Farmers' future clouded by excess production

Herman E. Talmadge (D-Ga.) warned last week that figure will be well below the the economic outlook for American farmers remains uncertain and urged the Carter Administration to put the brakes on excess production.

The chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry said the net farm about \$5 billion this year

over last, to about \$25 billion But he noted that the 1978 \$30 billion farm income peak of 1973.

"Much of this year's income growth is occurring in the livestock sector - a sector that has suffered for several years from extremely low prices and income," Talmadge said. "The crop sector will be receiving a lower income income is expected to rise this year on average, so the aggregate income situation

the Lecturer, Mrs. Thomas

Galbreath, who was at-

tending State Grange

Program theme was "Oc-

Galbreath, Mrs. Dewitt

Bacorn, CG McSparran,

Irene Zug and Kristen

Stauffer participated in the

Ceres, Mrs. Gerald

Kreider, and Pomona, Mrs.

William Taylor, will be in

charge of Corn and Pie Night

at the next meeting on

November 13. Farmers

are asked to bring corn

exhibits which will be judged

in best single ear and best

ten ear classes. The Grange

ladies are to bring pies in

apple, plain or spiced

pumpkin classes. Earl Mull,

Quarryville, will be the

speaker. He will tell of his

experiences combining

wheat from Texas to Canada

and show some pictures he

program.

Mrs. Tommy

is not as bright as some would suggest

Talmadge spoke at the concluding session of the National Conference of Farm Credit Directors meeting in Atlanta His remarks came about one year after the start of last Fall and Winter's nationwide farmer protest against a severe cost-price squeeze that resulted in economic hardship for many producers.

Talmadge said that in response to last year's agriculture crisis, Congress had broadened the new 1977 farm act to provide the Administration with ample authority to deal with farm income problems.

"Unfortunately, the Administration has shown great reluctance to use the authorities we gave it,' Talmadge said. "What has been done has tended to be too little and too late. It was only the combined weight of American farmers and Congress that ultimately got any action."

Talmadge served notice that his Committee will 'maintain close scrutiny in the months to come over the agriculture situation." He also announced that Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland would be asked to present "a full-scale assessment of the state of American agriculture" to the Committee as the first order of business in the new session of Congress in January.

"We will be prepared thereafter to take wheatever action may be needed to maintain a viable agriculture and to assure American farmers of a fair deal in the national economy," he said

Talmadge said excess production continues to plague the nation's agricultural economy. Fears of a possible world food



cess production." Talmadge stated

Stocks still are building to unacceptable high levels," Talmadge said. "We must bring production into line with demand. We must do this not only to bolster farm income, but to prevent the waste of national resources that accompanies excessive production.

"I acknowledge that this may be a somewhat novel view But excess agriculture production is indeed a wasteful misallocation of resources It is a waste of soil and water resources It is a waste of energy to produce more products than we need It is a waste of taxpayers money when we have government programs to support unneeded production.'

Talmadge noted that the nation's corn and feedgrain farmers currently are harvesting a record crop. He predicted corn carryover stocks will increase as much as a half billion bushels - to around 1 5 billion

"This is a price depressing surplus," Talmadge said. "I think it is imperative that the Secretary take this into account in formulating next year's program.

"I urge Secretary of Agriculture Bergland and President Carter to exercise the authority that Congress has given them to achieve a sound balance between production and need. Otherwise farmers will continue to suffer financial hardship without any corresponding benefits to consumers "

Fulton Grange holds meeting

OAKRYN - Fulton Grange No. 66 held their semimonthly meeting October 23rd, at the Grange Hall, Oakryn. Overseer, Thomas Chas. Galbreath, presided.

Among the thirteen members of Fulton Grange attending the State Grange meeting were Peggy and Sandra Galbreath who participated in the talent contest. They placed first in vocal competition and were accompanied by Douglas Bonsall. Their selection was "Bless This House." They had previously taken part in the regional and district eliminations at Kutztown.

Mrs. David Knight acted as Flora when State Grange youth filled the State Grange offices for the Wednesday morning session of the Pa. State Grange.

Mrs. Charles Tindall Sr. took part in the State Grange art contest.

Fulton Grange is sponsoring Miss Allison Appleget, Peach Bottom, in the Miss Solanco contest. Charles McSparran and Mrs. William Rhoades were selected to represent Fulton Grange at the annual board meeting of the Southern Lancaster Company Family Health Center November 21.

Mrs. J. Stanley Stauffer presented the program for

Herman Talmadge

shortage has made the Administration reluctant "to use existing authority to meet our most persistent agriculture problem - ex-

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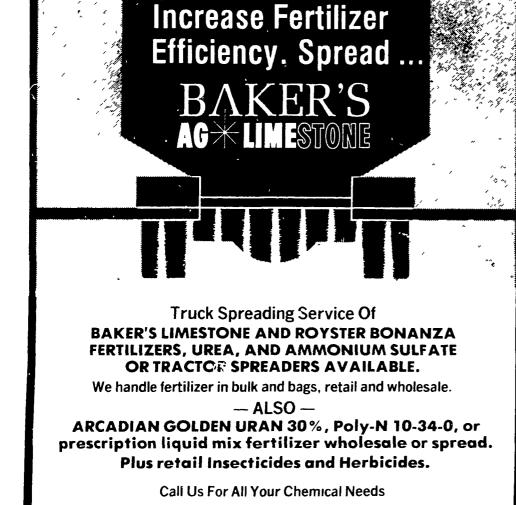
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