

Air your views on government regulations

WASHINGTON - Government regulation - how much is too much?

You can help answer this question by citing specific examples of government regulation that you approve and or disapprove of via the Agriculture Council of America's (ACA) toll-free

"Farm Line" (800-424-3510) on July 21 and 22 between noon and 4 p.m. E.D.T. ACA is extending this special Farm Line to two days and doubling the telephone hook-up to ten WATS lines in anticipation of an extremely large volume of calls. A unique panel of experts

on the subject headed by Senator Carl Curtis (R-Neb.) and other members of Congress, administration officials representing regulatory agencies, and spokesmen for leading industry and consumer groups will man the phones. All calls will be tallied by panelists

and later compiled into a documented report.

Farm Line programs in the past two months featuring "Estate Taxes" and "Problems of Young Farmers" received a capacity number of 20 call an hour per WATS line. During each session, the telephones rang continuously from beginning to end as callers spoke directly with those affecting their future in the decision-making process.

"Agriculture is very concerned about the growing role of government regulatory agencies. This Farm Line will allow people at the local level to express their opinions and share their insight with key decision-makers on this important issue," Slug Hatcher, Chairman of ACA, said.

"We expect our report on this program will shed light on the impact government regulation is having on agriculture as viewed by those directly affected. It will be made available to everyone - Federal agencies, Congress, the media, industry as well as the general public."

As a non-profit, non-political, non-legislative organization, ACA does not advocate any positions of its own and operates the Farm Line strictly to provide a

forum to discuss issues of major interest in agriculture.

Calls placed at any other time beside the specified hours of operation between noon and 4 p.m. E.D.T. on July '21 and 22 will not be answered.

The Agriculture Council of America, formed in 1973, is made up of about 1000 individual farmers and 750 companies and organizations nationwide. Its purpose is to improve communication between farmers and consumers.

Hog statistics released

HARRISBURG - There were 675,000 hogs and pigs on Pennsylvania farms on June 1, 1976, according to the Crop Reporting Service. This was an increase of 75,000 or 13 per cent from a year earlier. Breeding stock, at 94,000, was up 12 per cent and market hogs, at 581,000 were up 13 per cent.

The Spring (Dec.-May) 1976 pig crop of 525,000 pigs was eight per cent larger

than the Spring 1975 crop of 485,000. Although there were 70,000 or 11 per cent more farrowings, litters were smaller.

Fall farrowing intentions at 60,000 sows if realized, would be up 22 per cent from the 49,000 farrowings last fall.

Nationally, inventory of hogs and pigs on June 1, 1976 is estimated at 52.6 million head, up nine per cent above last year but 11 per cent less

than June 1, 1974. This is the second lowest June 1 total since 1965. The breeding herd is up 11 per cent from last year and continues its upward trend that started last December. Because of the larger pig crop produced in the past six months, the market hog inventory increased nine per cent from a year earlier.

The December 1975-May 1976 pig crop in the U.S. totaled 41.4 million, 16 per cent above last year's small pig crop but eight per cent less than two years ago. This crop is the second smallest since 1937.

Hog producers in the U.S. intend to farrow 5.8 million sows during June-November 1976. This is an increase of 17 per cent from the corresponding period in 1975 and six per cent above the same six-month period in 1974.

Farmers appreciated

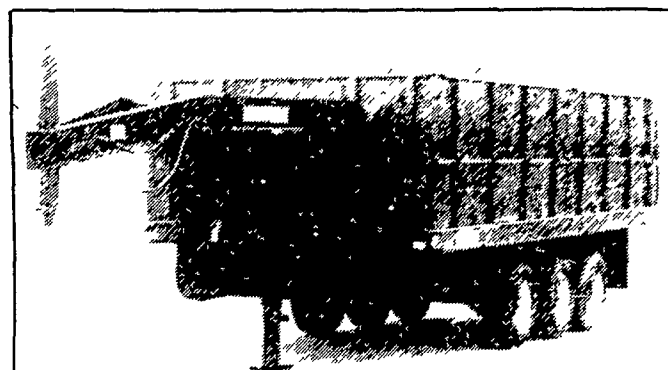
Speaking before the annual meeting of Iowa Beef Processors, Inc., commentator Paul Harvey pointed out, "We're so outproduced in most all other things that we would be begging for handouts in the world marketplace, except that our nation's most underappreciated minority, our farmers, is keeping us both fed and financially

secure. We city dudes could never feed ourselves. You know there has been some gardening these last couple of years, folks trying to supplement the family groceries. But do you suppose we could feed ourselves that way? During this lifetime, the average American is going to eat 6.2 tons of meat. There ain't nobody got a backyard in Chicago that big!"

The \$6 million man

Harold Morowitz has struck a blow for all us normal mortals who only thought our bodies were worth 98 cents. Well, folks, we've been shortchanged all these years. Morowitz is a biochemist at Yale, and for many years has been laboring under the delusion that the popularly-used 98 cent example (value of our simple raw materials — water, air, lime, iron, etc.) was valid. With a keen knowledge of what chemicals make up our system, Morowitz resea-

ched a supply company catalogue to determine what these chemicals would cost on the open market. Acetate kinase — a rare substance that activates an enzyme is \$8,860 a gram, prolactin — the hormone that stimulates milk production in the breasts is \$17.5 million a gram, hemoglobin is \$285 a gram. There are others. Morowitz calculated what percentage each chemical represents in the body, figured the body's dry weight, multiplied and came up with approximately \$6 million!



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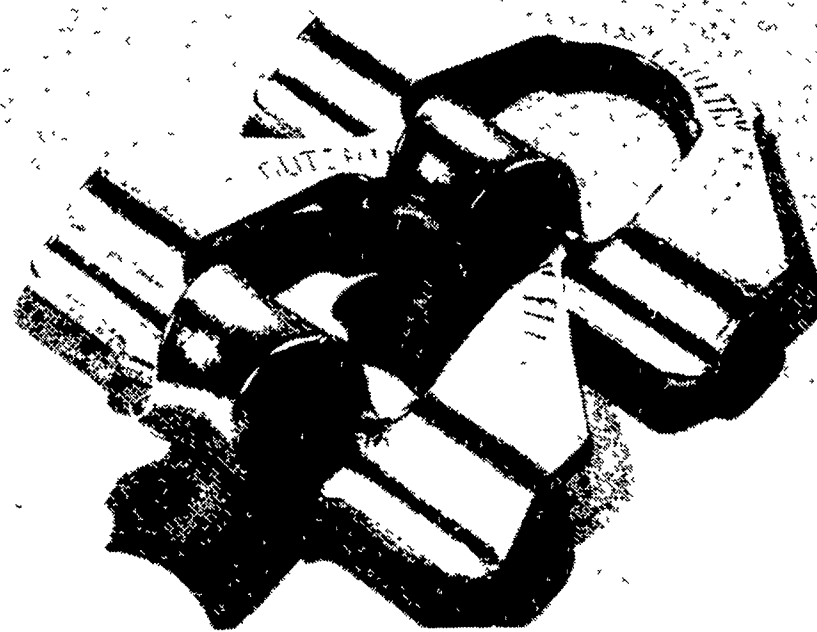
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