

# Farmers Union takes stand on nuclear power

HARRISBURG — The Pennsylvania Farmers Union Advisory Committee has endorsed Senate Bill 600 as the most logical approach to the use of nuclear power in the Commonwealth. Chairman Forney Longenecker, of Lancaster County, said the bill would preclude much of the confusion and misinformation that accompanied the incident at Three Mile Island while stopping nuclear proliferation until adequate nuclear waste provisions are adopted by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

The bill was sponsored by Sen. Robert Mellow (D-Scranton), and has been assigned to the House Conservation Committee following Senate approval. Passage by the House and

the signature of the Governor would clarify once and for all the responsibility of DER as the primary state agency for nuclear matters in the Commonwealth.

In addition to control and regulatory responsibilities, DER would appoint a resident nuclear engineer for each facility licensed to generate nuclear power. The engineer would continuously monitor radiation levels, reporting the information to the DER, the Governor, and the NRC. After consultation with those same parties, the engineer would have the authority to shut down the facility.

DER also would provide and maintain radiation monitoring devices to function within a 20 mile radius of each reactor or facility.

The resident nuclear engineer would read these automatic recording devices daily, and the radiation levels would be reported to the public on a regular basis.

The costs of both the resident engineer and the monitoring devices would be paid by the power company licensed to operate the facility, not from public funds.

Longenecker said the Farmers Union especially favored the bill's provision to impose a moratorium on the construction or operation of new nuclear facilities until a radioactive waste disposal plan is adopted by the NRC or other agency of the Federal Government. "We were told years ago there were no real problems with nuclear technology, but TMI has taught the public a

different lesson. We must demand a federally approved nuclear waste disposal plan before another single facility starts operation," Longenecker said.

The bill also demands that no additional plants begin operation until the NRC approves standardized plans and specifications for the design and construction of nuclear plants. These standardized plans would be required for all new construction in order to assure the plants are reasonably safe and pose no danger to the health, welfare, and safety to residents of the Commonwealth.

Farmers Union policy opposes increased emphasis on nuclear power plants for the Nation and for Penn-

sylvania. Instead, it would have a national energy policy emphasize research and development of solar, geothermal, wind, methane gas, and renewable energy sources such as gasohol.

Advisory Committee secretary Leonard Zemaitis said, "TMI has shocked many of us out of the belief that giant utility companies always know what's best for

the public. TMI was a real chink in their public relations armor.

"The Farmers Union ultimately favors a public referendum before new nuclear plants can be built, but short of that, SB 600 is a good intermediate step to assure the safety of Pennsylvania's farmers, rural and urban residents," Zemaitis stated.

## Farm Calendar

(Continued from Page 10)

Wilmer Hostetter's, Oxford.

Tuesday, June 12

Five County 4-H Camp, at Camp Nawakwa.

Lancaster County Holstein barn meeting, J. Robert Kindig farm, Conestoga, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 13

York County 4-H capon delivery, pickup 10 a.m. to noon, at the 4-H Center, Bair.

Thursday, June 14

Adams County Holstein Association Twilight Meeting, 7 p.m. at Brown Valley Farm, R1 Littlestown.

Lancaster County Holstein Association barn meeting, Nelson H. Wenger farm, Manheim, 7:30 p.m.

Home economics meeting on safe food preservation at home, 7:30 p.m. at the Hunterdon County Extension Center, Flemington, N.J.

Good-Use 4-H Club of South Christian Street Menonite Church, Lancaster holds first meeting, 10 a.m.

Friday, June 15

Kempton Country Fair, Kempton, Berks County, today through Sunday.

Saturday, June 16

Lancaster County Dairy Princess Pageant, 6:30 p.m. at the Farm and Home Center.

Adams County Dairy Princess Pageant, 8 p.m. at the Biglerville High School auditorium.

Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, Union Counties dairy princess pageant, 7:30 p.m. Susquehanna Valley Mall, Selinsgrove.

York County 4-H Chicken Barbeque, 4-8 p.m.

Sunday, June 17

Dairy Farm Open House at Mat Gordeuk's, Route 519, 1/2 mile south of Baptistown, N.J. in Hunterdon County. Farm open to the public 1-7 p.m.

## Eastern's v.p. says he's proud

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — David Clements, vice president of Eastern Milk Producers Association, Inc., says: "I've seen your association commence to see the light at the end of the tunnel. Policy decisions, benefitting the rank and file membership of this great cooperative, were often made under tremendous pressure and almost impossible circumstances. However, we stood the test. And, with the expertise and efforts of our most effective

management team, we turned the corner and started our climb to new heights as a successful dairy organization."

Clements made the remarks during Eastern's annual meeting, held here this week at the Hotel Syracuse.

"Most of those in management who ease the burden of Eastern Milk Producers while carrying out the policies of this Association, have had many years of experience within

the dairy industry in general and your cooperative in particular," the vice president continued. General Manager Howard McDonald, for example, has been with Eastern for 25 years.

Commenting on the lawsuit by 50 members of Eastern, and offensive articles written by Peter Hardin, a one-time Eastern employee, Clements said:

"These assaults have stimulated our desire to overcome all adversity in

our quest for a stronger cooperative and a better life for our dairy farmer members.

"As I stand here before you today, I feel proud - proud of the kind of people I work for and proud of the kind of people I work with for they are loyal and dedicated men and women who never back down." the dairy cooperative executive concluded.

**MILK**

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# Open House

at

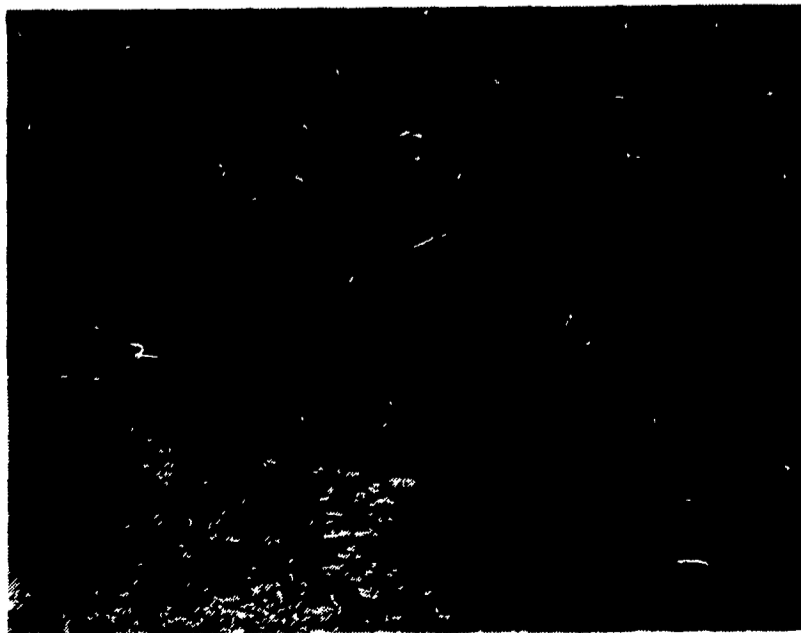
## Ervin & Mary Rutt Farm

Rt. 5, Manheim, PA

Thursday, June 21 • 9 a.m. til 4 p.m.

FEATURING: A 500 head Nebraska style Hog Finishing Building - slatted floor manure pit.

20' x 68' Star Energy-Pak - Building erected by Ervin Rutt Mix-Mill Grinder-Mixer coupled to a High Moisture conveyor and feeding system.



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