expected price increase of eight to nine per cent for the nation as a whole.

Agway could price its products and services lower still, Goddard revealed, but to do so would mean dropping a part of its program, such as research and development. The board of directors, however, feels that such programs are vital to the business if long-range programs are to be fulfilled.

It was noted that the cooperative turned back refunds last year totalling approximately 2½ million dollars. Agway members are stockholders in the cooperative and share in funds at the end of the year.

In other activities at the meeting, held at the Farm and Home Center, Lewis Denlinger, John Groff, J. Wilmer Eby, and Robert Mylin were elected to three-year terms as members of Garden Spot Unit's committee.

Peach Council seeks nominees

MARTINSBURG, WV - Across the United States there are hundreds of persons who are working to help the nation's peach producers in various ways.

Some of these persons are doing things for the peach industry, as well as for themselves, because they believe that a better industry is good for them as it is for other peach producers and those in allied industries.

Others are employed by universities or in private industry, where their efforts at producing better peaches, or means for getting better looking, higher quality peaches to the ultimate consumer are lost in the team efforts of which they are a part.

Frank Berry, chairman of the National Peach Council's Awards Committee, says the Council is looking for information about these individuals who have helped the peach industry, for each year an awards committee sits down to try to select a person (or persons) to receive the National Peach Council Achievement award the following year.

Since the Achievement Award was established in 1967, it has gone mainly to peach producers and researchers, but each year the Awards Committee hopes to receive the names of others - either individuals or small groups - which seem to deserve special recognition. State

organizations are not considered for the award.

Nominations for the award, with as many details as possible about things the nominee has done for the nation's peach industry, or a source for such information, should be forwarded as soon as possible to: Awards Chairman National Peach Council, P.O. Box 1085, Martinsburg, WV. 25401 so that all members of the committee can have time to study the material before going to the 1976 convention which will be held February 22-25 at Hershey Lodge, Hershey, Pa.

Previous recipients of the award, and the year it was presented, are:

Frank Street, peach grower from Henderson, Ky., 1968; L. Frederic Hough and Catherine H. Bailey, fruit breeders from the Agricultural Experiment Station at Rutgers University, 1969; Vincent J. Caggiano and Sons of Sunny Slope Farms, Gaffney, S.C. and Bridgeton, N.J., 1970; Roy J. Ferree, extension horticulturist and specialist at Clemson University, Clemson, S.C., 1971; Dr. George D. Oberle, professor of horticulture at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, 1972; Dr. Robert H. Daines of Rutgers University, 1973; Allen R. Jones, a Colorado peach producer, 1974; and Dr. E. F. (Rip) Savage, Georgia Experiment Station, 1975.

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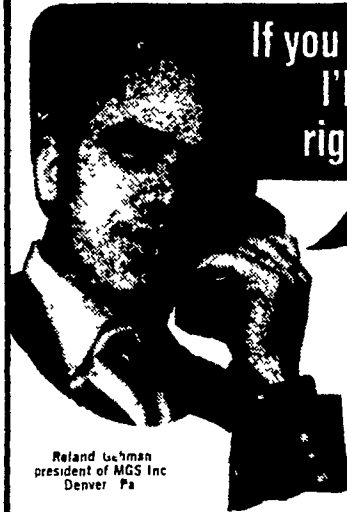
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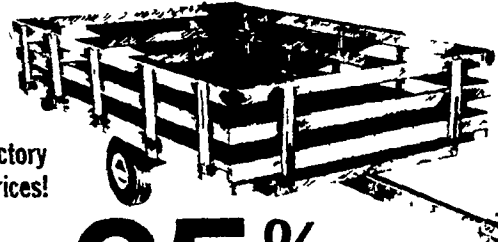
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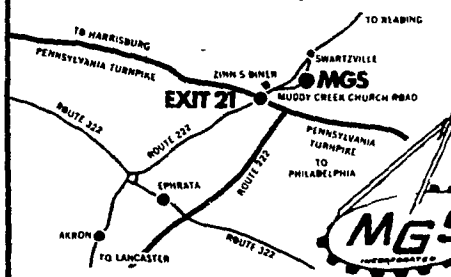


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