

# Shelhamer leaves ag office

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Describing himself two years ago as a "mover and a shaker," the 54-year old politician and farmer still has the gleam of a go-getter in his eye. He has no firm plans for himself now that he is out of office, other than to go back to his Columbia County fruit orchard.

Before becoming Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture, Shelhamer had 12 years of experience in the State Legislature. He believes that was a very valuable help to him during his term as ag chief. When his appointment came up for confirmation in the Senate, it came by a unanimous vote - 47 to 0.

To many farmers, former Secretary of Agriculture Kent Shelhamer was just what he wanted to be: a listener, one who was responsive to farmers. He impressed farmers with his down-to-earth, amiable style. A Lancaster County farmer once remarked after having met him that talking to Shelhamer was as easy as talking to a neighbor.

Shelhamer took full responsibility for his Department's activities, but he prided himself on consultation with farmers, he said. Some farm leaders credit him for bringing a higher degree of respect to the Department.

"If you have a high office, you have more reason to be humble than ever," Shelhamer commented in a recent interview. "There have been too many public officials in the past who have taken their just due, and don't want to step down. You've got to show people you're willing to do the dirty work too," he said.

An openly religious man, Shelhamer believes he was well prepared for his job as agriculture secretary. He was on the House Agriculture Committee during all of his 12 years in the State Legislature. While on that Committee, he claims to have had considerable effect on either sponsoring or writing new agricultural laws, including amendments. He became acquainted with government procedures, the budget, and key people. With that, he



Kent Shelhamer says farewell as Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture.

said, he had a distinct advantage for serving effectively as a leading spokesman for Pennsylvania farmers.

To be continued next week.

# Cooperatives

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perform a separate function, and those who will monitor undue price enhancement will report directly to Howard Hjort, USDA's director of Economics, Policy Analysis and Budget.

"Secretary Bergland has taken this action for one reason only," Webster declared. "He believes in cooperatives. He believes they are more important today than they ever were. He believes we must all do whatever we can to strengthen them, to support them, to promote them."

### International Trade Agreement

Special Trade Representative Robert S. Strauss said a forthcoming international trade agreement will be a real step forward resulting in no closing of markets or erection of more trade barriers. He added that our real choices are either to move forward soon, or risk slipping backward into the chaos and confusion of a trade war.

The U.S. trade negotiator said that the trade package represents reductions in trade barriers of about \$3 billion in agricultural exports. He indicated the Japanese have made concessions covering some 150 agricultural items amounting to about \$1.4 billion in U.S. agricultural exports. Included are citrus, beef, specialty fruits and vegetables, and soybeans.

Strauss stated the European Community has made concessions covering about \$700 million in U.S. exports of beef, meat by-products, poultry, tobacco, rice and fruit products. He noted that valuable concessions have also been negotiated with Canada, the Scandinavian countries, Australia, New Zealand, and a number of developing countries.

Reminding his audience that agriculture had been shortchanged in previous negotiations, Strauss said it wouldn't be shortchanged this time. He said that the U.S. is insisting on responsible agreements which provide meaningful export opportunities for our farmers, and meaningful benefits for the other sectors of our economy.



They look like sisters...

but Agway research has shown that their nutrient requirements may vary significantly

Agway can now offer feeding programs tailored to many commercial layer strains.

It has been well established that meat birds have different nutrient requirements than layers. Now, Agway research has gone a step farther. It has demonstrated that different strains of the same breed of commercial layers have different nutrient requirements. The trials show that production can be improved with a feeding program that's tailored to the needs of a particular strain.

When three commercial strains of the same breed were tested on two Agway feeding programs, here's what happened:

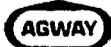
| PERCENT HEN-DAY PRODUCTION DURING A 392-DAY LAYING TRIAL |                                |      |      |
|--|--------------------------------|------|------|
| Agway Feeding Program                                    | Same Breed, Commercial Strain: |      |      |
|  | A                              | B    | C    |
| I  | 67.3                           | 65.5 | 72.3 |
| II   | 71.5                           | 70.7 | 70.0 |

A little pencil work makes it apparent that the difference in total production in one of today's large commercial houses can add up to thousands of dozens of eggs during the laying period of a given strain.

Agway research is continuing to develop feeding programs that provide, without excesses, the nutrients your favorite strain needs for optimum production. Such research will help you, as a commercial producer, bring more eggs to market at a cost that will provide you a greater return.

If you would like to know more about the possibilities of increased production through a tailored Agway feeding program, contact your Agway Poultry Enterprise Serviceperson. As a first step, call your local Agway store.

POULTRY ENTERPRISE SERVICE



*National Academy of Sciences Nutrient Requirements for Chickens*



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