

Lancaster Co. poultrymen

[Continued from Page 16] on 1976 United States Department of Agriculture figures, the "Dietary Goals" would mean the reduction of per capita consumption of eggs to no more than 156 eggs per person on an annual basis. This would mean an overall reduction of 2.17 billion dozen. The elimination of producing, processing, and distributing 2.7 billion dozens of eggs would cost America an estimated 24,000 jobs.

Other calculations made in the industry statement pointed out that 1.8 billion dollars in retail egg sales would be lost, producing by turnover effect, an overall economic loss of \$10.8 billion dollars. Pullet sales would drop by more than \$238 million per year, and approximately \$90 million dollars in egg carton sales would be lost. At \$9 per layer invested in fixed capital, over \$1 billion in assets would be idled on farms across the United States.

Said Jack Dubose president of the Southeastern Poultry and Egg Association, who presented the industry statement, "Indeed, the recommendations have the potential of putting many small, family farmers out of business at the very time Congress is exploring ways of helping the family farmers of America cope with the uncertainties of agriculture."

Despite the testimony presented at the hearing, Hendrick Wentink, chairman of NCEN, stated in a letter to NCEN commissioners, that while the testimony was excellent, "When it was all over, it was, however, evident that the Committee staff did not appear to show any inclination to modify or qualify the 'Dietary Goals' recommendations."

He also pointed out that there are two bills in the house and one in the Senate dealing with nutrition, and education, some of which "are aimed at pre-school and grade school levels, based on the 'Dietary Goals' recommendations as they

will be published in final form."

Mobilized by the general feeling over the outcome of the July 26 hearing, and fearing the results if legislation becomes tied to the issue as it stands right now, the Lancaster County Poultry Association members chose to personally present their position and that of the more than 77 million dollar poultry industry in Lancaster County, to Paul Cooksey.

In a two-hour session with the legislative aide to Senator Schweiker, Ed Moshier, Lititz; Ronald Meck, Denver; Martin Pflieger, Manheim; Vernon Leininger, Dener; and Jack Huber, Lititz, urged the withdrawal of "Dietary Goals" from circulation or, if that is not possible, they urged several revisions.

Following their meeting with Cooksey, several members of the delegation discussed their reactions with Lancaster Farming.

Ed Moshier, president of the Lancaster County Poultry Association, stated that "the meeting was very open, frank, and cordial. Mr. Cooksey made it very clear from the onset, however, that both he and the Senator were firmly convinced that their position was right."

Moshier did feel, however, that two positive points stemmed from the meeting. According to the Association president, after much conversation on the point, Cooksey did admit that there is still a controversy over the cholesterol issue.

"He conceded that neither he nor the Senator understand the scope of the poultry industry in Pennsylvania, and he asked that we furnish him with specific facts regarding this," he said.

According to Moshier, Cooksey was of the impression that a Pennsylvania egg producer could easily switch over to raising meat chickens if the egg situation gets too serious. Senator Schweiker himself, questioned a witness during

