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Kerstetter

[Continued from Page 1]

Due to health reasons, Kerstetter wished to serve not be named to the appointed office of agriculture announced that he would next



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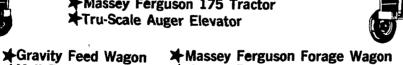
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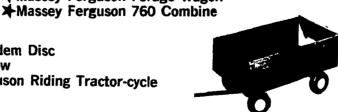


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serve for one year only. And, Shelhamer, who would be free to hold the office in November agreed to become one year, and executive deputy secretary Shelhamer, because he was and then secretary of an office holder, by law could agriculture after Kerstetter's resignation. This past Wednesday,

secretary until his term ran Shelhamer became the out this past November. executive deputy secretary, Therefore, when Kerstetter so all indications are that he took office, he publically will be the Commonwealth's secretary



Raymond J. Kerstetter

agriculture, although the Department of Agriculture has been very cautious about naming names, saying, "there are a lot of rumors right now and mentioning names would all be mere speculation."

Pennsylvania's secretary of agriculture, the 61-year-old Kerstetter held a position in the Farm Security Administration in Washington as the head man in government law programs. Then, he became the state director of Farmers Home Ad- his health will allow him to ministration, but left the post perform to the Governor's when Nixon first took office. requirements.

For five years prior to being appointed secretary of agriculture, Kerstetter held the post of deputy secretary.

Now at 61 years of age, Kerstetter most likely finds the secretary's position to be

quite demanding.

John Nickoloff, head of public information at the Capitol, commented that "the position is more demanding than people realize," and friends and acquaintances mention that Kerstetter has had trouble with arthritis and other health problems, which could put an added strain on

The question that remains unanswered is what will he do now that he has left the office. Friends advance that he may return to his 143 acre farm in Freeburg, Snyder County, and other sources at the Capitol say that returning to the post of deputy Before being named secretary would be a logical move.

The only statement coming from Kerstetter's office thus far is that he "would like to carry out any farm program in any capacity that the Governor designates," provided that

Farm Show

[Continued from Page 1]

providing proper ventilation and safety for the livestock."

The renovations of the building will involve the replacement of wooden walls and otherwise combustible partitions bу combustible masonry. The entire building complex - all 14 acres - will be reroofed to avoid hazardous leaks into the electrical services of the building.

Other changes will include clearly marked fire exits, and the construction of a fire exit corridor. Entirely new fire alarm and sprinkler systems will be installed. An emergency lighting system complete with generators will be set up, along with extensive electrical wiring changes and the replacement of several key transformers.

Kerstetter said that the changes in these systems will bring the building into compliance with the fire

and Panic Code and the Life Safety Code which are administered by the Pennsylvania Department of

Labor and Industry. Kerstetter noted that the contracts for the renovation of the building, which houses the world's largest free agricultural exposition under one roof, totaled nearly three million dollars less than the allocation for the project.

The general contract has been awarded to H. B. Alexander and Son, Inc., of Harrisburg for \$3,578,000.

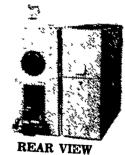
The heating, ventilating and air conditioning contract has been awarded to James Craft and Son, Inc., of York Haven for \$180,630.

The plumbing contract went to McClure Company of Harrisburg for \$746,000 and the electrical contract was awarded to G. R. Sponaugle and Sons, Inc., also of Harrisburg, for \$1,249,290.

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