

Grange Master

(Continued from Page D7)

this year's poor crop we could not meet current demand," he said.

April of 1981 marks the end of the current farm program. The new Administration will have to have a farm policy in place on time for the 1982 crop year.

One of the keystones of the current farm policy is the farmer-owned grain reserve.

"We are happy with the present farm program and are advising the Reagan transition team that it should be retained with some changes," Andersen said.

Among the changes the Grange will seek from the new Administration is an increase in the target prices and in loan levels.

Andersen said perhaps there should be a peanut

The Grange points out there is not enough time between January 21 and April 15 to formulate a well thought-out plan, come up with a reasonable budget figure for the 1982 fiscal year, and still allow time for farmer organizations to react and for public comment.

Andersen said they would rather see a good, solid program which can only be formulated over a number of months rather than something rushed through to meet deadlines.

The most recent census has raised an uproar which is being heard in Washington, too. The figures show more people moving out of the Northeast and North to the Midwest and Sun Belt regions.

Andersen said the

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program, too, something which does not effect Northern farmers directly, but which may have impact on other farm programs.

There was no peanut program for four years and the reserves are depleted. Currently, supermarket shelves are bare of peanut butter and other peanut product prices have jumped.

Andersen said the Grange is telling the transition team the Republicans should extend for one year the current farm program with suitable changes in numbers and prices.

population shift will not be an issue except that there will be increasing pressure on land use.

"All productive land should be retained for use in producing food and fibre," he said, adding that other land can be used for secondary matters.

Although people are moving into traditionally conservative areas, Andersen said he does not feel it will make a big difference politically.

In the past election many states shifted as a whole from the Democrats to the

Republicans

"I think that was due to the inflation question," Andersen said. "Conservatism and the pledge to control inflation must be seen together as one thing."

One issue sure to test the Reagan Administration's fiscal policies will be the upcoming dairy price support battle.

As Andersen noted, 80

percent of party is going to be a difficult issue although the Grange said it will continue to support the 80 percent level.

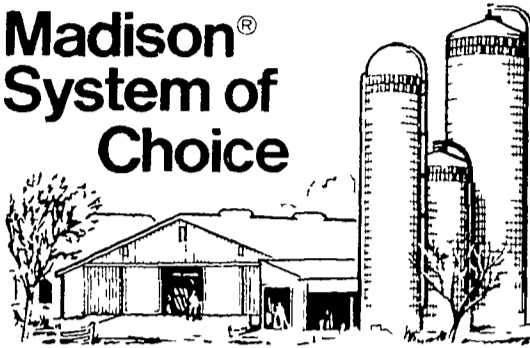
There has been a huge increase in Commodity Credit Corporation purchases of butter and cheese, with increases in powdered milk to a lesser degree.

The Grange has a com-

(Turn to Page D9)

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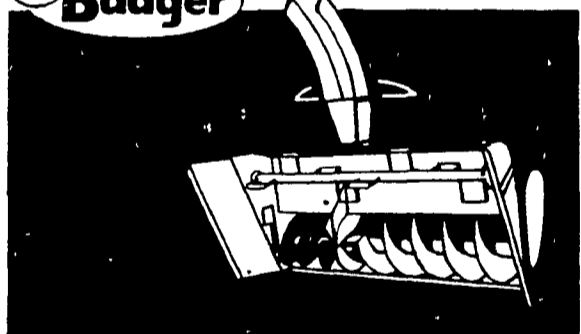
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