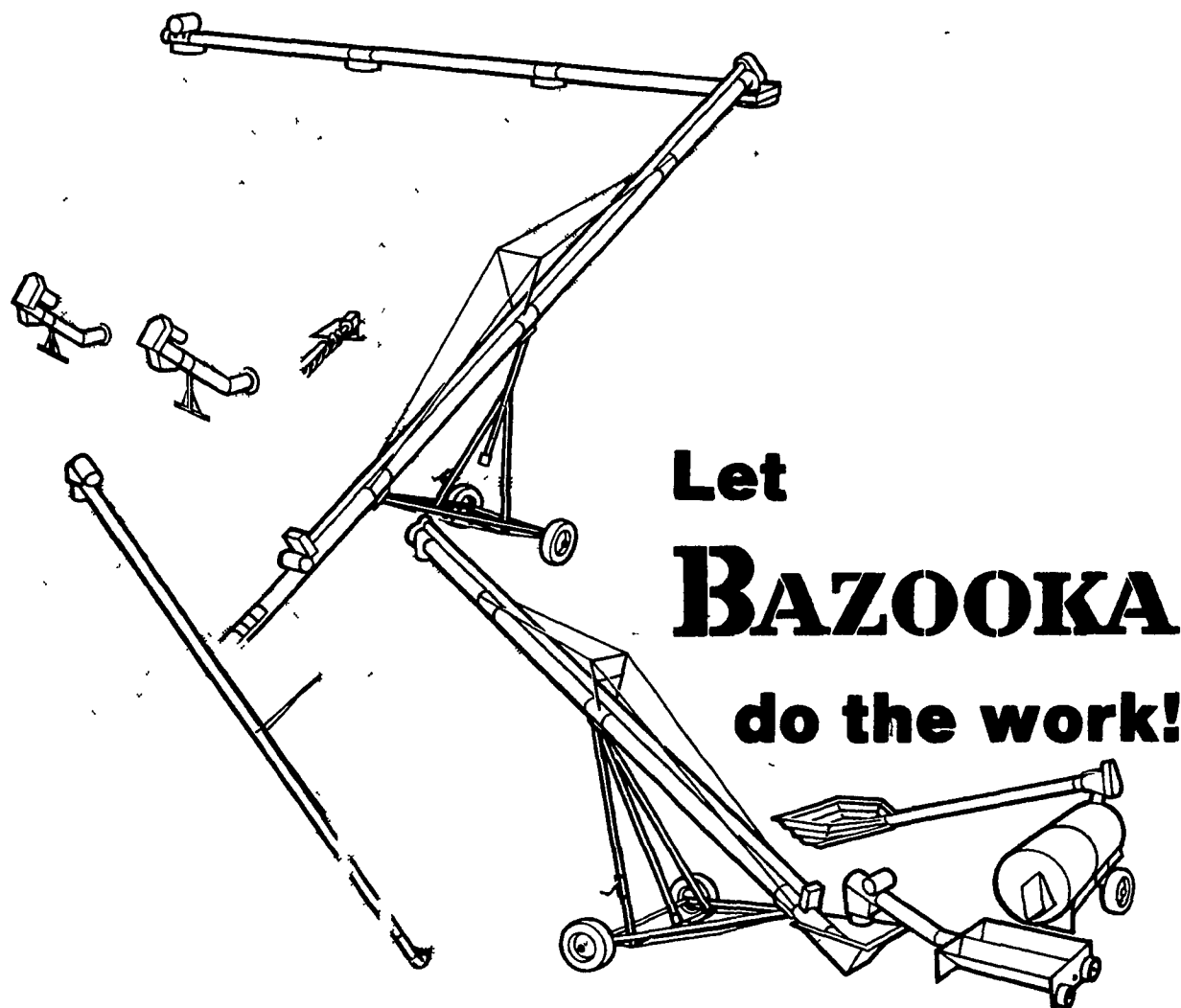
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Young Farmers tour dairy barn

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Mull, and their son Kenneth, (in center), Lebanon, R. 2, thank Herman Bashore (left) and Larry Hiestand, representing Lancaster Silo Company, for presenting an educational program in their new dairy barn to members of the Northern Lebanon Young Farmers

Association. Paul Maulfair, chapter president of the group, is on the right. The Mulls hosted 120 Northern Young Farmers and gave them a tour of their new stanchion dairy barn. The program featured slides explaining the value of a good forage program for economical milk production.



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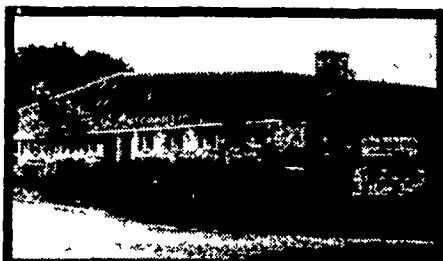
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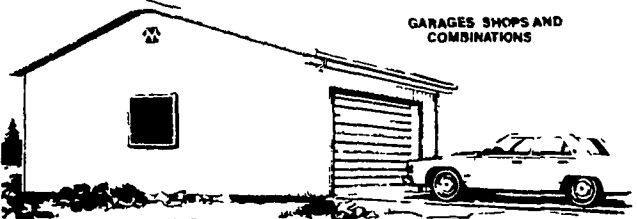
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