

Dairy officials worried by surplus

(Continued from Page 1)

Gartley is quick to point out, however, that the dairy cooperative maintains a healthy financial base. Despite the more than \$800,000 that were spent for excess marketing costs in 1977, IMPCO's treasury has a strong reserve fund. The cooperative is splitting its excess marketing costs between members and already accumulated funds.

Surplus milk is expected to be a burden for the next several months yet, thus additional costs can be expected along with some slippage in the savings schedule.

Dairy economists are predicting that the average blend price for 1978 will be up by about 30 cents from a year ago. While that will not likely cause a downturn in milk production, it is hoped that improved cull cow prices will thin out some herds enough to put the brakes on the milk flow.

Inter-State and Maryland Cooperative Milk Producers expect their jointly owned Holly Milk Cooperative to be completed this Spring, which will help alleviate the sur-



Boyd Gartley

plus condition. More than \$8 million are being spent on the venture. Slides of the plant were shown at the Quarryville meeting.

Aside from surplus milk production, Inter-State is very much concerned over antibiotics in milk, noting that 40 tankers tested positive for antibiotics during 1977. The losses incurred can be astronomical and dairymen are urged to do all they can to keep the drugs out.

Gartley has personally taken on a third problem of

the dairy business, having recently launched his own crusade for fair publicity for milk. Telling his audience about the adverse publicity milk is occasionally receiving on television, Gartley said he recently returned from New York to straighten the matter with TV producers. He was well received, he says, and has been invited to go back. In a related development, the dairy spokesman will be appearing on the popular television game show "To Tell The Truth." Gartley's portion of the program has already been taped and is to be aired in March.

"Anytime you hear anything about milk you don't like, call me," Gartley concluded, noting that there is a continuing need to keep the positive qualities of milk before the public.

Another area of concern for dairymen are the moves in government which direct themselves towards the establishment of bureaucratic food standards. Dairy cooperatives recently won a hard fought battle against the Food and Drug Administration to keep foreign made artificial



Melvin Neff, president of District 12 of Inter-State Milk Producers Cooperative, congratulates project book winners Christine Esbenshade, Nancy Akers and Doug Hershberger.

substances out of ice cream. Had FDA been successful with its proposal, dairymen would have lost one more marketing channel while

consumers got stuck with a comparatively inferior product. Animal agriculture spokesmen are repeatedly warning about the steps

being taken in Washington to dictate eating habits for Americans. Should such a move ever be successful, it's generally acknowledged that



District 12 of to right; John C Dale Bollinger

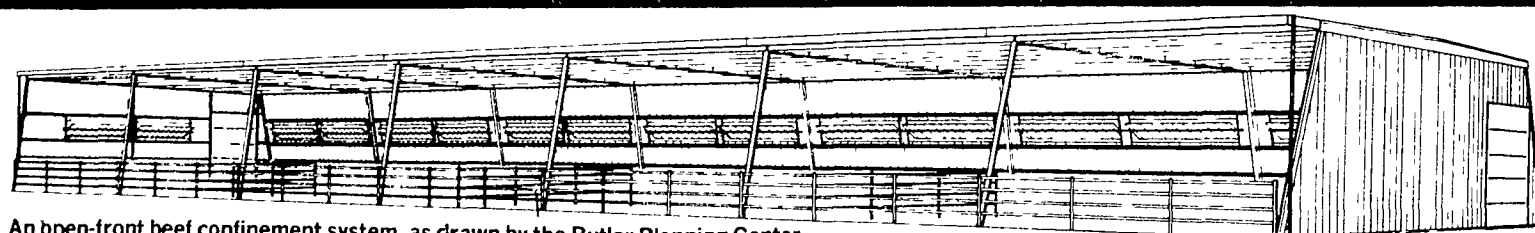
phases of agriculture will significantly.

In other activities IMPCO District 12 three young ac cited for their project books dairymen were for 25 years of m with Inter-State.

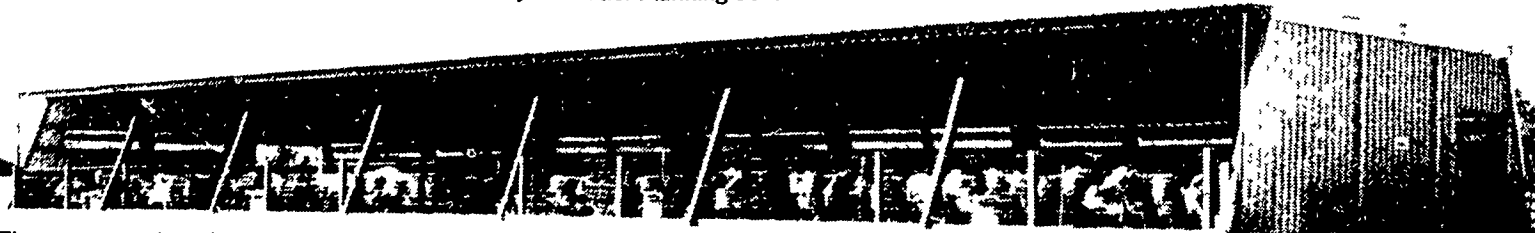
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