

Dairy Federation slams lower parity proposal

SYRACUSE, N.Y. - Edward McNamara, president of Northeast Dairy Cooperative Federation, has voiced strong opposition and concern over a recent statement made by Howard Hjort, director of economics for the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Hjort, in surprise testimony given at a special Senate Hearing in Washington, recommended the support price of milk be set lower than the 80 percent of parity if the Commodity Credit Corporation purchases reach predetermined levels during a stipulated 12-month period.

The statement was made in direct contradiction to a previous position taken by Department Secretary Bob Bergland, which quotes him as being unquestionably in favor of the current 80 percent support level.

"Frankly, this puzzles us," said McNamara, speaking on behalf of the 5,000 member federation. "We never know where the USDA really stands on these important issues from one statement to the next, and, who really makes the decision in the Department these days."

The co-op leader pointed out that there is really no need for a "trigger" type mechanism to balance CCC purchases and production "unless contrary to its previous statements, the Department really is expecting the new trade bill to create an influx of dairy imports, thus upsetting the present favorable relationship between milk production and consumption."

"Furthermore, the support legislation terminates

every two years and can be reviewed at that time," he maintained. "Adjustments can then be made if needed."

"The Department seems to have lost sight of the primary objective of this whole party issue," McNamara continued. "The original reason for proper price support legislation was to maintain an equilibrium between milk supplies and consumer need."

"This basic legislation keeps farm income at a level that will assure adequate supplies of milk. It's that simple," he said. "And 80 percent has been maintaining this balance."

McNamara re-emphasized that the price stability, provided by the dairy price support program, properly administered, is what the country needs to assure adequate supplies at

reasonable costs and by any measurement, whether it be in terms of consumer costs, government expenditures, or farm income, the proper action at this time is to extend the 80 percent of parity minimum price support level, with semi-annual adjustment, at least through

September 30, 1981, if not permanently.

He said NEDCO and all other dairy cooperatives have been telling the administration, as well as the USDA, that dairy farm production costs are continuing their rapid upward spiral and it is absolutely

essential that farm prices keep pace with these increases.

"If we fail to do this, even more producers will be forced out of business, creating short supplies, higher prices and a frustrated consumer," he cautioned.

West Chester Extension plans holiday meeting

WEST CHESTER — The Chester County Extension Service is planning a meeting on Tuesday, November 13, 1979 from 10 a.m. until 2:15 p.m. The day's program will take place at the Church of the Good Samaritan, 212 W. Lancaster Avenue, Paoli.

The day's events include topics on consumer selection of beef, ideas for maintaining a good image, and decorating tips for the home during the holiday season.

Cheryl A. Moran, Chester County Agricultural Agent will discuss the question "Does It Pay to Purchase the Lower Price Wholesale Cuts as Opposed to the Higher Price Cuts of Beef?" "Thirty-nine and Holding"

is the subject of Ruth M. Hand, Extension Home Economist, Schuylkill County presentation. This will help one adjust to change with a sense of humor and an upbeat attitude.

Opportunity to share your favorite confectionary recipes and contribute to a dessert taste table will be planned with the Candies and Miniature Sweets Exchange. Please send the recipe along with the registration and bring a batch of confections to the meeting.

Christmas Imaginations will be presented by Mabel Donato and Helen Muller of West Chester. They will

demonstrate Victorian Christmas ornaments, decorations from natural and recyclable materials.

There will be time to participate in one of three workshops conducted by Chester County homemakers. The choice of workshops will be: Corn Husk Novelties by Ruth Lafferty, Hockessin; Quilling by Dorothy Johnson, Downingtown; and Recycled Metal Ornaments by Mabel Donato and Helen Muller, West Chester.

The events will be open to all who are interested. The Pennsylvania Cooperative Extension Service offers educational programs and materials without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, or religion and is also an equal opportunity employer.

To register, call or write the Extension Office, 235 W. Market Street, West Chester, 696-3500. There is a small fee to cover the costs for luncheon and program. Deadline for registration will be Tuesday, November 6, 1979.

Keep the yard safe for trick or treaters

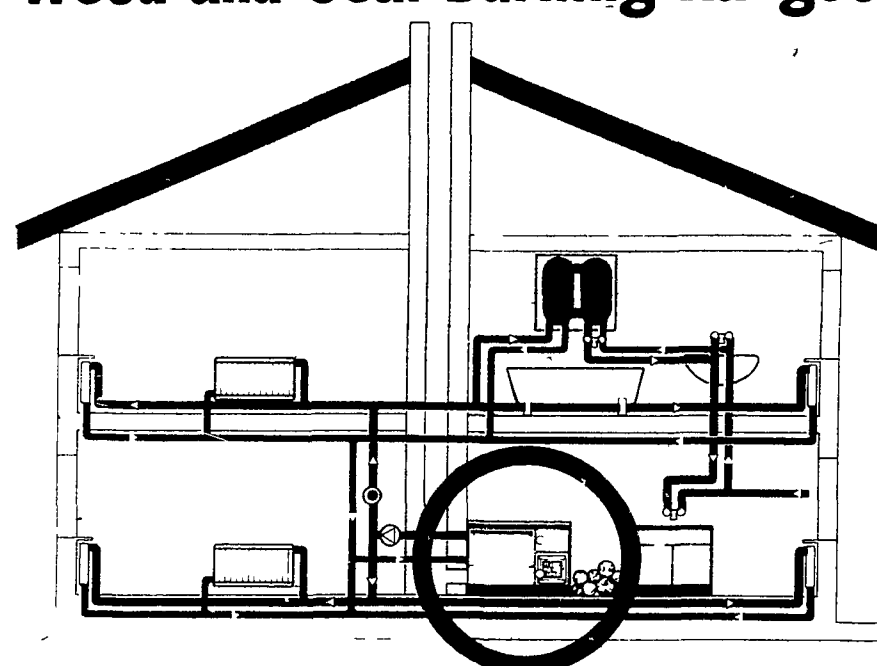
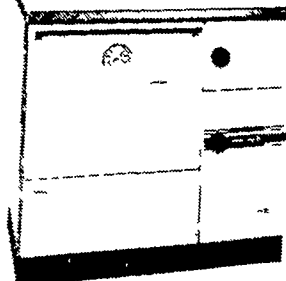
NORRISTOWN - On Halloween night, parents should be sure their children are safely costumed, and follow a well-lighted, predetermined route. Adequate outside lighting is one essential to guide trick or treaters safely to and from the front door.

A yard clean up is another good idea. Tools, toys, stray trikes and bikes should be

picked up and properly stored. Clear any wet leaves from steps and walkways. They can be as slippery underfoot as ice.

Make sure the treats given to the little witches and goblins are safe, also. Select items that are properly wrapped and will withstand the door to door travels of the children.

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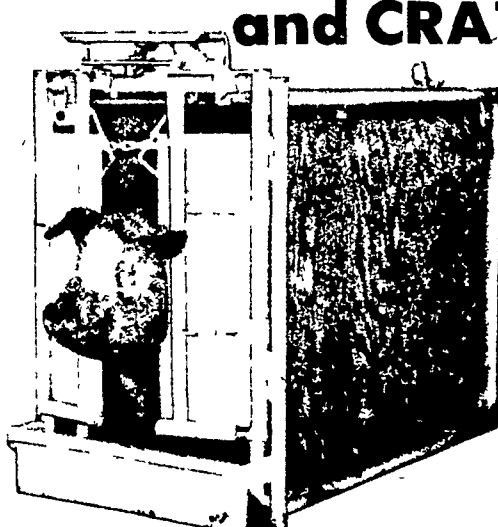
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