



Eastern officers elected

Officers of New Holland Local, District 8, Eastern Milk Producers for the coming year include, from the left, Harvey Sauder, R1 New Holland, alternate delegate; Robert E. Martin, R3 New Holland, president; Raymond Wenger, Lititz, delegate; Daniel Martin, R2 Quarryville, secretary; and Mervin Weaver, Lititz, vice president. Also named an officer at the Local's annual meeting held on March 6 was Leroy Smoker, R3 New Holland, treasurer.

Task force to advise on mechanization research

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland last Wednesday announced the membership of a special task force formed to advise USDA on current and future mechanization research.

Bergland said the task force will recommend criteria and procedures for objective evaluation of the economic, social, environmental and labor displacement impacts of current and future federally-funded agricultural mechanization research projects.

He said USDA plans to undertake the evaluations in 1980 and that the task force will recommend how they should be carried out. The task force will also review completed evaluations to see if they meet the criteria and provide an objective basis for use by research administration in making decisions about mechanization research involving federal expenditures.

The task force will place a

special emphasis on mechanization research that may result in large-scale displacement of labor, Bergland said. The results of the group's evaluation also will be made available to directors of agricultural experiment stations to consider as they manage their research programs.

Task force members were drawn from the standing membership of the National Agricultural Research and Extension Users Advisory Board and the Joint Council on Food and Agricultural Sciences.



Berks ASC attend seminar

LEESPORT — Members of the Berks County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee recently attended a seminar in administrative development at Riveredge.

Along with about thirty other farmer-elected committee members, Mark Balthaser, chairperson, of R1, Bernville, Donald Lutz, vice chairperson of R1, Mohrsville, and Lester Gelsinger, regular member of R1, Robesonia, discussed methods to better serve the agricultural community through the ASC Committee system.

The seminars were designed to achieve better public service through efficient management, to better serve the farmer during the day-to-day operations of the county office; to increase committee members' understanding of the agency's role and mission; to improve committee members' problem-solving and management skills and to increase program participation through improved public relations.

The County Committee system of ASCS is a unique system within government.

Committee members are elected to a job of public trust that allows them a highly efficient and effective method of administering farm programs.

The agency and the

Department recognize the importance of the committee system and the need to give adequate and continuing training in decision-making and problem-solving techniques to committee members.

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