

Grange OKs security proposal, supports dealer financing

HARRISBURG — The Dairy Committee of the Pennsylvania State Grange adopted policy in support of a dealer-financed Milk Producers Security Fund in a special meeting in Harrisburg Tuesday.

"It was the consensus of the Committee that the Grange should support a Milk Security Fund financed by the milk dealers at the

rate of two cents per hundred weight (cwt) of milk received from farmers," said Charles Wismer, Master of the State Grange.

The newly-appointed Committee deliberated on the Security Fund issue for the better part of the day, hearing testimony from milk dealers, cooperatives, and state government.

It was Master Wismer's

intent to arrive at a policy with a Committee that was truly representative of Pennsylvania dairy farmers.

As a result, each of the major milk cooperatives, as well as several independent shippers, were represented.

Also in attendance at the meeting were several dairy farmer members of the State Grange's Legislative,

Agricultural and Executive Committee.

Outside speakers to the group included Henry R. Geisinger, of the Pennsylvania Association of Milk Dealers. Reno Thomas, Chairman of the State House Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee, and State Secretary of Agriculture Penrose Hallowell, and several representatives of

the state's major milk cooperatives.

Other measures relating to the Security Fund called for by the Grange included 100 percent payment to the dairy farmer from the fund.

This contrasts, in part, to the Administration proposal which calls for a 90 percent payment.

Another area of disagreement with the Administration proposal centers around the amount of payment. The Administration proposal calls for a one cent per hundred weight payment, while the Grange's version, requires a two cent per hundred weight payment.

Early payment for milk received was yet another area of concern to the Grangers.

"If a farmer received payment for his milk three times a month, instead of twice a month, the amount

necessary in a Milk Security Fund would not be as high," said Wismer.

Citing the Community Nutrition Institute's petition for reconstituted milk to be dropped from Class I sales as a major threat to the Federal Milk Order system, the Grange denied the CNI's claim that the practice is "aggravating the effects of food price inflation." "No other commodity has contributed less to food price inflation than milk has," said the State Grange Master.

The State Grange further stated it would seek a 120-day extension on the proposed hearing date, to allow the dairy sector to study the full impact of the CNI's proposal.

Other issues discussed at the meeting included the Milk Marketing Board, and the Beef Referendum for promotion and Research.



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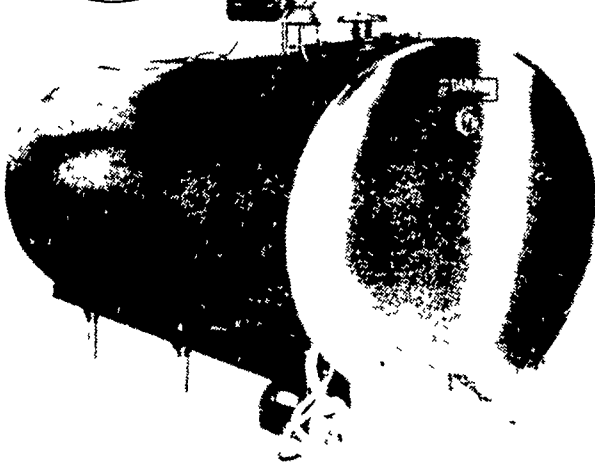
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Stockmans club names 1980 officers

HARRISBURG — Peter Krall, of Catasauqua, Northampton County was elected president of the Penn State Stockman's Club during their winter meeting held January 8 in conjunction with the Farm Show in Harrisburg.

Tony Dobrosky, of Glen Rock, York County, was elected vice-president.

Newly appointed to three-year terms as directors of the club were Ron Bolze, Loysville, Perry County; Jim Hogue, York Springs, Adams County; and Don Nichols, of State College.

James M. Beattie, Dean of the College of Agriculture at Penn State told the group the college has raised one-third of the funds needed in its campaign to build an agricultural arena at the school.

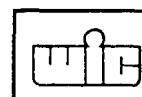
"It's one of the critical

needs of the college right now," Beattie explained. The agricultural arena would house the Little International Livestock Exposition and Dairy Show, the Horticulture Show and 4-H and FFA conventions and activities.

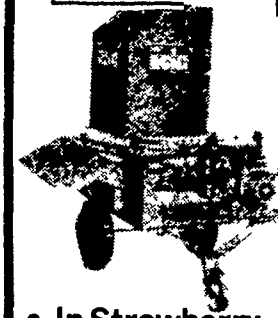
The Stockman's Club has scheduled its spring meeting for April 25 at the Pine Grove Mills Lion Park, before the Little International Livestock Exposition in University Park on April 26.

The Penn State Stockman's Club is an alumni association of the Pennsylvania State University College of Agriculture.

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