



Brockett's Ag Advice

By John E. Brockett
Farm Management Agent
Lewistown Extension Office

It Is Not Too Late

To make the best use of plant nutrients, a farmer should keep them in balance thru testing, make proper and timely use of pesticides, use lime as a multipurpose cure all (well not quite).

Lime is probably the most underrated soil additive we have. It can come close to doing many of the things the slick-talking salesman claims for all of those so-called miracle products.

It provides nutrients, corrects soil acidity, enhances the effectiveness of pesticides, encourages plant root development and is pound for pound the least

expensive item you use.

Many farmers are already into the midst of planting. Others will soon be there depending on which part of the state they farm. Soil tests could (but probably won't) still be taken. Lime could still be applied if necessary. On most hay stands it may be easier to wait until fall but if you are low on "ph", you may want to put it on corn fields now.

Records

I am stressing records more than ever this year. Partly it's because farmers appear to be more desirous of doing something with records. Partly it's because I feel that it is a matter of survival.

As the cost price squeeze tightens, records can help spot those penny wasters that turn into dollar losers.

Every move that a highly leveraged farmer makes now must be made with more deliberation. In good times poor records can cost you money, cause you to overpay taxes, lose you credit opportunities, and reduce your effectiveness as a manager. In hard times poor records can put you out of business.

I find that many farmers keep inadequate records because they fight the idea. The usual attitude is let us produce our product in the best way we know how without records. If it were not for income taxes, most farmers would keep no records.

Some people may see this as a solution to our present dilemma of overproduction. Eliminate the need to keep records for tax purposes. Withhold from the milk check, beef check, etc based on an average cash expense efficiency. Then require no returns.

Within 3 years those who con-

tinued to keep and use records would still be farming and making a profit. Those who discontinued keeping records would be out or on their way out of business. It would

be "let the buyer beware" for credit institutions. End result would be commodity scarcity and prosperity to the survivors.

NFO donates wheat flour to Poland

NEW PRAGUE, Minn. — Wheat donated by members of National Farmers Organization was milled into 100,000 pounds of flour here last Wednesday, bagged and turned over to two church organizations to be distributed among the needy people of Poland.

DeVon Woodland, president of National Farmers Organization, who attended ceremonies here marking completion of the project, said the flour will be sent by rail to Baltimore, Md., where it is destined to be loaded aboard a ship this coming Monday and sent on its way to Poland.

Handling distribution of the food in Poland will be Catholic Relief

Service and Church World Service — two organizations that have been active in relief efforts in Poland as well as in other ravaged areas of the world.

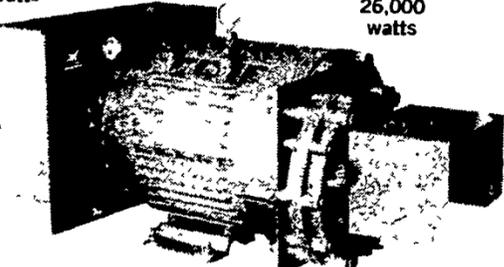
Plans for a massive effort to provide food for the people of Poland were announced last February by the NFO board of directors. Woodland said additional shipments of meat and dairy products follow the shipment of flour as processing and labeling of the food is completed.

Each bag of flour shipped to Poland carried a decal saying "Donated by the members of the National Farmers Organization Corning, Iowa USA."

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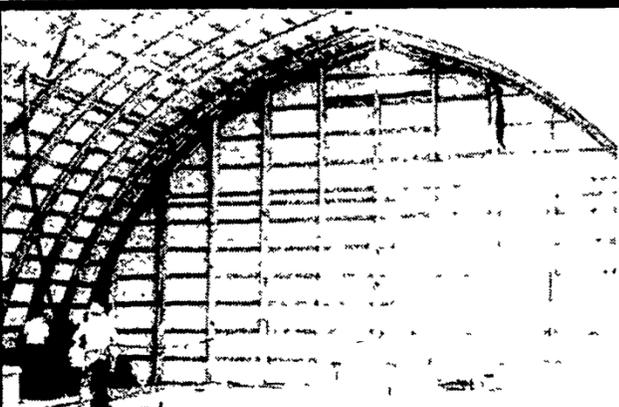
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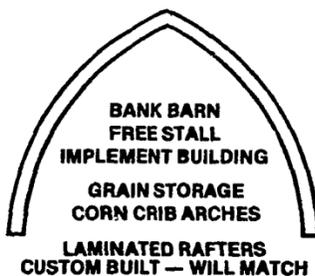
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