

Farmers Union to hold convention Monday

HARRISBURG - Keynote speaker for the 7th Annual Pennsylvania Farmers Union Convention will be the first woman ever elected president of a State Farmers Union. She is Donna Cootware of Ralph, Michigan. Also slated as speakers are Tony Dechant and Keister Adams.

Cootware was elected president of the Michigan Farmers Union last fall and now serves on the board of directors of the National Farmers Union. She is an outspoken advocate of family farms and 100 per cent of parity for agriculture.

With her husband, John, Cootware operates a 360 acre potato and beef cattle farm on Michigan's upper peninsula. She is now devoting full time to the cause of family farmers.

Cootware, the mother of six children, is a township supervisor and is a director

of the Michigan Townships Association. She has served on a school board and on a regional development commission. She attended Northern Michigan University and taught elementary school for six years.

Cootware will deliver the keynote address at the Pennsylvania Farmers Union Convention at 10:15 a.m. on Monday, January 15 in the Penn Harris Motor Inn. Her speech is open to the public.

Tony T. Dechant, National President of the Farmers Union, Denver, will be the banquet speaker.

Dechant is an internationally known farm leader who grew up on a family farm in Kansas. He has served as President of the National Farmers Union since 1966. The NFU now has over 300,000 members throughout the Nation's farm states.

In 1975, Dechant was

elected President of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP). The IFAP is composed of 60 farm groups from 45 nations which represents 35 million producers and is headquartered in Paris, France.

Dechant has steadfastly championed the cause of the independent family farm and 100 per cent of parity.

An international farm leader, Dechant is an advocate of minimum price

agreements among nations to guarantee farmers profitable prices for exports.

A milk marketing expert for the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C., will address the Pennsylvania Farmers Union Convention here. He is Keister Adams, Assistant Deputy Administrator for Commodity Operations for USDA's Agricultural

Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS).

Adams is a native of Winchester, Va., and a graduate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute. He holds a Master's Degree from the University of Maryland. He joined USDA in 1958.

"Milk is an extremely important farm product in Pennsylvania. We are

pleased to have a high-ranking official from the U.S. Department of Agriculture on our program to explain current trends affecting farmers in the milk industry," Leonard Zemaitis of the Pennsylvania Farmers Union said.

Adams is scheduled to speak at 11:15 a.m. on Monday.

Penn Manor FFA wins egg banner

HARRISBURG - Penn Manor FFA Chapter, Millersville, won the School Egg Banner at the Pennsylvania State Farm Show for the second year in a row.

They received the most points in the scoring for entries from their school.

The runnerup was the Northern York FFA Chapter, Dillsburg, York County, also for the second year in a row.

The Best Dozen White Eggs in the junior class was exhibited by Wayne Hess, Conestoga R1, Penn Manor Chapter, Lancaster.

The Best Dozen Brown Eggs was exhibited by Duane Stine, Dillsburg R2, Northern York FFA Chapter, York County.

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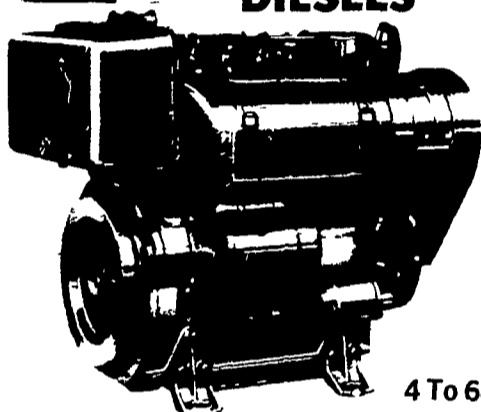
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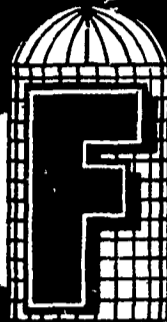
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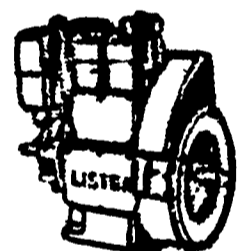


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