

Legislative meeting

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planting, harvesting, refrigerating crops, and transporting them to market.

He said farmers need high priority for fuel in times of shortage.

He also called for more research in energy.

Labeling current milk bonding laws "a disruptive element in the industry," Gayman told legislators the present Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board bond is totally inadequate.

He said PFA supports full coverage of milk payment lost due to a dealer's bankruptcy, and said that PFA sees a two cent dealer contribution rate as

"necessary."

He said current legislation written with a one cent dealer contribution is insufficient. He said the fund could be bankrupt before it ever got off the ground.

"A two cent contribution is necessary," he concluded.

Gayman also asked for enhanced marketing and bargaining legislation.

"Farmers need to be given the opportunity to sit down with the handler to negotiate terms and prices for the commodity that they're selling," Gayman said.

In addition to the speeches, farmers had the chance to talk one-on-one with their legislators at the Capital and express



With Senator Richard Snyder, far left, were Bud Dean, Strasburg; Representative Noah Wenger,

Stevens; Aaron Stauffer, Ephrata; Don Ranck, Paradise; and Gerald Erb, Mt. Joy.

Cattle on feed drops slightly

HARRISBURG — Pennsylvania cattle feeders had 68,000 cattle and calves on feed April 1, 1980 for slaughter market, down six percent from last year, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service.

Marketings of fed cattle during the January-March quarter of 21,000 were down 19 percent from the same quarter a year earlier. Placements of cattle and calves on feed during the January-March quarter totaled 12,000, 29 percent less than the same quarter last year.

Expected marketings during the April-June quarter, if realized at 30,000, would be three percent more than were marketed during the same period a year ago.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the 23 states on April 1, 1980 totaled 10.2 million head. This number was down eight percent from the same date in 1979 and is 13 percent less than two years ago.

Placements during January-March were 5.22 million, 11 percent fewer

than in the corresponding quarter in 1979 and 20 percent less than the first quarter of 1978.

Other disappearance of 572,000 leaves net placements of 4.65 million.

Marketings of fed cattle for slaughter during January-March totaled 6.16 million, down nine percent from the same period in both 1979 and 1978.

Cattle feeders expect to market 5.91 million head during the April-June quarter of 1980. This would be four percent less than second quarter marketings in 1979 and 11 percent below the same period in 1978.

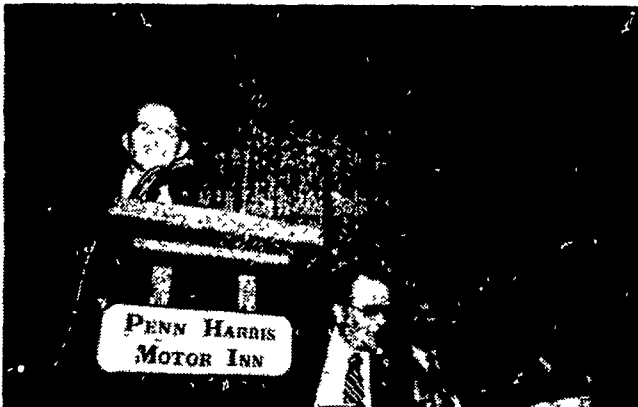


positions on issues of local and state-wide concern.

In addition to representatives of predominantly rural districts, at least two Philadelphia lawmakers were present to hear the farmer's story.

The topics addressed by Thompson and Gayman

were among the most common discussed. But local concerns, including spraying of municipal waste on farm land in Montgomery County; a proposed landfill in Bradford County; and land preservation in Lancaster County also were discussed.—CH



PFA Vice President Eugene Gayman addressed about 470 people at the banquet as PFA President Eugene Thompson, Dick Newpher, Secretary of Agriculture Penrose Hallowell, and Legislative Affairs Director Al Myers listened.

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