

Grange reluctantly supports embargo

WASHINGTON, D.C. — While many farm organizations have responded negatively to the President's embargo on the shipment of food and feed grains to the Soviet Union, the country's oldest and second largest farm group, the Grange, has expressed "reluctant" support.

Edward Andersen, Master of the National Grange, said, "While the Grange does not agree with the President's decision, the decision was made and now is the time to expend our energies on ideas

to protect the economic condition of U.S. farmers."

He said, "The Grange does not like using agricultural commodities as a foreign policy tool, but we dislike naked aggression even more."

Grange support is also based on the Administration's assurance that the U.S. government will purchase the remaining 17 million metric tons of grain originally intended to be sold to the Soviet Union.

In a letter to President Carter, Andersen stated that

because the economic outlook for farmers in the foreseeable future has become questionable, the Grange feels there is a need for immediate administrative and legislative changes in both current and future farm programs.

In the area of target and loan rates, Andersen called

for increasing target and loan rates for the 1979, 1980 and 1981 crops of wheat and feed grains and increasing the loan rate on soybeans for the same period. He recommended the government establish a diversion program of 10 to 15 percent for wheat and feed grains for 1980.

Under the current reserve program, Andersen suggested the release and call price on wheat and feed grains, establishing a mid-point price halfway between the release price and call price at which time interest would be charged on the loan, increase the amount of wheat and feed grains that

can be placed in the reserve and establish a reserve program for soybeans.

Andersen also suggested that an International Grain Reserve be established by direct government purchases from the market and that shipments under P.L. 480 be increased.

Montour Co. elects District officers

DANVILLE — Election of officers and the addition of two projects highlighted a special meeting of the Montour County Conservation District.

Re-elected chairman for his fourth term was Walter B. Loncosky. For the first time in board history, two vice chairmen were elected. Earl Harris and Eugene Billhume will serve in these capacities.

The offices of secretary and treasurers were combined for 1980 with Paulette Rishel elected to the position. Meeting dates were tentatively set for the second Thursday of each month.

On the recommendation of

Ed Kremer, county commissioner member of the district board, directors added two major projects to their program.

The board will explore the possibilities of an alternate solution for county solid waste disposal. Kremer pointed out transportation costs of a regional facility would push consumer prices to an unreasonable level and waster energy.

Also added as a objective was a water resources project addressing the quality of potable water for county residents.

Of particular concern was Danville's water supply, taken from the Susquehanna

River downstream from both the nuclear generating facility under construction near Berwick and toxic

chemicals entering the river from abandoned mine shafts in the Scranton area.

U. S. urges soybean boycott of U.S.S.R.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — On January 14, The United States today asked for cooperation from Argentina and Brazil in not shipping soybeans and soybean products to the Soviet Union to offset exports suspended by the United States, according to Thomas R. Saylor, associate administrator of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agricultural Service.

The request was made at a meeting of U.S. officials and representatives of the other two countries, who will convey the message to their respective governments, Saylor said.

He said the U.S. asked that the other two countries limit their exports to the Soviet Union to normal trade levels and suggested that the three

countries exchange information on exports and trade flows.

Brazil's exports of soybeans to the Soviet Union have reached as high as 1 million tons in years past. Exports from Argentina, where soybeans have been a minor crop until very recently, have been negligible.

U.S. export sales to the Soviet Union before the suspension were 1.4 million tons of soybeans, 400,000 tons of meal and 70,000 tons of oil. The suspension will result in a reduction in these exports from the U.S. of 740,000 tons of soybeans, all of the meal, and 30,000 tons of oil.

The U.S. provides 57 percent of world grain exports, according to the United Nations.

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(Continued from Page D8)

80	GH	17,952	4 1	737
Walter Keller	RH	19,990	3 5	700
169				
Noah Zeiset	RH	16,350	4 2	682
Pearl				
Mark Slagenweit, Jr	GH	20,673	3 9	810
Betsy				
Revere Smith	GH	22,029	3 7	825
12	GH	22,208	3 6	799
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John Keithley	GH	19,984	3 8	755
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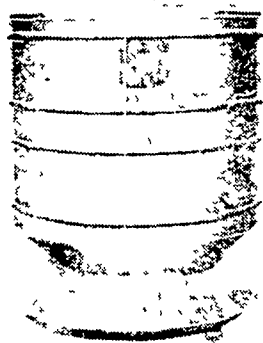
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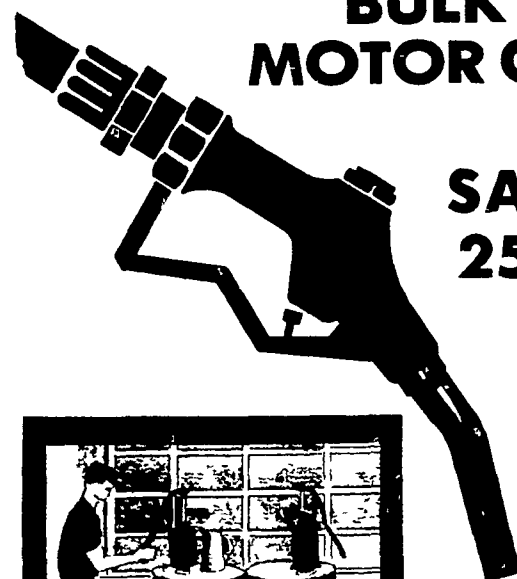
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