

Northeast Farm Credit holds annual meeting

BY JANE BRESEE
Staff Correspondent

WYSOX — "We will not buy into the philosophy of Gloom and Doom because of inflation", Robert Reich, general manager of the Northeastern Farm Credit Service, told a crowd of nearly 125 farmers and guests at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Farm Credit Service held last week in Wysox Presbyterian Church.

Reich, the main speaker at the third and final annual meeting of the Northeastern district, predicted that the interest rates will peak about June and then decline for the rest of the year.

"These are not impossible days if we will work together," he encouraged the crowd.

Paul Sims of Wysox, president of the board of directors of the Northeastern Federal Land Bank Association, acted as master of ceremonies introducing Roy Greenley, Chester Hale, Richard Moyer, and Lee Shaffer, directors,

or the Northeastern Production Credit Association; and Richard Crawford, and William Frederick, directors of the Northeastern Federal Land Bank Association.

Lynn Chubbuck, branch manager in the Wysox office, Edwin Howard, new representative from Wysox, David Beardley, branch manager from the Tunkhannock office, and their office staff were also recognized.

Bankers, lawyers, realtors, extension agents and many other local people associated with farm business were introduced.

The election of new directors was conducted by Russell Jones.

Chester Hale and Roy Greenley were reelected to the Production Credit Association Board, and Paul Sims, and Richard Kriebel, were chosen for the Federal Land Bank Association Board.

Bruce Bresee of Ulster presented a travelogue of slides and song depicting the farming

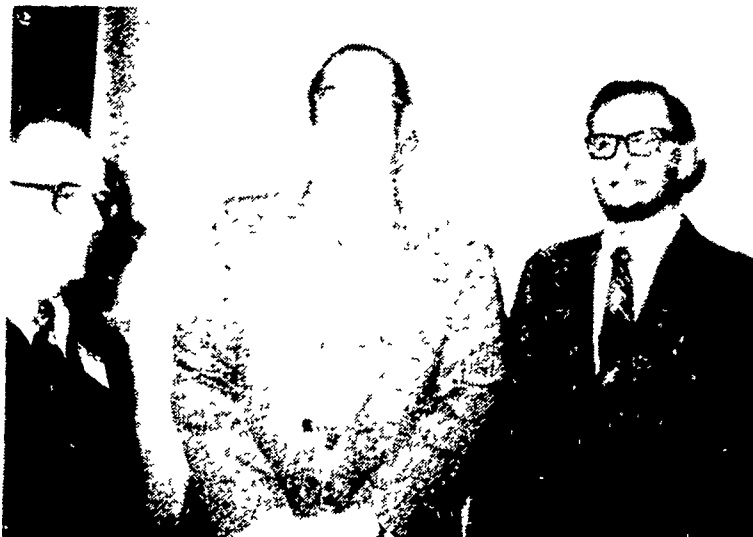
practices of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland.

Crofters in the islands own only their own buildings and rent perhaps 20 acres from the government for hay and grain crops, Bresee explained, and their sheep and cattle graze on land owned by the state.

Other farmers with more land of their own on the mainland of Scotland have more sophisticated farming practices.

Pig farming in addition to sheep and cattle is a large industry. Dairy products are plentiful everywhere, but ice cream is scarce and, being made of imitation ingredients, is not very tasty, Bresee noted.

The Northeastern Production Credit Association and the Federal Land Bank Association are member supported cooperatives and part of the nationwide Farm Credit System whose service is to loan money to agricultural business.



Paul Sims, left, president of the board of the Northeastern Federal Land Bank Association, poses with Lynn Chubbuck, manager of the Farm Credit office in Wysox, and Bruce Bresee, right, who entertained with a travelogue of Scotland at the annual dinner meeting of the Northeastern Farm Credit Association held in Wysox.

Congressmen introduce bill to assure fuel for farmers

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Congressman Berkley Bedell (D-Iowa) and Tom Tauke (R-Iowa) have introduced legislation designed to provide American agriculture with priority allocations of fuel in the event of a severe energy shortage.

The Bedell-Tauke bill would require the President to establish an "agriculture allocation contingency plan." The plan would ensure that all phases of agricultural production, including food processing and transportation, would be given priority allocations of diesel fuel and gasoline.

The two Iowa Congressmen, in a

joint statement, said that legislation is necessary because of President Reagan's recent decision lifting controls on crude oil and petroleum products and the expiration of Presidential authority to set fuel allocation priorities for certain sectors of the economy, including agriculture, on September 30.

The pair stressed that the expiration of such authority, in addition to the elimination of state set-aside programs for diesel fuel later this month, will leave no contingency plan in place. They stated that the farm community would be "virtually hopeless" should a severe energy shortage

occur.

"All should agree that during periods of energy shortage, special provisions must be made to ensure that farmers get the fuel they need for production purposes," said Bedell, a member of the House Committee on Agriculture.

"These fuel supplies are essential," Bedell continued, "not only to farm income but to fulfilling domestic and world demand for American farm products, since even a temporary disruption of petroleum supplies could result in serious decline in food production."

"It is vitally important that we provide guarantees that normal

farming operations will not be interrupted because of low energy supplies," said Tauke, a member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

"The measure establishes a rational plan that would alleviate some of the critical problems we faced just two years ago when a severe shortage of diesel fuel left many tractors standing idle in the fields," Tauke stated.

During the energy shortage of 1979, Tauke introduced similar legislation as an amendment to the Gas Rationing Authorization and Conservation Bill. Bedell backed that amendment which won House approval on a 229 to 191 vote.

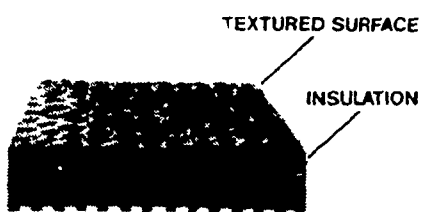
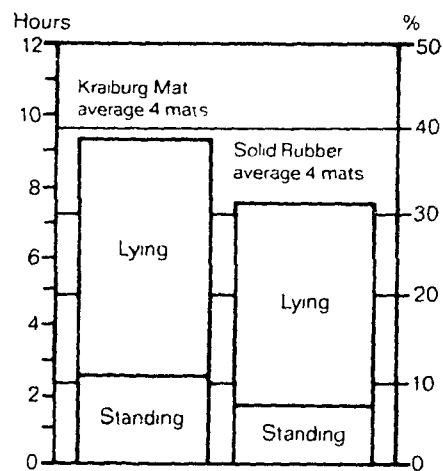
However, a House-Senate Conference Committee later removed the Tauke amendment from the final version of the conservation bill.

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Like a new way with Fish n Chips? Separate a package (10 oz.) refrigerated buttermilk biscuits. Wrap each biscuit round a frozen fish stick, pinching edges to seal. Repeat with remaining biscuits and fish sticks. Dip in one-fourth cup milk, then roll in one and one-half cups crushed potato chips. Place seam side down on un-buttered baking sheet. Bake at 375, 10 to 15 minutes. Serve with tartar sauce. (Yield 10).

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