Grange wants more funds for ACP

HARRISBURG - One of the resolutions passed at the 106th annual session of the Pennsylvania State Grange called for an increase in the Federal budget for the Agricultural Conservation Practices Program from \$190 million to \$300 million.

"The reason we ask for this increase," stated J. Luther Snyder, master of the State Grange, "is because inflation has rendered last year's budget insufficient.

Snyder went on to say that the Grange has supported the ACP Program's intent since the early 1930's. The State Master praised the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservagion Service for administering the program "to the benefit of ali people."

The ACP Program provides for the construction of terraces, diversions, animal waste disposal systems, waterways and drainage systems. These practices help to eliminate soil erosion and upgrade water quality.

The ACP program is a cost-sharing program that enables a farmer who cannot afford to install a conservation practice on his farm to split the cost with the Federal government.

The amount of costsharing can vary with the government paying anywhere from ten to ninety per cent.

The Grange further supports reduction of funds for production practices so that the enduring practices such as strip-cropping, diversion terraces, and drainage can be adequately funded.

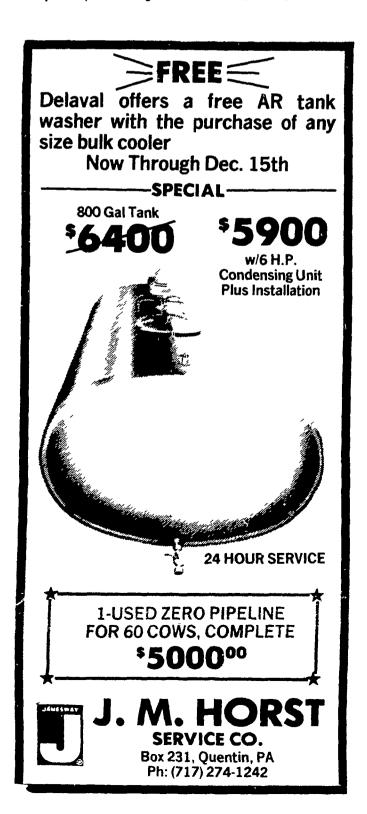
Included in this resolution was a supporting resolution to increase the funding of the Soil Conservation Service to provide for more technicians to help prepare farm plans and engineer cost-share practices to the land.

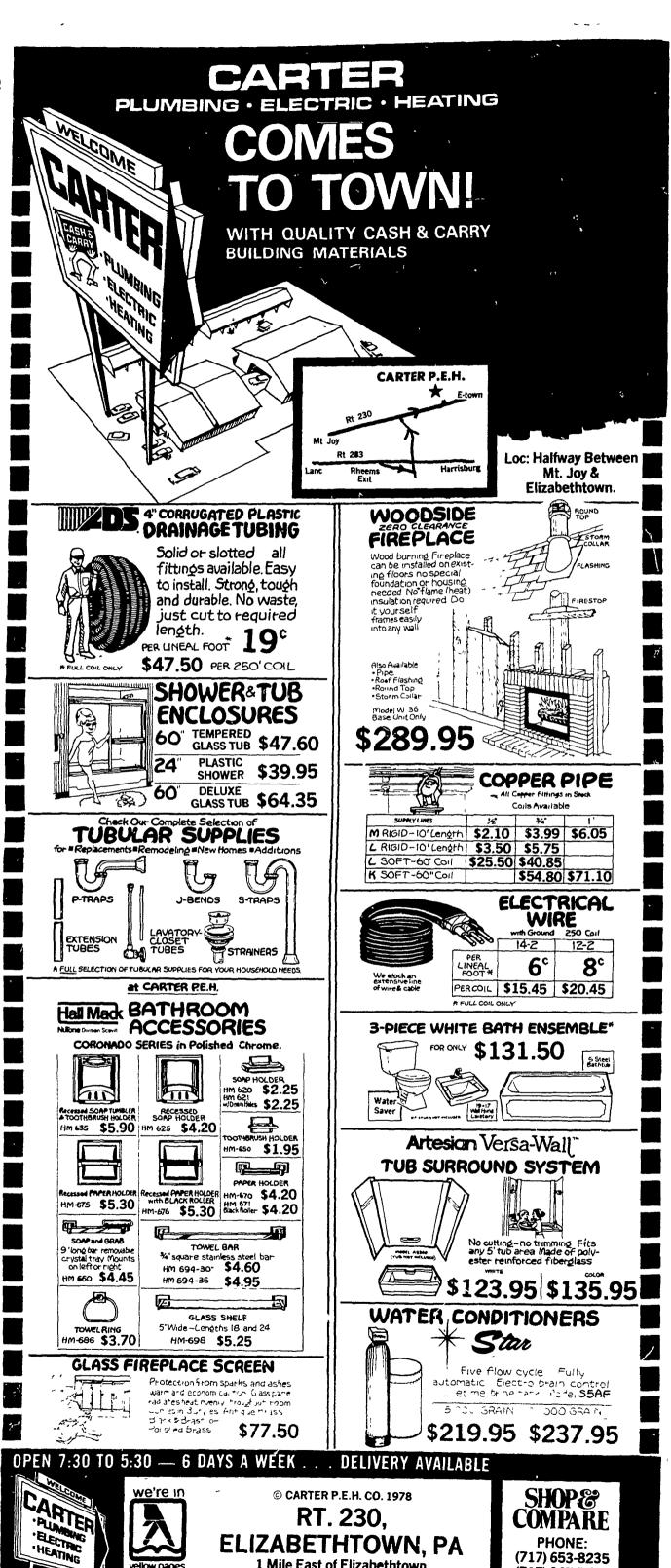
The last portion of the resolution was a measure to insure the validity of the ACP Program.

The resolution called for the conservation practice to remain in place for at least seven years. If the practice is removed from the land prior to the seven years, the owner will be required to pay the pro-rate amount of the cost-share for the unused period.



The largest body of fresh water in the world is Lake Superior, covering an area of 31,820 square miles.





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