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Here's a
happy crowd,
even if it's raining.

Lancaster Farming photo
by Dieter Kreg

Earl Butz resigns, John Knebel takes over

By DIETER KRIEG

CAMP HILL, Pa. - John Knebel, making his first appearance as Acting Secretary of Agriculture, made a favorable impression on a group of 400 farmers who were gathered here at the Penn Harris Motor Inn on Monday evening. He had become the new head of USDA just hours before when former USDA Secretary Earl Butz resigned.

Welcomed by a standing ovation from a partisan crowd, the new chief announced that the policies of his predecessor would not be interrupted. With national TV and radio on hand, he talked about the farm programs of the last few years and compared how farmers stand today as opposed to several years ago.

"The American farmer today is better off and freer than at any other time in this century," the new Secretary began confidently. "In the thirties a farmer was in violation of the law if he dared to plant 15 acres of grain. Under this administration you can plant what you want to," he exclaimed.

"We've been criticized by some for not having a 'food policy' - they couldn't be farther from the truth," Knebel continued. "Our food policy can be summed up in one word - 'plenty.'"

Praising American agriculture and the American farmer, Knebel pointed out that net farm

income during the past year was \$25 billion - a figure which is more than twice of what it was during the last year of the previous Democratic administration. "And that income didn't come from government payments, it came from the market place," Knebel announced vigorously before a crowd which was applauding at just about every sentence.

According to Knebel, who has a reputation for knowing figures, \$150 million were paid last year to peanut growers as subsidies. Quick to avoid taking any 'credit' for this USDA expense item, Knebel pointed out that the subsidy dates back to a program introduced by the Franklin Roosevelt Administration. He also claimed that Butz and others have tried to rid the Department of the program but have met with too much opposition to date to push it through.

Returning to the positive side of the ledger, Knebel compared farm exports of this year to those of 1968 - the most recent of past - Democratic presidential years. "The last Democratic year, \$6.4 billion worth of agricultural goods were exported," the new chief remarked, "this year it's 22 billion."

Criticizing the policies which allowed for surplus grain reserves which were used to depress prices, Knebel assured his listeners that USDA's aim would be to "continue free market"

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John Knebel

Radiation 'blown up'

SOUTHAMPTON, Pa. - Radioactive fallout was in the news this past week and concern continues to be heard about possible contamination of pasture grasses and milk. As of this date there is no need to be concerned. Should this change, dairymen will be officially advised to remove their dairy cows from pastures.

The radioactivity was caused by an atomic bomb set off by the Red Chinese. Some members of the news media have triggered reports which are "blown out of proportion" according to dairy industry spokesmen here and in Harrisburg. Attention is generally focused on milk whenever radioactivity levels rise because it has been a "handy" method for measuring fallout.

The highest measurements taken so far indicate a level of 413 pica-curies in milk. A measure of 10,000 pica-curies is considered to be dangerous. In some areas radiation has increased 20-fold, but even at that rate it is only one per cent of what is termed dangerous.

Kauffman family wins Manheim Holstein show

MANHEIM - The Robert Kauffman family of Elizabethtown cleaned up in Holstein competition, winning all the champion banners in the show which was believed to be the largest ever held here.

Winning grand champion honors was Linda Kauffman with "Sunappe Astronaut Ruth," a 3-year old daughter of "Paclamar Astronaut." Reserve distinctions went to her father, Robert, who was in the ring with "Hermandale Elaine," an 8-year old daughter of "Agro Acres Marquis Ned."

The Kauffmans' junior champion was "Penn Springs Black Joe Katy," an intermediate calf sired by an Astronaut son.

In the 4-H and FFA division, it was Paul Horning of Stevens R1, who took the top titles - both grand and reserve grand. Junior showmanship and fitting honors went to Jean Ginder. The senior division categories were won by Paul Horning and Neal Crouse, respectively.

Following are more detailed results, by classes:

Bull Calves

1. Robert Young, 2. Steve Hershey

Junior Calf

1. Neal Crouse, 2. Linda Kauffman, 3. Russel Kline, 4. Steven Kauffman, 5. Patti Hershey, 6. Clair Hoover.

Intermediate Calf

1. Robert Kauffman, 2. Kevin Smoker, 3. Arlen Keener, 4. Lowell Brubaker, 5. Robert Young.

Senior Calf

1. Joe Wivell, 2. Russel Kline, 3. Robert Kauffman, 4. Sheryl Bollinger, 5. John Zimmerman.

Junior Yearling

1. Arlen Keener, 2. Mary Seward, 3. Lowell Brubaker, 4. Ruby Ginder, 5. Gail Ginder.

Senior Yearling

1. Paul Horning, 2. Richard Bollinger, 3. Steven Kauffman, 4. Ruby Ginder, 5. Manheim FFA Chapter.

Two Year Olds

1. Robert Kauffman, 2. Steven Kauffman, 3. Paul Horning, 4. Steve Hershey, 5. Steve Hershey.

Three Year Olds

1. Linda Kauffman, 2. Paul Horning, 3. Russel Kline, 4. Darryl Bollinger, 5. Russel Kline.

Four Year Olds

1. Robert Kauffman, 2. Paul Horning

Aged Cows

1. Robert Kauffman, 2. Steve Kauffman, 3. Russel Kline, 4. Linda Kauffman, 5. Russel Kline.