



# Farm Talk

Jerry Webb

Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland recently found himself in the awkward position of sounding like he was against agricultural research. At least that part of it that deals with farm mechanization. While he may have won some temporary support among farm labor unions and a few other folks, he has

surely stirred up a hornet's nest in the farm machinery complex and among farmers themselves.

There is a line of reasoning quite prevalent in some places that says a lot of agriculture's ills can be blamed on bigness, and that bigness is the result of advances in mechanization.

If you buy that line of reasoning, then you must also select the proper time when mechanization advances must stop and the status quo must be maintained. For without advances in agricultural mechanization, most of us would be living on farms and we'd be doing most farm work by hand.

It's now realistic to say that research in the area of agricultural engineering, as it's done by the Department of Agriculture and the land grant college system, is not in the best interest of agriculture.

If you believe that, then you surely believe that all progress is bad and that things should be the way they used to be. But I have trouble deciding how things used to be because for me the good old days were filled with good old tractors, electric motors, windmills, and farm trucks.

I hated the hard hand labor of pulling weeds, stacking baled hay, pitching bundles, and picking corn. And those were the advanced days of agriculture compared with turn of the century farming when there

was no farm power other than people, horses, and oxen. Or even further than that, when manpower did everything.

Look back at early 18th century agriculture and you see very little horsepower and a lot of hand work, and a nation's population devoted to food and fiber production. Even then the southern planters and other serious agriculturists were looking for better ways to handle their production.

The parade of agricultural inventions was endless and it continues even today. So an effort to justify an end to farm mechanization research, at least on the part of public institutions, is ridiculous.

We're the best fed nation in the world and it's done with only three percent of our population. And that's due in large part to agricultural research. Some of it is done by industry, some by the Department of Agriculture, some by the colleges, and a lot done by farmers themselves.

Maybe the lettuce pickers can now say that we need no more mechanization, thus insuring themselves a place in the industry. But is that really fair to the generations of Americans who follow?

What if the cotton pickers had said that 100 years ago?

Think what agriculture would be like if for some reason agricultural mechanization research had

faltered a century ago. Would America still be able to feed its millions?

No doubt most of us would be out there trying to grow something to eat and we wouldn't enjoy the standard of living that we now have. It's true that mechanization has displaced millions of people in the last century, but all but a few have found equivalent jobs in other sectors of the economy. Many of those jobs have in turn led to other products and services that allow us all to live a better life.

Personally, I don't want to go back to the farm of the 1930s, nor do I think my grandchildren will someday want to farm the way it's done today. So I get a little irritated at anybody who wants to stand in the way of progress and invention. Without it, we're all going to go hungry someday. With it, it's still a nip and tuck battle over the next hundred years to see whether America feeds its own people and has anything left for the millions of foreigners who are already clamoring at our gates.

It would be possible to cut out publicly funded agricultural mechanization research and still make some progress, but it would be at a slower rate. That would mean disappearing farm jobs would vanish at a slower rate, but they would still vanish. It might also

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## PUBLIC AUCTION

OF FARM EQUIPMENT & DAIRY CATTLE  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8

AUCTION TIME 9:30 A.M.

Location: Take Route 419 East from Schaefferstown, or Route 419 West from Newmanstown to Krumstown Road, turn North to first farm on left, Millcreek Township, Lebanon County, Pa.

### JOHN DEERE 2020 TRACTOR

with W.F.E., completely overhauled, tire chains, and front weights. KELLEY HYDRAULIC DUMP LOADER mounted on J.D. 2020.

### INTERNATIONAL 300 TRACTOR

with Fast Hitch, Torque Amplifier with 3x16 Trip Plow.

### INTERNATIONAL 200 TRACTOR

with Fast Hitch Cultivator, Mower, Plow and Cornplanter; NEW IDEA 2-Row MOUNTED CORN-PICKER with Mountings for International Tractor; JOHN DEERE 494 4-ROW CORNPLANTER with Applicators; New Holland Smoker 38-Foot Elevator; John Deere 14-T Baler; Massey Ferguson 4x4 3-Point Plow; GEHL HAY KING Model No. HK440; 4 Flatbed Farm Wagons; John Deere 20-Disc Disc Harrow; John Deere 3-Section Harrow; Coby Manure Spreader; Campbell's TRAILER TYPE SPRAYER with 400 Gallon Poly Tank and Centrifugal Pump; 3-Point Saw Buck; 3-Point Post Hole Digger; 26-Foot Transport Bunk Feeder; Iron Age 2-Row Potato Planter; New Holland Corn Sheller; 26-Foot Corn Elevator on Transport; Cardinal 16-Foot Elevator; Sears Disc Harrow; Hay Tedder; Corn Drag; Grass Seeder Drill.

### 1966 CHEV. STAKE TRUCK

Stationary Air Compressor; Lincoln Air Greaser; Portable Air Compressor with Engine; Portable Orchard Sprayer; 60 Bu. Hog Feeder; 16-Foot Auger; Platform Scales; Lot of Misc. Hand Tools; 2 Iron Troughs; Poultry Equipment; Jamesway Water Bowls; Hydraulic Jack; Log Chains; Chain Tighteners; Bull Dozer Fencer; Barn Hinges; Lot of Scrap Iron; Iron Bench with Vise; Car Stands; Circular Saw; Farrowing Crate; Feed Cart; Feed Chest; Wheel Barrow; Rolls of Wire; Barbed Wire; Manure Sled; 3-Point Row Marker; 3-Point Sprayer; Electric Cords; Baler Twine; 2 Coal Chutes; Bag Wagon; Welding Table; Power Winch; Potato Grader Bagger; Roller Conveyors; Jamesway Stauchions; Diamond Wire Cage; 36 Show Bird Cages; Model T Ford Parts and Wrenches; New and Used Bolts; J.D. and Int.'l Planter Plates.

