

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

The article entitled Airport Zoning leaves Lebanon farmers up in air by Sheila Miller in the April 5 issue of Lancaster Farming contains some statements which need clarification.

"If a farmer wants to expand his farm, he has to buy more land. If a man wants to expand an airport, he should have to buy some more land too," commented Joe Eckenrode, a South Londonderry Township farmer. The truth is airport zoning does not call for land expansion.

Pennsylvania State Laws Relating to Aviation, Act of April 17, 1945 P.L. 237 states that an airport hazard area means any area of land or water upon which an airport hazard might be established if not prevented as provided for in this law. The

newspaper article states that fifty acres of the Brandt farm lie in this area. This statement is in error.

Runway approaches must be kept clear on the basis of a 20:1 glide ratio. The planes do not fly directly above the farm buildings. The farm buildings are not in the direct path of either landing or take-off and no planes at an altitude of 35 feet ever fly near the buildings.

The noise of the single engine airplanes present no competition to the continuous grating hum of the highway traffic of trucks, cars, motorcycles and other vehicles; or to the chop-chop of the helicopters which operate out of Fort Indiantown Gap and land at the National Guard Building south of Palmdale and Palmyra. Donald Hoffer need not worry about the

noise of small airplane engines causing his cattle to stampede.

Airport zoning will not affect the height of silos possibly to be constructed in the future. As it is presently zoned the height limit is 35 feet. This fact again nixes Donald Hoffer's concern.

In regard to Joe Eckenrode's remark about lighting, the runway lights are on during hours of darkness with special threshold lights.

Harold Brandt has voiced opposition to Reigle Airport through out the past forty years - ever since the airport was built and put into operation. His latest venture was to solicit and collect signatures for his support against a zoning change.

The farmers are confused. Eckenrode, Hoffer and others expressed concern that a zoning change might encroach on the agricultural use of the land. No so; the truth is it would serve to preserve farm land. Airport zoning is in effect in Bethel Township. It poses no adverse effects on surrounding land.

Another correction: Reigle Airport is a commercially licensed public

Firm pays \$1500 fine in seed case

TANGENT, Or. — An Oregon seed company, Nomarc, Inc., has paid \$1500 to the U.S. Department of Agriculture to settle a case of alleged violations of the Federal Seed Act. The act, administered by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, is a truth-in-labeling law that protects farmers and consumers who buy seed.

The firm, located in Tangent, Ore., agreed to the settlement but neither admitted nor denied the charges.

The case involved four shipments of tall fescue, perennial ryegrass and white clover seeds into Connecticut and Florida in 1977. Three shipments into Connecticut were reshipped by another firm into Massachusetts and Rhode Island where they were officially sampled.

The alleged violations, while not the same for all shipments, were: false

labeling of purity, germination and hard seed percentages and the presence of noxious weed seeds; failure to properly label grass seed mixtures; mislabeling of the kind of

variety name and failure to keep required records.

Seed regulatory officials in Massachusetts, Florida and Rhode Island, cooperated with AMS on the investigations.

Conservation book

ANKENY, Ia. — A new book, published by the Soil Conservation Society of America, examines the current state of affairs in soil and water conservation programs.

Soil Conservation Policies: An Assessment contains a comprehensive review of soil conservation efforts over the past four decades, an evaluation of how effective existing training programs are, and possible strategies for shaping more effective programs in the future.

The book is based on material presented at the

November 1979 National Conference on Soil Conservation Policies sponsored by the Society in cooperation with the National Association of Conservation Districts and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Its 20 chapters present a cross-section of current thinking about soil conservation efforts from the federal, state, and local points of view.

Single copies of the book are \$6.50, postpaid. A discount is available on purchases of 10 or more copies.

Dairy leaders meet

(Continued from Page A18)

supply of reasonably priced milk to consumers," he said.

Those at the meeting all said they would encourage farmers at home to contact their congressmen and take what Stoner called "a gentleman-like approach" to kill the CNI hearings.

They said they felt a hearing on the CNI proposal is neither required nor necessary.

