

Continued environment

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made no sense to write fixed dates into clean air and clean water legislation. Those target dates can't be physically and financially met, he argued.

Goodard traces the "dramatic improvement in the environment to the public awareness which swelled on that subject during the early and mid '60's. Granting that the issues may have been overdramatized at one point

or another by various groups, he nevertheless gave credit to happenings such as "Earth Day" and Rachel Carson's book, "Silent Spring."

The popularity of environmental programs is apparently waning, however. Facing budget cuts for his Department, Goddard stated he'd be "happy to keep what I've got now." He also noted that his budget was cut by \$3 million in 1975, and another \$6 million last year. His staff has been cut by 300 workers.

"It's wiser not to pass laws at all, than to pass laws which won't provide the resources to carry them out," the secretary stressed. He noted that his Department is involved in about 250 activities and that it's currently taking about 1.5 per cent of the state budget to operate DER programs. "Don't think that the protection of the environment isn't a big industry," Goddard lectured. For every billion dollars spent, agencies such as DER and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are creating about 69,000 jobs, he explained.

"We need more groups such as yours," Goddard went on. "You people are interested in protecting your land and water. But you must be aggressive, otherwise your environmental quality will be lost by default."

"We're involved in a very philosophical issue," Goddard stated in reference to the use of energy and resources and depleting supplies.

Addressing himself to recent weather patterns and present levels of moisture, Goddard predicted Pennsylvania is headed for a drought season.

The dominant industries of the future, says Goodard, will be those which deal with replenishable resources, such as farming and forestry. The secretary also predicts a more frugal lifestyle for Americans, emphasizing that the USA is currently using up 40 per cent of the world's resources while accounting for only six

per cent of the world's population. "Do you believe the rest of the world is going to continue to allow us to do that?" Goddard asked.

Goddard is convinced that will change, and noted that it's already taking place as Americans are faced with higher prices for energy, coffee, and other products. Although a high standard of living will not have to be sacrificed in his view, Goddard does predict that lifestyles will change dramatically. The average American wastes about a ton of solid resources per year - that will change, Goddard said.

The wave of the future will be smaller cars, smaller homes, more re-cycling and less waste.

"By the year 2000 we'll have an estimated seven billion people on this planet - can you anticipate the demand we'll see on the world's resources," Goddard challenged. "If we don't do a better job with our resources, we'll be in serious trouble," he proclaimed. "I'm calling on your group to renew your dedication to conservation," he concluded.

Several crises face Shelhamer

By DIETER KRIEG

HARRISBURG - Since taking over the reigns of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture in mid-January, Agriculture Secretary Kent Shelhamer has faced one crisis situation after another.

First came the energy crisis as a result of the severe Winter, and how its effects were burdening many facets of food production both directly and indirectly. That one still isn't over with and it's keeping both public and private officials busy.

closely related to the energy crisis is the concern over rising milk production. Shelhamer expressed deep concern over that fact last week during an interview with this writer, and is particularly worried about being able to handle the surpluses at a time when fuels are being shut off or curtailed.

A third "crisis" also ties in with the dairy industry. The Food and Drug Administration is currently reviewing regulations on frozen desserts, the agriculture head told Lancaster Farming. Shelhamer and his aids are keeping a close eye on the matter, pointing out that "if we make

the wrong decision, it'll have a strong effect on the dairy industry." The secretary is concerned about any regulatory changes being in the best interest of Pennsylvania dairymen. He noted that the Commonwealth ranks second nationally in production of ice cream and other frozen dairy desserts.

Returning to the milk surplus question, Secretary Shelhamer said that if prices go up and a surplus situation develops, the American housewife is going to ask them hard questions. Although he hopes the problem will not develop, indications are that conditions are already ripe. Surplus milk production is a matter of record, in fact it's record high. On-the-farm prices for milk are likely to rise this Spring once the floor prices are restructured to 80 per cent of parity. Shelhamer is leery of the consequences, as are a number of officials within the dairy industry.

If questions on supply, demand, and price of milk come up, Shelhamer believes it will be on the federal level.

Commenting on regulations for dairy manufacturing plants, the agriculture secretary believes we "might be heading for over-regulation." He has asked for public hearings on the matter. On the other hand, he stresses the need for quality and that Pennsylvania's dairy industry "would not want to set its standards at artificial levels. They should be as good or better."

Shelhamer says he is also concerned about additional regulations restraining competition within the dairy industry. "We don't want to put them (manufacturers) out of competitive business," he commented. He added that his department is watching the situation closely, saying: "We're not waiting for them (FDA) to move, we're playing defensively."

Dairy club

holds meeting

YORK, Pa. - On February 10 the Milk and Money 4-H Dairy Club held their monthly meeting. During the business session they discussed the "June is Dairy Month" display at the York Mall to be held on the fourth of that month. They also had demonstrations on "How to Feed a Calf a Bottle," and "Silent Visitors to the Corn Field."

All 17 members present made rope halters with the help of Dave Norman and Paul King.

The next meeting will be held on March 10. The program will be the Hoard's Dairyman Judging contest. The group will also tour Green's Dairy. That date is April 14.

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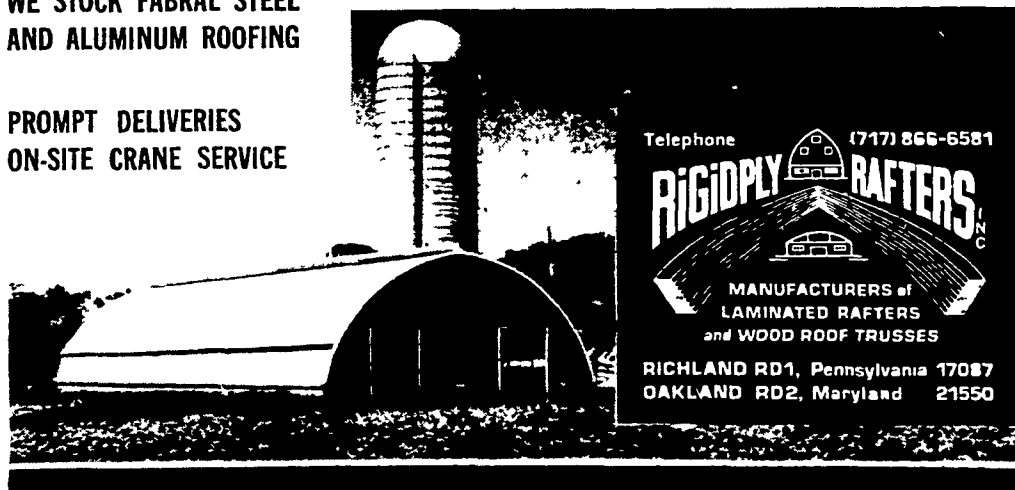
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