

Lancaster Farming

Serving The Central and Southeastern Pennsylvania Areas

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, January 1, 1977

\$4.00 Per Year



A light cover of snow adds the finishing touches to a farm near Lititz, Pa.

Lancaster Farming photo by Joanne Spahr

More government in ag future

By DIETER KRIEG

LANCASTER - Once again it's time to do some crystal-ball gazing. A relatively prosperous year is bowing out and a new year begins tomorrow. Economists, and even one astrologer, have based on their predictions to Lancaster Farming in one way or another. The outlook for 1977 is taking on special significance due to a new President taking office, and a so-called

"grass-roots" farmer having been nominated for U.S. Secretary of Agriculture. The latter is Rep. Bob Bergland of Minnesota, who operates a wheat and grass seed farm in Minnesota and once was an official of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. It is expected that Bergland will press for higher price supports for grain and

dairy products, a federal grain reserve, and more federal food aid to the poor.

He is also said to favor some sort of program which "would even out the effects on farmers of fluctuations in weather and world economic conditions."

Bergland's appointment was not surprising since he had

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Happy
New
Year!

Tobacco buyers out over county

By JOANNE SPAHR

LANCASTER, Pa. - Although certain tobacco buyers have been out for as long as a month now buying either sorted and tied

tobacco or picking up a few acres of straight stripped in certain spotty areas of Lancaster County, last Monday was the beginning of the real bargaining process

for most area growers as buyers from major companies such as Lancaster Leaf and Lorillard made their way to tobacco sheds

and stripping rooms to haggle price.

As of Thursday morning, the going price offered from all the companies was 60 cents for straight stripped,

and grower resistance was high. At this point, most farmers are holding out to feel their way as to how

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Livestock market drops again, vealers up

By DIETER KRIEG

LANCASTER - Vealers were the only form of livestock which were consistently strong as curtailed livestock receipts showed most everything else to be steady at best and lower for the most part.

Cattle delivered to the Lancaster Stock Yards on

Wednesday, for example, resulted in the following report: "Steers weak to \$1 lower, bulls and bullocks mostly steady on small supply."

Cattle prices were holding their own on Monday, but when Midwestern prices plummeted on Tuesday as a result of dropping prices in

the dressed meat trade, the effects made themselves known in southeastern Pennsylvania. Higher prices were consistently being paid by the smaller retail butchers, as packers continued to hold back with their buying orders.

Trading at Joliet, Ill., was described as "slow" on

Tuesday, with steers \$1 to \$1.50 lower and heifers \$1.50 to \$2 lower. Mostly choice steers and heifers were being offered, according to market reports, with a price of 39-41 cents per pound being paid for those animals.

At Vintage on Tuesday, slaughter steers were 50 cents to \$1 lower, but

slaughter cows were \$2 higher, compared to a week ago, and the number of cattle offered was up significantly from both a year ago and a week earlier.

Due to Lancaster Farming going to press a day early this week in order to have

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