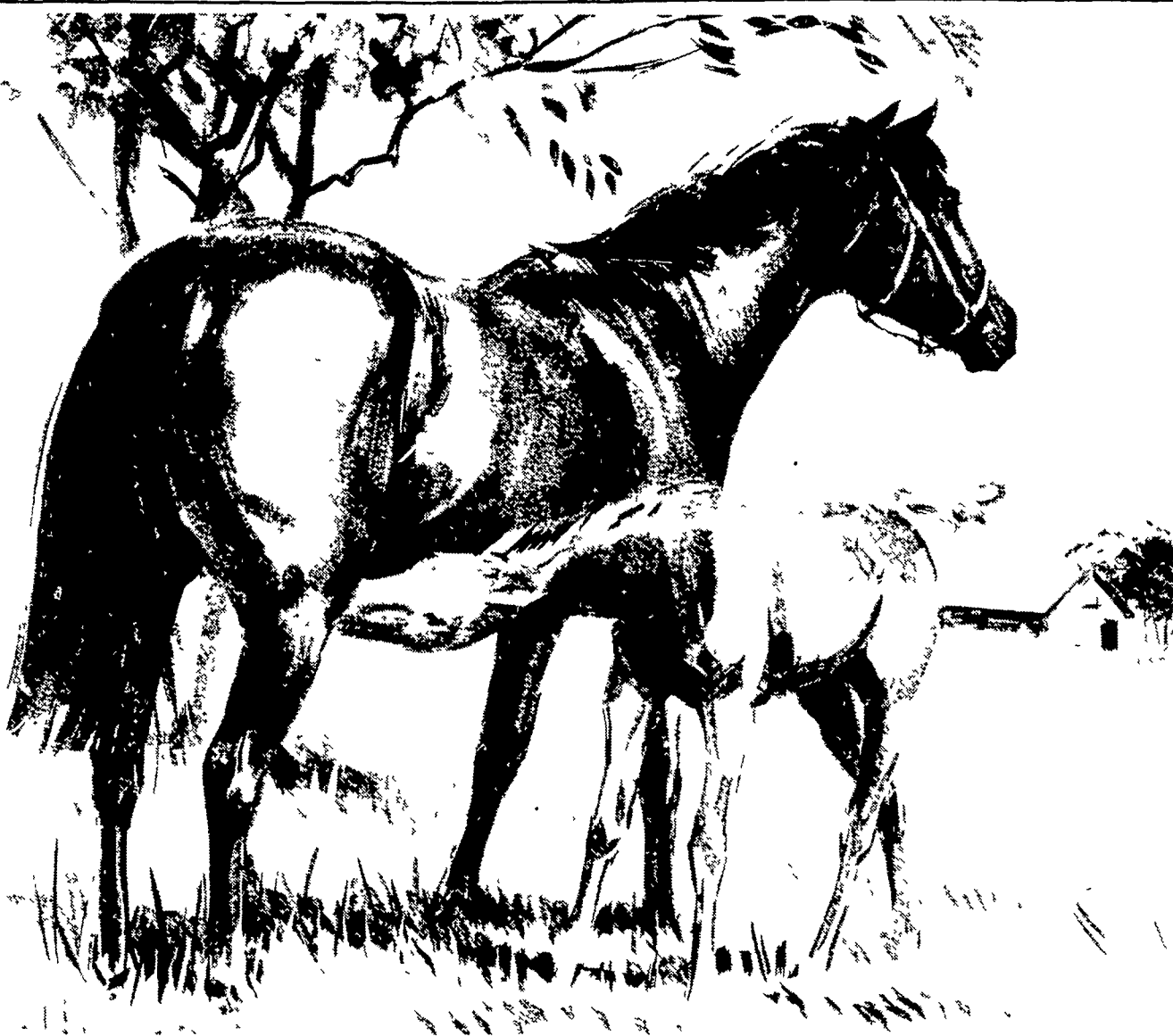
They said the purpose for the federal milk marketing orders is as valid today as it was in 1937 when they were established.

They also said milk is being marketed under

federal milk marketing orders in accordance with the Act of 1937 and charges that a lower-cost alternative to fluid milk is being eliminated from commerce by federal milk marketing orders can not be substantiated.

Future meetings of the dairy committee probably will center on problems other than the CNI proposal.

Among the hot topics which probably will be raised at the summer meeting are dairy prices and the potential for one giant federal order for the whole United States, Skiles said.



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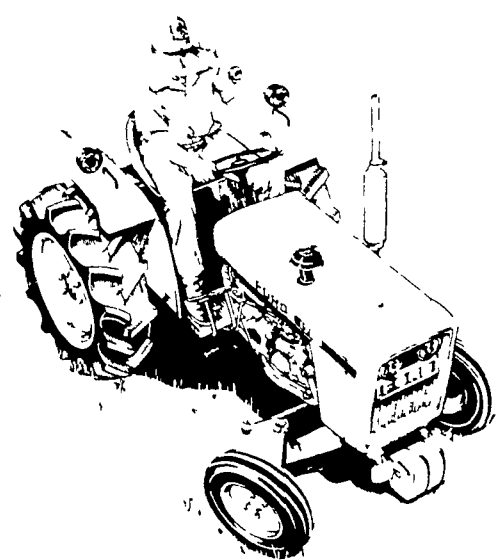
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