

Big business farming affected by politics

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SEARCY, Ark. - As farming became big business in America and as the number of farmers dwindled from 80 per cent of the population to 4 per cent of the population, it became good politics to regulate agriculture "on behalf of the poor".

The anti-pollutionists started a big campaign "on behalf of the people", and with the aid of the courts, have driven some industries completely out of business and have put very heavy yokes on many others. The regulators of the prices "on behalf of the poor" made the search for new oil reserves unprofitable. As a result, large numbers of drilling rigs were stacked, as it

actually became cheaper to import oil from the Near East than our American companies could produce it under the government regulations and restrictions. With rising wages and rising costs of all kinds the search for gas could no longer be carried on profitably, under government regulations and price controls.

Several steel companies have actually been closed

because of these regulations and restrictions. The bellwether of the steel companies - U.S. Steel - reports that the environmental regulations alone will have cost that one company a total of \$1 billion by the end of 1978. They also report that the pollution control facilities have added \$265 million to their annual operating costs. They further reported a loss of \$58.7 million in their operations for the first quarter of 1978.

Speaking at the firm's 77th annual meeting of stockholders, the Board Chairman said: "More and more management efforts to reduce costs and increase overall efficiency are being offset by counter-productive actions within governments."

Has big business now become an enemy of the nation? Must it be looked upon as an unnecessary adjunct? Must anti-pollution requirements suddenly become so great as to jeopardize the future of basic industries? Must our

"love for the poor" lead us to try to make the whole nation poor? Must our concern for equality lead us to reduce all people to the poverty level? Is the search for political issues and political support to reduce this nation to two classes - one large class of "poor" and one small class of "rich"? Shall the popular politician be the one then that is for the "poor" and shall our Congress favor the regulations presented by these politicians to the extent they will destroy the very basic industries that have built the nation? Will they take away the ability of these industries to meet competition coming from other private enterprise economies such as West Germany and Japan? Shall our "love for the poor" reduce our defense posture to the extent that we become No. 2 in a very critical and dangerous world?

Shall the politicians, for the sake of issues and votes, be allowed to destroy this nation as politicians destroyed all great nations that preceded us?

In my opinion, America is literally dying for wise leadership. The honor and dignity and wisdom being displayed in Washington doesn't appear to equal the honor and dignity and wisdom of the average citizen.

All of this has resulted in a rapid increase in the number of employees on government payrolls. It has also led to constant increases in taxes. One way of increasing the taxes has been to push wages and prices higher and higher by way of inflation which pushed people into higher tax brackets automatically. For instance, if a man is paying 20 per cent of his income in taxes and then you double his income you have doubled his taxes. But if inflation has prevented any increase in his purchasing power, in spite of the increased number of dollars in his pay check, then, in relationship to his purchasing power his taxes have much more than doubled, actually leaving him decreased funds for his own needs.

October DHIA reported

TAMAQUA - The herd of William R. Daubert, Pine Grove R2, had the highest milkfat in Schuylkill County for the month of October, 1978, according to information released by Penn State and Allan Shoener, county agent-agriculture.

With 70.9 cows on test, his cows averaged 2.00 pounds

of milkfat per day, with 51.4 pounds of milk per cow per day. Second for the month was Miller & Rex, Inc., Andreas R1, with 1.98 pounds of milkfat per day. Third for the month was Heisler Brothers, Tamaqua R1.

Fifty-seven cows finished lactation records with 600 pounds of milkfat in October.

High for the month went to a cow called Sugar, owned by Miller & Rex, Andreas R1, with 965 pounds of milkfat. Miller & Rex also had the second high cow, and Emmet W. Rhein, Pine Grove R3, had the third highest cow.

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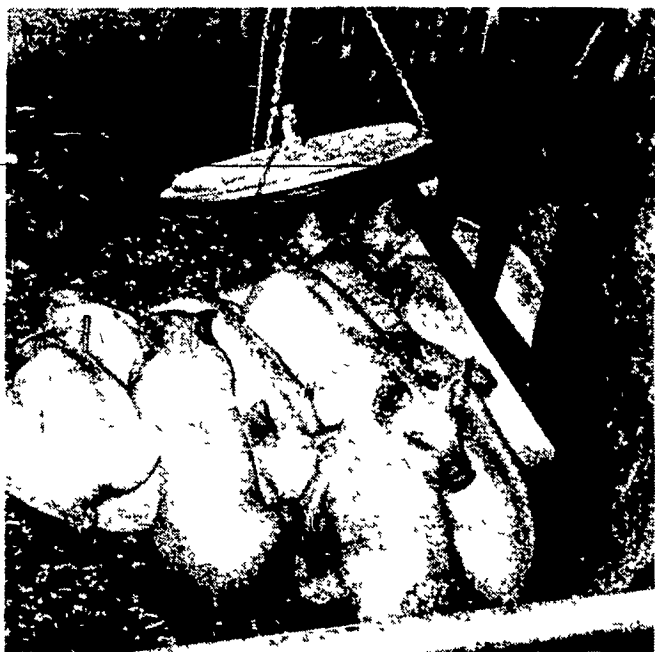
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