

York farmers prefer present farm programs

NEW PARK, Pa. - L.C. Wambaugh from Delta, headed the York County Farmers' Association delegation to Congressman William Goodling's office on the National Legislative Tour last week, urging extension of the present Federal farm program. Farmers from across the Keystone state converged on Washington D. C. with nine delegates from York County. In addition to Wambaugh, John Wilcox, New Park; David Wolf, Stewartstown; Ailenn Detter, Dover; Carolyn Rutter, York; Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Ort, E-ters; Ray Orner, Dover and Gail McPherson, New Park, attended.

The county spokesman also called for moving the responsibility for pesticide regulations from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and opposed legislation now being considered to legalize secondary boycotts by organized labor.

The farm leader told 19th District Congressman Goodling that Pennsylvania Farmers' Association favored extension of the present Agricultural and Consumer Act of 1973, since

in his opinion it was "moving agriculture back to the free market system." This act is scheduled to expire this year, but Congress is expected to enact major farm legislation to replace it. The present farm program covers all major areas of agriculture production.

"Farm income has increased substantially since the market was relieved of the surpluses accumulated under previous programs," Wambaugh stated. "The marketplace is working. We have confidence that it will continue to work."

He reasoned further that any moves to put government back in the business of farming would be counterproductive.

In strong opposition to House Resolution 3500 which would legalize secondary boycotts, Wambaugh stated that his organization fears such legislation for the following reasons:

"It would lead to greater imbalance in Labor-management relations; would cause periodic total stoppage in all union projects because of varying labor contract expiration dates; would force

unionization of employees working for other contractors on the same project with union employees of another employer; would bankrupt small construction firms by numerous and-or lengthy picketing activities in secondary boycotts; and would completely revise the relationship and structure of the construction industry."

Because EPA has failed to comply with the law stating it must classify all pesticides as either general or restricted by Oct., 1976, Wambaugh called for moving its responsibility to USDA.

Although some 300,000 persons in 45 states have been certified to use restricted pesticides, EPA has not yet published a restricted use list.

Wambaugh states, "EPA has issued conflicting regulations and made a mockery of the laws governing pesticide regulations, while USDA has a proven record in the area of pesticide regulations and should be given the responsibility."

Gail McPherson, information director for the county farmers, met with Senator John Heinz, III, on similar issues. Over 300 farmers took part in the two day Tour March 9 and 10.



John Wilcox, left, of New Park and L.C. Wambaugh of Delta discuss pertinent agricultural issues with

Congressman William F. Goodling, center.

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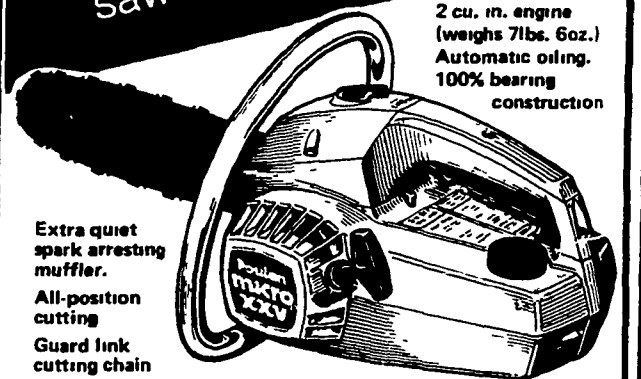
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