

Northern Lebanon farmers lend a hand



Nearly 70 Northern Lebanon Adult Young Farmers turned out last Saturday to lend a hand to one of the area's newest farm owners, Dale Maulfair. Not a newcomer to farming by any means, Maulfair is one of Lebanon County's top Ayrshire breeders. Maulfair,

who recently purchased a 70 acre farm south of Fredericksburg, is converting a former three-story poultry barn into a heifer barn and equipment storage. Pictured here is the afternoon crew, complete with crowbars.

NFO speaker cites production costs

DOYLESTOWN — "A simple moral issue is at work in our country with ball players supposedly worth more on the salary scale than anyone else, with other trades in between, and food producers at the bottom," said H Kenton Bailey, speaking before over 200 members and friends at the annual dinner of the Bucks County Unit of the National Farmers Organization.

"Never mind that farmers cannot stay in business, that our youth cannot afford to start farming and are not encouraged by banks and lending institutions to take on such a debt, food producers should still be satisfied with 60 percent of parity, or whatever the government dictates," Bailey said. "A producer receiving 60 percent of parity in prices, is getting 60 percent of what it has cost him to produce the product. If he accepts that continually, he also accepts indebtedness and insolvency and finally, selling out."

"A tank of milk, a cull cow, a bushel of grain or a dozen eggs is only used-up energy and services," Bailey said, "and production

cannot continue for less than the cost of production for long. Public opinion has pushed the idea that it is alright to put a price on every other product, reflecting its cost of production, except food! We seem to have the idea that it's immoral to put a price on that!"

"Former Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland said that the irony is that if each person would be willing to pay five cents more for food per day, and that five cents would get back to the farmer, farmers could receive 100 percent of parity for his production, new farmers could start, and money would flow back into the economy that would generate new jobs throughout the whole system," Bailey said.

"Each one of us is either part of the problem or part of the solution", he said.

"The National Farmers Organization has a nation-wide marketing and delivery system, and bargains with buyers for cost of production prices for its members, but it must be used to be effective."

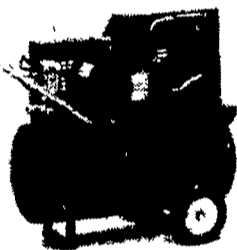
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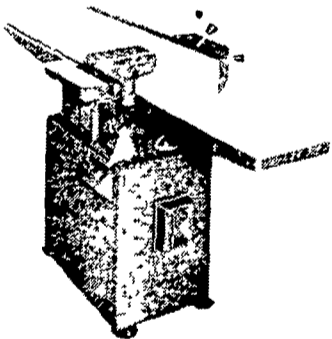
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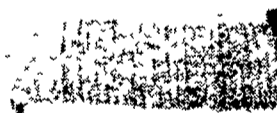
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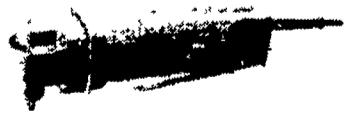


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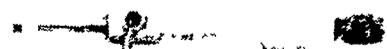
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