

AAW pounds out foundation on which to build

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Voting delegates of the national convention of American Agri-Women have adopted a statement of principles upon which all

policies and vital issue strategies will be based.

"The family farm system must be preserved as the bulwark of the private enterprise system — it must be

a system working within a system. Private enterprise is the best method to develop human potential," stressed Sister Thomas More Bertels, representing the Wisconsin Women for Agriculture. She was instrumental in drawing up the statement of principles and the "prime truth" list of goals, along with Mrs. Pat Cohill of the Michigan Women for the Survival of Agriculture.

First established goal is to present the real identity of American farmers to urban consumers, politicians, media, and church leadership. The family as the basic unit of society is stressed in fostering a positive self-image of agriculture. Educating the public through both the classroom and consumers will be a foremost concern; public acceptance of farming as a business that must make a profit to survive must be created.

By instituting dialogue

between the various segments of the consuming public, A.A.W. hopes to develop an appreciation within and outside the farming community of the interdependence of the components of the agricultural system. Support is given to the Capper-Volstead Act and for the encouragement of research in the continuing development of more nutritious varieties and breeds of foodstuffs. Agriculture must be classified a priority user of energy for allocation purposes and development must take place of practical energy conservation methods.

Support was given to the marketing system which makes quality food and fiber available to all on a reasonable cost basis and at a fair profit to the farmer. Recommendations to implement this goal include setting import quality levels at the same standard as that

for domestic foods, sensible labeling practices, accurate crop reporting or none at all, and the appointment of qualified women to all levels of policy-making. Continued efforts will be made to inform the public about the nature and value of the private enterprise system of marketing.

By fostering communication and cooperation among the various farm organizations, commodity groups, farming regions and individual farmers, A.A.W. will strive to seek common grounds which provide the foundation for a united agriculture.

Especially stressed was the need to effectively stand against coercive methods unjustly attacking the agriculture system. Of special concern were environmental scare tactics, continued public education surrounding the use of farm chemicals, federal centralized land use planning, and the growing infringement of individual rights by bureaucratic agencies. Several recommendations cover estate taxes including elimination of the "carry-over" basis, valuing all joint tenancy property as equally owned, and contribution of labor by a wife to the estate.

Allies will be developed to broaden agriculture's influence in the market place and in the political areas on all levels through dialogue and the pursuit and development of common grounds.

The final goal dealt with developing a responsible and accountable membership willing to assume position of influence in areas that affect the private enterprise system. Members will be encouraged to assume leadership positions, develop responsibility in the face of controversy, and be accountable to each other within the organization structure.

Meeting set

The next meeting of the Saddle Cinches 4-H Club will be held December 9, with a Christmas party set at the home of Julie Shreiner, Penryn. Members are asked to bring a \$3 gift for the horse for gift exchange and their favorite records. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Hostetter

named pres.

LEBANON — Thomas Hostetter, Annville R2, was recently elected president of the Lebanon County Farmers Association. Also serving as officers in this organization are: Vernon Balmer, Myerstown R2, vice president; Frank Graybill, Jr., Hershey R1, secretary; and Paul Maulfair, Jonestown R1, treasurer.

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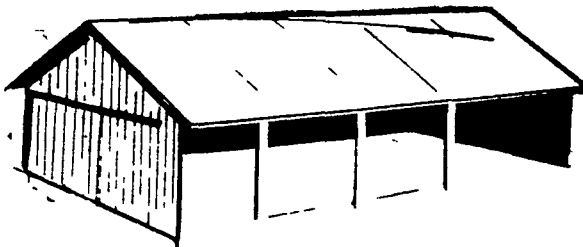
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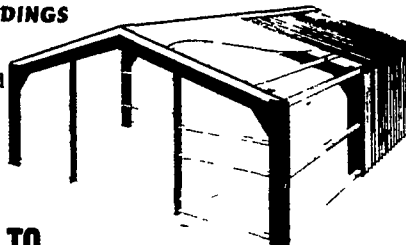


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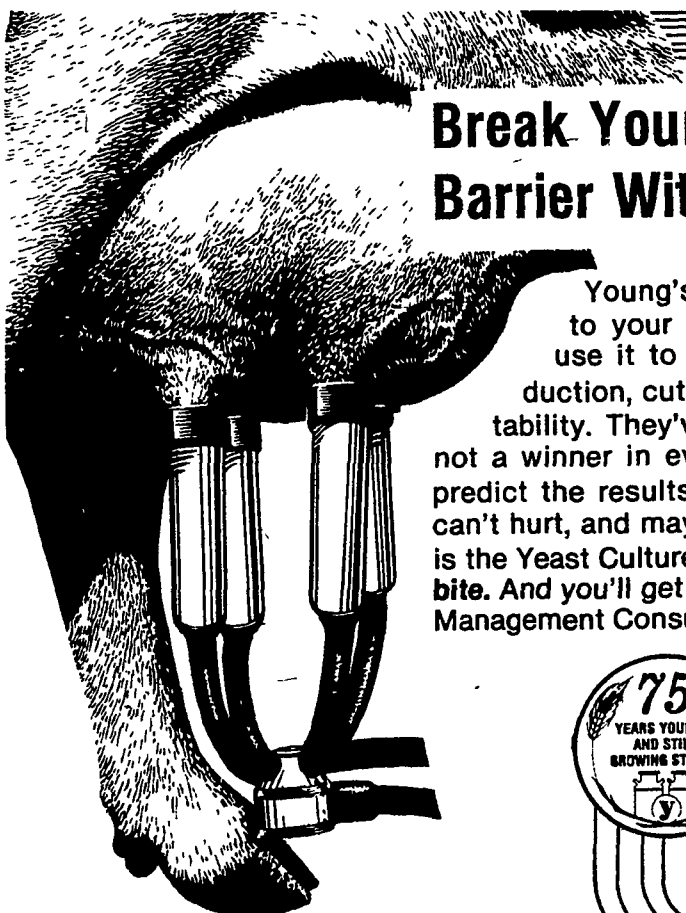
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