

Dairymen, Inc. elects Georgia producer as new Chief

BALTIMORE, Md. — In a special election, last month, the Dairymen Corporate Board of Directors elected Roy L. Strange of Moultrie, Ga. as president of the large southeastern milk co-op.

In a local D.I. appointment, Lancaster dairyman Eugene R. Frey was named field representative for the Middle Atlantic Division. Frey's territory includes Lancaster and Chester Counties.

Strange succeeded former D.I. president P.L. Robinson, who died in December of last year.

"We were deeply saddened by Mr. Robinson's death, but share the confidence of other Dairymen officials that Roy Strange will provide the kind of leadership needed for the cooperative to continue quality service to its members," said R.L. Strock, manager of the Middle Atlantic Division.

New chief Strange, 53, operates a 1,400-acre farm in Moultrie, where he milks 500 cows and raises hogs. He has been a member of the co-op's Georgia Division Board of Directors since its formation in 1970, and is currently serving as its first vice president. He was elected to the corporate board of directors in 1974. The 37-member board represents 8,000 dairy farmers, located in 17 eastern and southeastern states.

Other changes in officers as a result of the election are: Robert Read, Cross Plains, Tenn., from second vice president to first vice president; and Ray Moss Tucker, Finchville, Ky., from third vice president to second vice president. Edgar Garnett, Charlottesville, Va., was elected third vice president.

Secretary John C. Simon, Youngsville, La., and Treasurer

Richard Riggs, Evansville, Ind., were re-elected to those offices. John A. Moser, Louisville, Ky., continues to serve as president emeritus.

Locally, D.I. members in Chester and Lancaster Counties will have the service of new field representative Eugene Frey.

Frey, a Franklin County native was born and raised on a dairy farm and in 1978 received a Bachelor of Science degree in History from Eastern Mennonite College in Harrisonburg, Va. He then returned to the farm for a year to work in the processing facility of his family's dairy operation.

In 1979, he and his family moved to Tanzania, Africa to complete a two-and-a-half year teaching assignment at the Mennonite Theological College in Musoma.

Frey and his wife, Hazel, also a Franklin County native, have a daughter Robin, 13, and a son Derek, 11.



Roy L. Strange



Tom Moore, right, field supervisor for the Middle Atlantic Division of Dairymen, Inc. discusses the role of a field representative with Eugene R. Frey, Lancaster. Frey recently joined the Dairymen staff.

Pa. native is Nat'l Peach Council president

MARTINSBURG, WV—With the election of Ernest F. Fischer of Porter, Oklahoma, at the Board of Directors meeting in Hawaii, National Peach Council now has its first president from the state of Oklahoma.

Fischer was elected an officer and member of the NPC Executive Committee in 1979. Since that time, he has moved up through the offices of the Council to his current position as president.

He is also president of B.F. Blackledge and Fischer Orchards, Inc. in Porter, OK. The operation was started in 1916 by Ben and Harold Blackledge, father and uncle of Ernie's wife, Dorothy. Today, the orchard covers about 300 acres with 250 of those acres devoted to peaches.

The orchard was incorporated in 1968. Ernie's son Joel is now vice president of the corporation. Dorothy and their daughter-in-law Anne are also officers of the corporation. Normally about 50 percent of the peaches are sold wholesale, 25 percent are sold through pick-your-own operations, and 25 percent are sold at their roadside market.

A native of Kingston, Pa. Ernie graduated from Oklahoma State University in 1940 where he met his wife. After working for Wright Aero Crop in New Jersey for several years, he and Dorothy returned to Oklahoma since it was "easier to move back to Oklahoma than to move the orchard to New Jersey."

Ernie Fischer has been an NPC Board member and officer for several years. He attended his first NPC convention in 1947 and has attended a total of 18 NPC conventions since that time.

Fischer also helped to organize the Oklahoma Fruit Growers Association about 12 years ago.

Other members of the NPC Executive Committee elected at the February Board Meeting are: Henry Chiles, Batesville, VA, first vice president; Jerrold A. Watson, Monetta, SC, second vice

president; Anthony J. "Tony" Rubino, Blue Goose Growers, Hagerstown, MD, third vice president; Robert G. Kemp, Bountiful Ridge Nurseries, Princess Anne, MD, immediate past president; and Mary Ayers, president of National Peach Partners, Reynolds, GA.

USDA changes horse import rules

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Department of Agriculture officials are making slight changes in import regulations for certain breeding-age horses from countries affected with contagious equine metritis, a venereal disease of horses.

John K. Atwell, deputy administrator of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, said import regulations for breeding-age horses from countries affected with the disease need to be clarified because of certain misunderstandings about the veterinary certification required for acceptance by USDA officials.

He said under current regulations, breeding-age horses — those over 731 days old — can be imported from countries affected with the disease if the nation's veterinary officials can certify from records acceptable to USDA that the imported horses never had been bred and never had been kept at an establishment where horses are bred.

The amendment to the regulations states specifically that this certification applies only to Thoroughbreds from West Germany, the United Kingdom, Ireland and France, and to

Standardbred horses from Australia. It further specifies the exact certification procedure and the breed association records that will be accepted by USDA officials for certification purposes.

The regulation change became effective Jan. 28. Public comments on this interim rule change may be submitted through March 29 to the deputy administrator for veterinary services, APHIS, USDA, Federal Building, 6505 Belcrest Rd., Hyattsville, Md. 20782.

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