

# Lancaster Farming

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## 300 dairymen faced with plant closing

By KENDACE BORRY  
BAREVILLE - Approximately 300 farmers in the Lancaster County area received the unwelcome news recently that the New Holland Farms, Inc. would stop taking milk after November 12, and be discontinuing services. Economic reasons were stated for the notice.

The cut-off was made to all farmers using the services of New Holland Farms, Inc. According to some farmers involved with the company, this involves about 275,000 pounds of milk which had been processed daily at the plant.

A meeting of the dairy farmers involved was held October 24 at the Bareville Fire Hall in Lancaster County. Representatives from the Eastern Milk Producers Co-op attended the meeting and spoke of alternatives and plans to help the farmers affected by the closing of the plant.

Arden Tewksbury, president of Eastern Co-op spoke to the approximately 225 people present at the

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## Resolutions adopted by Grangers

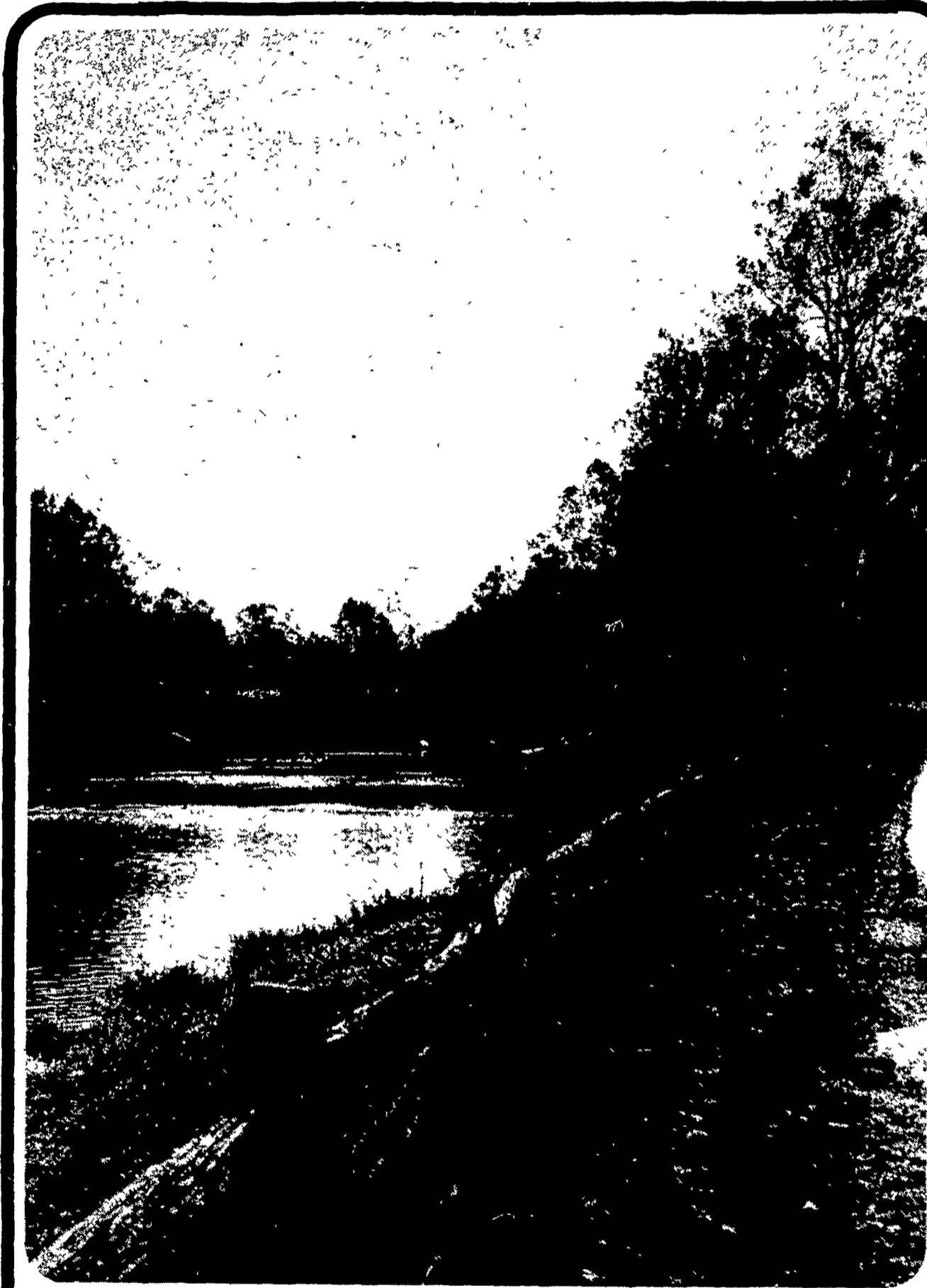
DANVILLE - The Pennsylvania State Grange, in a series of resolutions approved by delegates to the 105th annual convention, held here this week, opposed the dumping of sewage sludge on open land, mined areas and farmland until it can be proven that "this sludge is harmless to the environment."

Citing proposals to dispose of sewage sludge, especially that from cities, in this manner, pointed out that the material "may contain elements and minerals detrimental to the environment, and to air and water."

A second resolution called for continuation of "valuable sludge treatment research at Pennsylvania State University" with periodic reports of the work to the Department of Environmental Resources.

A third resolution opposing the dumping of sewage sludge as long as undesirable materials at unsafe levels, recommended that:

"Companies dumping  
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Lancaster Farming photo by Dieter Krieg

*A walk in the crisp Autumn air along country roads offers*

*scenes not viewed in any other season. The rustic fence*

*along a sleeping pond pleases the eye as well as the soul.*

## Ag interests may change at USDA

PARK RIDGE, Ill. - Allan Grant, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, has called upon Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland to withdraw or effectively modify his proposed reorganization of some USDA functions. Grant noted specifically the changes proposed for the Packers and Stockyards Administration, the Agricultural Extension Service, and Department's Office of Communications.

Noting that the P&SA has a good record of enforcement actions since becoming an independent agency, Grant said that it should remain a separate agency responsible directly to one of the assistant secretaries of Agriculture.

"We believe," Grant said, "that putting the Packers and Stockyards Administration under the Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service would diminish its effectiveness."

Noting that the proposed reorganization of the Department included the  
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## Surpluses squeezing area dairymen

By DIETER KRIEG

NEW PARK - Members of Maryland Cooperative Milk Producers meeting here Thursday night were told that the most difficult problem facing dairy farmers throughout the country - especially in the Middle Atlantic States - is the "tremendous increase in milk production which occurred during 1976 and 1977 and coupled with flat fluid milk sales."

It's been a really significant problem for the Baltimore based dairy cooperative due to the closing of the Koontz Dairy in that city. That left MCMP, which has approximately 1000 dairy farmer members in three states, holding thousands of extra gallons of milk, in the one hand, and an empty bag in the other. The proverbial empty bag came when Koontz went bankrupt and creditors, including MCMP, are now sharing in losses, as well as proceeds from the sale of Koontz property. "It would be foolish to speculate when partial and final settlement  
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