

Eastern hears outlook if Carter is re-elected

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Eastern Milk Producers learned this week that President Carter's Re-election Committee does not plan to prepare papers on agricultural policy but rather will run on the record of the past four years.

Officials of the 4000 dairy farmer organization met with Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, Jim Webster, regarding prospective farm policy of a re-elected Jimmy Carter administration in Washington, D.C. A similar meeting was held last month with representatives of Republican presidential candidate, Ronald Reagan.

Howard McDonald, Eastern's General Manager, observed that no major change of agricultural policy seems to be forthcoming from the Carter Administration at this time.

Webster indicated the administration's support for the 80 percent of parity floor on milk price supports.

However, Joseph Mathis, the cooperative's Economist, noted that new legislation will be required as the 1977 amendments will expire on September 30 of this year. Undoubtedly,

according to Mathis, the mood of Congress has had some impact on this apparent change in attitude by Secretary of Agriculture, Bergland and others.

"Should this change after the election in November, it will be interesting to see what pressures are brought to bear on the dairy industry to change the milk price support program under the 1981 Agricultural Act", said Mathis.

McDonald reported the Administration's present support of farmer cooperatives and the Capper-Volstead Act would likely continue as well as general support for the Federal Milk Marketing Order Program.

The Assistant Secretary of Agriculture indicated that the Carter administration will undertake a study of imports and if warranted will ask to reopen the investigation of the casein issue.

Casein is a milk derivative and a subsidized agricultural commodity which appears to be undermining the support program, the price structure and the market for dairy

products. Webster stated that some form of quota, countervailing duty, or other restraint may be imposed.

Although there appears to be no major shift in the Administration's policy on the School Lunch and the School Milk Programs, Mathis believes that these programs will continue to be used as political footballs as they have throughout much of their existence.

McDonald summed up the meeting by saying that "The Carter Administration will likely continue to be supportive of the agricultural policies we have experienced during the past four years".

He further stated that regardless of who wins the presidential election in

November, the climate will change thereafter and Eastern and other agricultural organizations will have to actively pursue their interests in the continuing process of agricultural policy formation in the months to come.

Others in attendance from Eastern's delegation included the cooperative's president, Stanley Korona, from Amsterdam, New York, Director Victor Brooks, Warwic, New York, Arden Tewksbury, an assistant to McDonald, and Leo Connor, Director from Bridport, Vermont, who had arranged the session through Vermont Senator Patrick Leahy.

Springtown 4-H to elect officers

SPRINGTOWN — At 7:30 p.m. on Friday, October 3 the Springtown 4-H Club will meet in the Springtown Firehouse for the election of officers for 1980-81.

After a short business meeting, the club and guests will view the twenty minute color movie The Story of Hoover Dam.

Young people ages 8 to 19

are invited to attend this meeting and learn what 4-H is all about. Those who begin attending this month can become members in time to participate in projects for Spring Roundup.

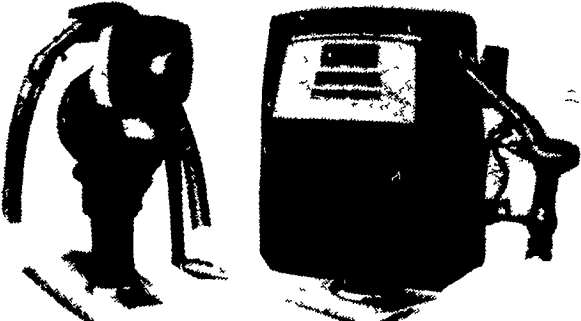
The club's annual Halloween party will be held during the November 7 meeting.

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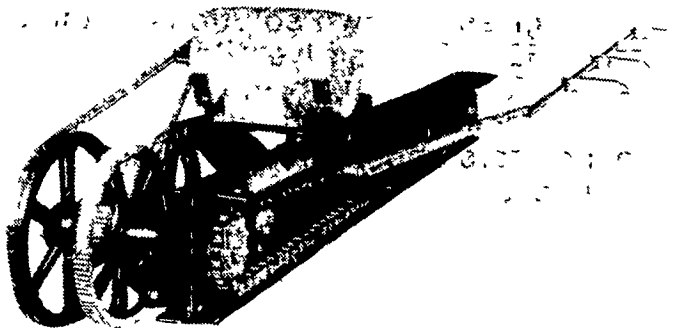
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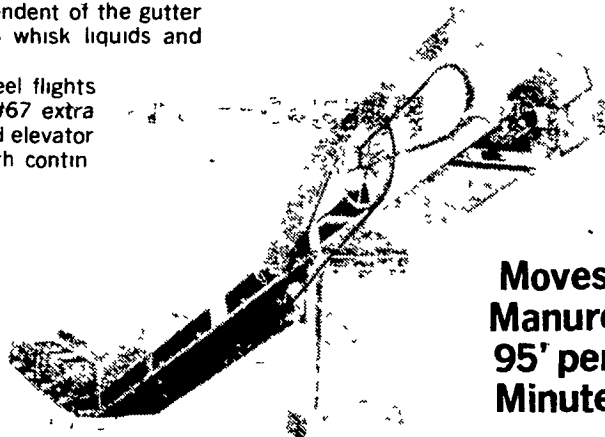
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