

## License relinquished by dealer in Franklin

**BY DICK ANGLESTEIN**  
HARRISBURG — A Franklin County livestock dealer has voluntarily relinquished his license to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture for a period of two years and has agreed to cooperate in the tracing of brucellosis-infected dairy animals.

Relinquishing of the dealership license involves Arthur Ray Mellott, of R2 St. Thomas, Franklin County, and his son, Gregory, who acts as agent in the livestock business.

The voluntary action by the Mellotts came in the

wake of a scheduled PDA hearing this week into whether the license should be revoked. The hearing had been scheduled for Thursday.

"There was no longer a need for the hearing to be held," according to John Childe, of the PDA legal staff.

The revocation hearing was to be concerned with 14 separate transactions involving brucellosis animals. Also involved was the lack of proper maintenance of records by the Mellotts.

The PDA's Bureau of Animal Industry began its

investigation in April, according to Dr. John Dick, head of the Bureau's Cattle Division. Some of the transactions involved as many as four different dealers as the animals were passed through before reaching farms.

Twenty herds have been quarantined in the state trace-back of animals. They include seven in Lancaster County, two in Chester, three in Berks, one in Lehigh, three in Cumberland, one in Butler, one in Indiana, one in Lebanon and one in Union.

All but one involve dairy animals.

In late August, the Bureau called a special meeting in Harrisburg to discuss the brucellosis outbreak with concerned farmers, including representatives of Berks, Chester, Delaware, Lancaster, Lebanon and Lehigh county farmers' associations.

Testing rules for out-of-state animals are due to be tightened next month.

According to Dr. Dick, PDA regulations will now be the same for both states which certify brucellosis-free animals and those which don't.

Regulation will now require that all animals coming into Pennsylvania come from herds having blood or milk ring tests 90 days prior to shipping and then again within 30 days. Previously, animals from certified brucellosis-free states only needed one negative test within 30 days of shipment.

The new stiffer regulations are similar to those imposed by the USDA a few years ago concerning Canadian imports.

Meanwhile, farmers buying dairy livestock are urged to require health charts from dealers and to buy only from herds known to be free of brucellosis. The PDA also recommends that herd replacements be isolated and tested immediately and then retested after 60 days. Calfhood vaccination is also recommended.

## Berks Farmers' Assn. to hold annual meeting

READING — The 30th Annual Meeting of the Berks County Farmers' Association will be held Friday, October 3, 1980 at the Sheraton Berkshire Inn at 7 p.m.

Purpose of the session is to elect directors and adopt policies for the general farm organization which has 1151 family members.

"Our Association has been gathering policy suggestions at some twenty meetings throughout the county," commented President John K. Kooker, Jr., "and these will be submitted to the total membership for consideration."

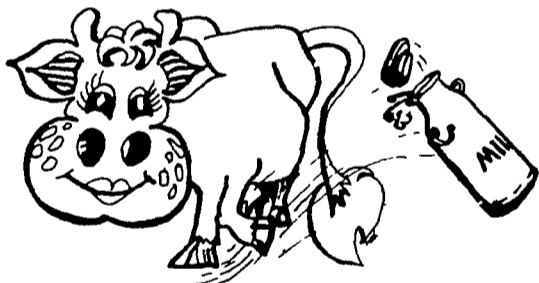
Some of the policies recommended for consideration are: (1) Import restrictions on mushroom imports; (2) Antibiotic tolerance in milk; (3) School property tax reform; (4)

Ethyl-Alcohol production; (5) Transportation improvement, plus many other important issues.

"It is important that all members strongly consider attending this meeting to aid in deciding the direction of agriculture in Pennsylvania through the efforts of this general farm organization," said Kooker.

"Policy development chairman, John Koch, has put together a program that gives every farmer an opportunity to voice his or her opinion and concern about farming today," continued Kooker, "and we owe it to John Koch to turn out and honor that effort."

Persons interested in dinner tickets should contact Mrs. William A. Moore, R1, Box 282, Myerstown, 17067. Deadline for ticket reservations is September 26.



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## Now Is The Time

(Continued from Page A10)

ground. Teach everyone how to call for help in case of fire or other emergencies. Take time now to plan your family's safety.

### TO BEWARE OF FROSTED CROPS

The reports of snow and freezing temperatures in some parts of our country indicates that fall is just around the corner. This will

be good news to many of us who have had enough of the very hot, humid weather of this summer. Livestock producers who have fields of sudan grass, or one of the sudan-sorghum hybrids, should keep in mind that when frost hits these crops they could be toxic to livestock for 7 days following the freeze. After this period,

and the plants are dead, they may be used safely. However, any growth coming from the plant after a killing frost might also be toxic. Another frost hazard would be to permit livestock to graze alfalfa or clover stands while the frost is still on the plants. This can cause severe bloating. Allow the frost to melt and the plants to dry before grazing the area. Good management is needed on various forage crops after a killing frost.

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