### USED LUMBER & BUILDING ITEMS

Used Lumber from a 44'x98' Barn with 44' Logs; Pile of New 1-Inch Rough Oak Boards; Lots of Fence Posts; Tobacco Scaffolding; Chestnut Handsplit Fence Rails and Posts; New Tapered Corncrib Boards; Shutters; Porch Posts; Iron Railing; Lot of New Aluminum Windows; Lot of other Windows; Yard Gates; 6"x6" Glass Blocks; 500-700 Ton Sandstones; 200' Redwood Wooden Spouting; MASSEY FERGUSON SKI-WIZ 304-T SNOWMOBILE; Peacock - Pea Fowl to be sold with Pen; Kerosene Cookstove with Oven and other misc. antiques and many, many other items too numerous to mention.

### 11 REGISTERED HOLSTEIN HEIFERS 4 REGISTERED HOLSTEIN COWS

3 Heifers from Sire Power Job 9H143; 3 Heifers from Lime Rock Clarion Belle; Cows by Pennstate Ivanhoe Star, Back-Brook Master Posch and Lime Rock Astronaut.

AUCTION BY:

### HOWARD C. & CONSTINE F. MILLER

RD2, Myerstown, Pa.  
717-949-6862

Auction Conducted By:

John E. and Paul E. Martin, Auctioneers  
717-733-3511 - 717-733-3305 Ephrata, Pa.

Food At Auction

NOTE: Make plans now to attend this Auction. Lots of unlisted items, come early.

## 2400 FEEDERS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30  
TWO FEEDER CATTLE SALES IN ONE DAY

1:00 P.M.

### CULPEPER FEEDER CALF ASSOC.

sells 1400 Feeder Calves

at

Culpeper Agricultural Enterprises

(3 miles south of Culpeper, VA on Rt. 29)

Phone 703-547-2188

7:00 P.M.

### MARSHALL FEEDER CATTLE ASSOC.

sells 1000 Yearlings

at

Fauquier Livestock Exchange

(1 mile east of Marshall, VA on Rt. 55)

Phone 703-364-1566

## AUCTION

OCTOBER 30, 1980

On Premises, 6 PM

Directions: 3 miles East of Intercourse and 2 1/2 miles West of White Horse on Rt. 340.

Concrete block garage located on Rt. 340, Salisbury Township, Lancaster County, Pa. Approximate size 36' x 66' on 1/4 Acre lot + or - Gas heat, 240 volt electric service, rest room and office. 2nd floor storage, 2,000 gal. fuel storage tank & pumps, a well insulated clear span bldg. suitable for many uses.

Also—an adjacent lot separated by a 14' R.O.W. to farm. 185' X 162' with well. Driveway & parking area graded and filled to carry truck traffic.

To be sold in 2 parcels or as an entirety.  
TERMS: 15% down, 60 day possession  
INFORMATION: Call Robert Coates, Realtor, 717-442-4134.

### DELAWARE VALLEY AUCTION CO.

Clay C. Hess, Auctioneer

## REAL ESTATE AUCTION

2.9 Acres M/L BARN, STREAM,  
2 MOBILE HOMES, GUNS, 1/2 TON TRUCK,  
TOOLS, SEASONED LUMBER, ELEC. DRILLS,  
SAWS, ETC, 7' GRASS MOWER  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1980

At 9:00 A.M.

Located on Rt. 895 E. of village of Rock, approx. 5 mi. W. off Rt. 183, 5 m. E. off Rt. 501 Washington Twp., Sch. Co.

REAL ESTATE AT 1 P.M.

2.9 acres M/L with 30'x50' bank barn, Rt. 895 road frontage, fishing stream. Property offers home site, camping, hunting and/or income potential. Inspection, Sunday, October 26, 1-4 p.m., or by appointment.

10% down, bal. upon settlement.

TERMS: Cash or approved check.

Lunch available

Not Responsible For Accidents

Estate of

### CLAYTON SCHWARTZ

Jay Riegel Jr. Auctioneer  
717-739-4718

## TERRA ALTA LIVESTOCK AUCTION

SPECIAL FEEDER CATTLE SALE

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29

8:00 P.M.

Located at Terra Alta Livestock Market, Inc., Terra Alta, West Virginia.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29 - Fall Roundup Sale - All kinds of calves, yearlings & 2 yr. olds.

These cattle will be put together by State Graders

In order to try to help you with your health problems all cattle & calves will be brought in on day of sale & sold that night. This is one of the only one day State Graded Sales in West Virginia.

Be sure to attend this sale for good, fresh, healthy cattle.

### TERRA ALTA LIVESTOCK MARKET, INC.

Russell W. Stover, Jr. - Manager

For Information Call 304-789-2788 Market Ph. or 301-334-3940 Residence.

## ANNUAL FALL HEIFER SALE

Located on the Robert Mullendore Farm, 10 miles south of Hagerstown, MD on Boonsboro-Williamsport Rd., Rt. 68, 3 miles west of Boonsboro, MD and 2 miles east of Sharpsburg Pike, Rt. 65 at Lappans Crossroads on

FRIDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 31, 1980

6:30 P.M.

250 HEAD OF HOLSTEIN HEIFERS 250

Consisting of mostly holstein heifers including small weaned heifers, open heifers, breeding age, bred heifers and springing, few fresh, Angus and Holstein service sires. This is a nice consignment of good quality cattle all necessary animals bangs & TB tested within 30 days of sale. 1962 Ford 1 ton truck with cattle body.

Terms: Cash, not responsible for accidents.

Managed and Conducted by

Robert C. Mullendore

301-582-0546

Sale Held in Tent. Lunch available.

Cattle may be inspected day of sale.