

Bergland predicts benefits for farmers

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. - Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland says the Multilateral Trade Negotiations concluded recently in Geneva, Switzerland, will result in "substantial benefits for agricultural trade," and

reverse the trend toward protectionism. Speaking before the Ninth Federal Reserve District's Farm Forum here on Feb. 13, Bergland said that market access agreements negotiated with developed countries at Geneva

represent a reduction in trade barriers on about \$3 billion in U.S. agricultural exports, benefitting about 150 farm products. "For these gains," he said, "we of course had to make some offers ourselves, and they touch some sensitive areas. But they are relatively modest, and the result will be an overall substantial benefit for agricultural trade."

Bergland said the key to the success of U.S. agricultural export is a farm policy that last year made it possible for American farmers to earn the second highest net income in history, while keeping the price of their products competitive in the world market. "If we were to make drastic changes in that policy we are convinced that

over the long run our export volume would decline and farm earnings would drop," he said. In Bergland's judgement, this could be "disastrous for our farmers, calamitous for our balance of trade, and a decided setback in the battle against inflation." He forecasts another record year of U.S. agricultural exports as economic growth in major

world markets continues to spur demand for food and feedstuffs. Bergland projected farm product exports at about \$29 billion for the current fiscal year—the tenth consecutive year of record sales of U.S. agricultural commodities abroad. Last fiscal year the value of U.S. farm exports increased 14 percent to a record \$27.3 billion.

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Compulsory union dues opposed

Legislation prohibiting the use of compulsory union dues for political purposes in Pennsylvania was hailed here recently by Penn-

sylvanians for Right to Work as "a long overdue campaign reform protecting individual freedom of choice".

The bill, H.B. 383, was introduced in the State House by Representative Stephen F. Freind (R-Delaware County). Co-sponsors include Representatives Alden, Burd, Dietz, Foster, Geist, Honaman, Lashinger, Frank Lynch, Mackowski, Madigan, Mowery, Noye, Polite, Punt, Pyles, Scheaffer, Sieminski, Sirianni, Earl Smith, L. Eugene Smith, Taylor, Vroon, Weidner and Wenger. An amendment to the state Election Code, H.E. 383 would make it unlawful for any organization in which membership or dues payment is required as a

condition of employment to use such compulsory dues directly or indirectly. Pennsylvania for Right to Work is launching a drive to mobilize public support for H.B. 383. "Public opinion polls and last November's election of free-choice supporters to the Legislature indicate a clear mandate from the people. The citizens of Pennsylvania do not want political decisions dictated to them by union officials using compulsory dues dollars. Now it's up to the Legislature to follow that mandate by passing H.B. 383," says Pennsylvania for Right to Work President Albin W. Simokat.



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John Barley

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his wife, Jane, have four children.

eight acres of his land were condemned for a landfill, but public pressure and a strong determination by the Barleys won out.

The award recipient farms a total of 1400 acres, of which 650 is owned in partnership with his brother, Abram. Together they own one of the largest dairy operations in Lancaster County. He and

In winning one of the highest awards in the United States Jayces contest, Barley had to compete with other farmers from 43 states and nearly 9000 local communities. Along with the United States Jaycees, who annually administer the OYF Program, John Deere and Company served as sponsor for the 1979 event.

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