

## McCoy gets \$5,000 penalty

LANCASTER — The owners of McCoy Cattle Co., doing business at the Lancaster Stockyards, were assessed a \$5,000 civil penalty and suspended for one week as a market agency and livestock dealer in connection with a proceeding brought under the Packers and Stockyards Act, a U.S. Department of Agriculture official said.

McCoy consented to the order for settlement purposes only, and waived their right to a hearing. They neither admitted nor denied the charges in an administrative complaint filed Nov. 20 by USDA's Packers and Stockyard Administration.

B.H. Jones, P&S administrator,

said the registration of Michael J. McCoy, William G. McCoy, Patrick M. McCoy, and Murilla McCoy was suspended for a 7-day period, starting Nov. 26.

The complaint charged that while buying livestock for, or selling livestock to customers at various times during 1980 and 1981, the partners:

- Billed and collected from their customers on the basis of false and incorrect weights; and

- Billed and collected from their customers on the basis of increased purchase price while also collecting buying commissions.

In addition to the civil penalty and suspension, USDA Administrative Law Judge John A.

Campbell ordered the respondents to cease and desist from:

- Misrepresenting the original purchase weights or prices of livestock to their principals or other purchasers of livestock;

- Preparing or issuing accounts of purchase, invoices, billings, or other documents showing false, inaccurate, or misleading weight or price entries in connection with the purchase or sale of livestock;

- Collecting payment from livestock purchasers on the basis of false, inaccurate, or misleading weight or price entries on accounts of purchases, invoices or billings; and

- Inserting or failing to insert in

documents prepared during the purchase or sale of livestock, any information which results in an inaccurate or misleading record of the transaction.

The cease and desist order was issued to ensure future compliance with the P&S Act.

The P&S Act is a fair trade practices law administered by USDA's Packers and Stockyards Administration. It promotes fair and open competition in the marketing of livestock, poultry and meat.



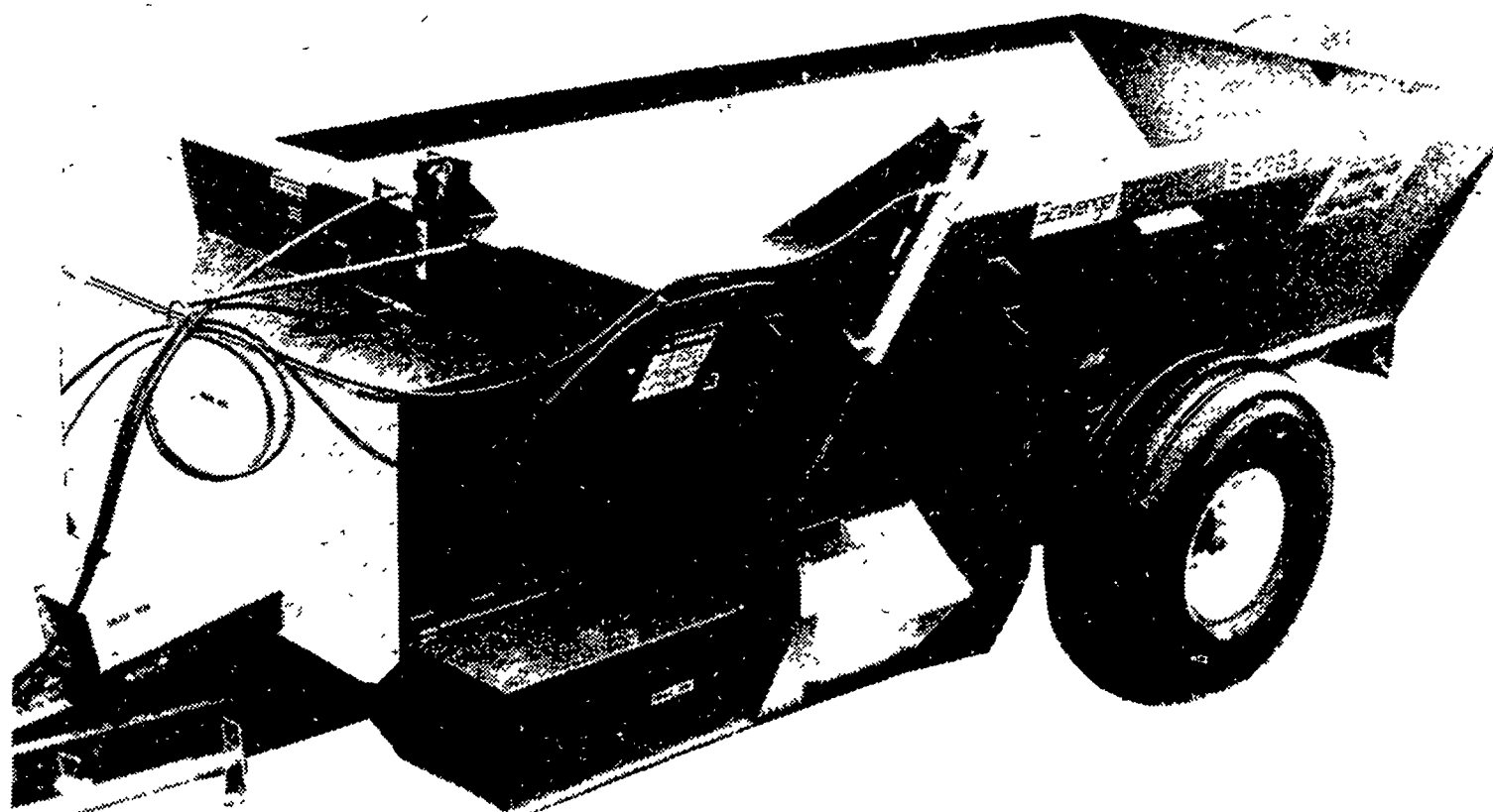
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