

Lehigh asks milk price boost at Scranton hearing

SCRANTON — Lehigh Valley Farmers urged an increase in prices to dairymen at a hearing held last Thursday in Scranton.

The cooperative's vice president in charge of member relations, John C. York, testified on behalf of the co-op's membership urging an increase in the class 1 price of \$.18 per cwt.

York said, "The current level of prices to dairy farmers in the area has not been sufficient to assure a viable dairy farm enterprise."

His testimony indicated that in the Northeastern region of the state 230 dairy farms discontinued operations from the period 1975 through 1978. He further pointed out there was a reduction of 2400 dairy cows for the same period in the same area.

York said the full impact of inflation has not yet been totally felt by the dairy farmers.

This year's effect of inflation will break the back of many existing dairymen. In a time when energy supplies are short and costly, then need, for producing milk where it is consumed is essential and basic. This area cannot depend upon supplies of milk from the Midwest or any other distant region, he said.

Skyrocketing costs of feed, fuel, and machinery, along with other necessary milk production items, hit by inflation, is reducing dairy farmers' ability to continue. Dairy farm families are sacrificing as a result of this situation York said.

What does this all mean to America — once known as a land of abundance? It simply

means a need of greater awareness by the general public of the real issues down on the farm, he said.

We must not wait until that

final moment when food is not available at any price. Food and water are the most necessary items in the preservation of human life. Agricultural facts must be

related through all lines of communications to the non-farm consumers, he said.

There must be a complete understanding of our

nation's farm problems to impede an impending food crises. The decade of the 80's will see that crises if the current trend is to continue, York concluded.

Order 2 promotion plan again receives approval

NEW YORK, N.Y. — A plan whereby dairy farmers contribute money for milk promotion activities of the American Dairy Association and Dairy Council, Inc., was again approved Monday by Thomas A. Wilson, Market Administrator, New York-New Jersey Milk Marketing Area.

These milk promotion

activities include advertising, nutrition education, publicity for dairy products, marketing and product research, and informational services.

Noting that New York and New Jersey have mandatory milk promotion plans, the Market Administrator stated that no dairy farmer will be subject to deduction

under this program if he is making mandatory contributions under a state plan.

Wilson said that the action allows handlers regulated by the marketing orders to send "positive letters" to their dairy farmers suppliers.

A dairy farmer who receives a letter will be considered to approve for one year deductions of eight cents per hundredweight from his monthly milk checks, unless he notifies his handler in writing that no deduction should be made.

Money deducted from payments for milk delivered on or after June 1, 1980, will be paid directly by the handler to the American Dairy Association and Dairy Council, Inc.

The Market Administrator

explained that participation is voluntary for both handlers and producers, and a participating producer may have deductions stopped at any time by notifying the handler. A producer who does not want to participate and who receives no letter need not notify his handler since no deductions will be made.

In approving the plan for the coming year, Wilson pointed out there has been no substantial opposition to the use of the positive letter procedure by producers.

Use of the positive letter approach was requested by Dairy Lea Cooperative Inc., Eastern Milk Producers Cooperative Association, Inc., and Northeast Dairy Cooperative Federation, Inc.

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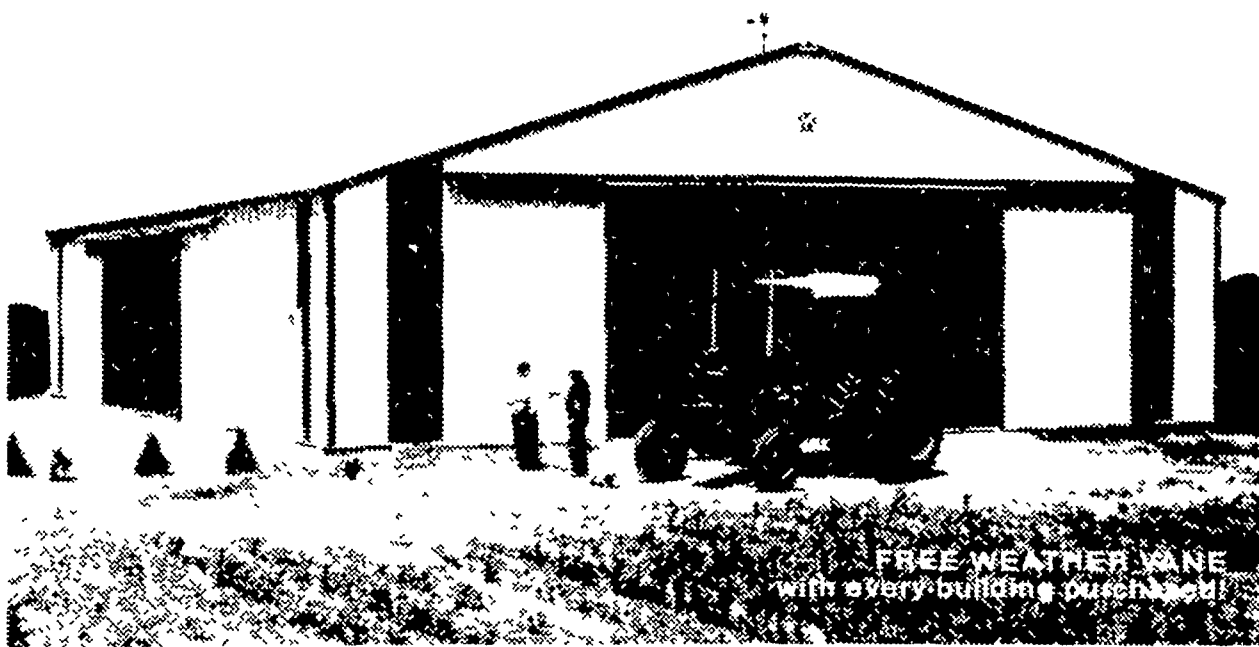
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York Co. 4-H Council holds family night

YORK — Vice-president Lisa Dobrosky presided over the June 4 York County 4-H Council meeting.

Roy Thompson and Sue Janney led the American and 4-H Pledges respectively.

On June 6 Family Movie Night was held in conjunction with the Strawberry Round Up. The movie shown was "The One And Only, Genuine, Original Family Band" At intermission,

popcorn, strawberries, and ice cream were served.

Leadership Congress will be held on June 23-25.

The 4-H Chicken B-B-Q will be held at the center on June 21.

4-H camp will be held from June 10 to 13.

Our July 2 meeting will be a slide presentation with refreshments served by Airville and Davidsburg Clubs.

Kempton fair

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Scads of food — much of it homemade and hearty — the midway, bingo, but most of all, the location nestled among fresh verdant hills, or make this country fair a real and wholesome experience.

Admission is \$2.50 per carload daily (no restriction on the number of passengers which encourages energy conservation). All entertainment in the fair is free and will go on as scheduled,

rain or shine.

The Kempton County Fair can be reached from Rt. 22 either on Rt. 143, north of the Hamburg interchange, or 737, north of the Kutztown exit. It is located about 25 miles west of Allentown and 35 miles north of Reading. For information, interested persons may call or write the Kempton Community Center, Box 42, Kempton, Pa. 19529.

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