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#### Bergland claims concern over farm size

KANSAS CITY, Mo., -Concerned over the trend toward fewer but larger farms, Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland has called for a national dialogue to discuss the future of American agriculture and the family

In remarks prepared for delivery before the National Farmers Union's annual convention here, Bergland said he does not want to see and America "where a hand ful of giant operators own, manage and control the entire food production system.'

"Yet that is where we are headed," he siad, "if we don't act now."

He said control of production is becoming more and more concentrated

on fewer and fewer farms, noting that today 200,000 of the nation's 2.7 million farms control nearly two-thirds of all farm output.

Bergland said the administration's present food and farm policies and programs which serve a production system that is the envy of the world are "remarkedly well geared to the realities of this era."

He said the U.S. farm production system has not only fed America and the rest of the world at reasonable costs, but has been a stabilizing influence in global politics and the world economy, and generally has yielded a fair return to farmers.

But Bergland questioned if

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**Robert Bergland** 

## Deed restriction plan goes to Harrisburg

LANCASTER — Trying to get a unique farmland preservation plan into effect in Lancaster County, a wellknown farmer and conservationist is taking his deed restriction idea to Harrisburg on Tuesday. Amos Funk, a vegetable farmer from Millersville, says enbabling legislation is needed before further action can be taken on the deed restriction idea.

Funk, who has a long history of involvement in land use planning, is one of several men to have developed the concept. The deed restriction is a voluntary plan whereby a farmer can state that he prefers to keep his land in farming. The county will be the enforcing body.

Even though much of the framework has already been

set up, nothing official can take place until an okay is received from Harrisburg. Funk says he'd like to see the

plan go into effect, noting that the present county commissioners support the deed restriction plan. After

the elections, that may not be the case with incoming public officials, he fears.



**Amos Funk** 

Funk and other members of the Lancaster County Farmland Preservation Task Force are concerned about stemming the tide of developments taking place in the Garden Spot. Noting that he is not against growth, but favors guided growth, Funk would like to see some 278,000 Lancaster County acres placed in agricultural preserve districts.

## Lebanon Extension cited for quality

By DIETER KRIEG

SCHAEFFERSTOWN The Lebanon County Cooperative Extension Service last week looked back to an innovative year of progress while focusing attention to the needs of the future. The occasion was their 62nd annual meeting and banquet. It was marked by a variety of presentations, including a report by Marion Deppen from Extension Service headquarters at Penn State University.

Among the more innovative achievements of 1978 were a fire school and the introduction of minicomputers to farm management.

While several staff members of the Lebanon County Extension Service gave reviews of last year's activities, Deppen was



**Marion Deppen** 

perhaps the one who gave isn't all sunshine, however, the best-fitting summary. He said: "You should talk about the Cooperative Extension Service to everyone. The watchword here in Lebanon County is quality."

"The Extension Service is the most effective and largest informal education program in the entire world," the Penn State employee stated.

The story of Extension

Deppen revealed. "The appropriation of public monies per student is less at Penn State than at any other institution receiving such funds," said Deppen. Sixtyseven positions within the Extension Service have been collapsed due to lack of funding. Another 15 positions remain open - possibly to be

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## Eastern looks forward to brighter days

By DIETER KRIEG

BIRD-IN-HAND Members of Eastern Milk Producers Cooperative were given optimistic reports by officers and delegates when they met here at the Bird-in-Hand Restaurant on Monday evening.

Jim Spear, a former president of Syracuse, N.Y. - based dairy co-op, emphasized early in his remarks that Eastern is



Franklin Wagner

and always has been a cooperative that is dedicated to taking care of the farmer. He noted that when independent handlers went out of business, Eastern stepped in to take care of nonmembers, as well as "Some other members. cooperatives haven't even taken care of their own members," the former executive claimed. He now

works closely with membership.

Franklin Wagner, District 8 director, also had complimentary messages, although four major concerns were expressed early in his comments.

His concerns include the new Farm Bill which will be written in October. He is urging farmers to get in touch with congressmen to let them know "what you want in the bill.'

"It behooves us to have input into the Farm Bill," said Wagner, noting that Eastern is already engaged submitting in its suggestions. For example, the 6000-member dairy cooperative has gone on record for favoring that

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# York legislator addresses farm problems



**Bill Goodling** 

By JOYCE BUPP Staff Correspondent SHREWSBURY

Legislation, proposed and current, was the key topic under study as the York County Farmers Association held their Spring meeting last Friday evening at the Shrewsbury Fire Hall.

Over 200 members and guests turned out to hear guest speaker Congressman

William Goodling, who spent a good-sized portion of his talk on the energy situation. He warned that the "American way of life" is becoming difficult to maintain and that the next five years might be especially devastating to energy-intensive farmers.

"The energy crisis is here and it is real," emphasized the congressman. "Even if

gallon, there won't suddenly be an abundance of it. We will be dependent on and at the mercy of our foreign suppliers just as long as we don't produce our own or find alternate energy sources."

Goodling, who serves on international committees and subcommittees, admits that he is embarrassed

gas would go to ten dollars a sometimes when he attends world meetings and has to face statistics that show the United States uses up to 900 per cent more energy by ratio comparison than the 'country sitting next to me."

"And, it's not just that 40 to 45 per cent of foreign oil supplies that we depend on, either," he added, stressing

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