

PMMB review

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op reps who attended a meeting last month, "to inform ourselves as to the act itself," Fraher explained.

"The general feeling was we should examine the function of the board and assess its value," commented Fraher. Despite some differences of opinion, the meeting produced a coalescence of support for the PMMB, he added.

Several farm organizations have gone on record in defense of the Board.

"The Board guarantees that adequate supplies are available to

consumers at fair prices and makes sure that dairymen get paid for their product — and on time," defended Pennsylvania Farmers' Association president Keith Eckel.

The PFA president who is also a dairyman noted that the functions of the Board benefit both the general public and the dairy industry.

Current PFA policy reaffirms the organization's "faith in the Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Law as a means of orderly marketing of Pennsylvania dairy products," and recommends that minimum milk prices continue to be con-

trolled by the Board.

Carl Kaufman, executive director for the Pennsylvania Farmers Union expressed his organization's support. The termination of the PMMB, would mean a return to the chaos in milk marketing that existed before the Board's inception, said Kaufman.

State Grange policy calls the board... "a vital body which enforces the laws of our milk industry of Pennsylvania."

"We are in favor of it continuing and with the same type of representation as the present," noted Grange spokeswoman Linda Blake.

Other PMMB functions include milk sample testing, licensing of dealers, haulers and testers, and a certification testing program for drivers to assure correct pickup of milk. About 40 percent of the cost

of operating the Board is derived from dealer license fees; permits and fines. The remainder is appropriated from the state's General Fund.



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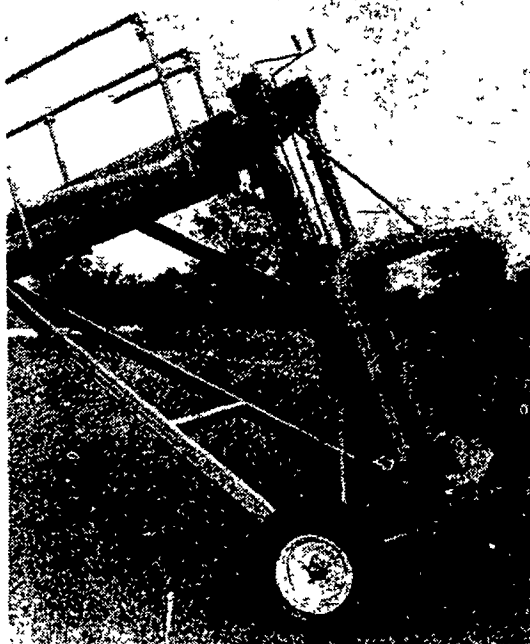
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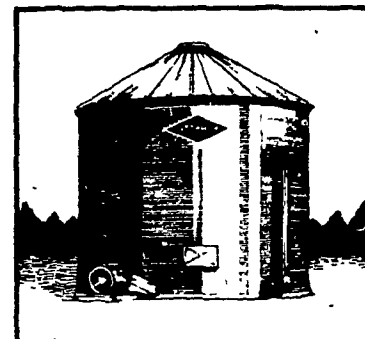
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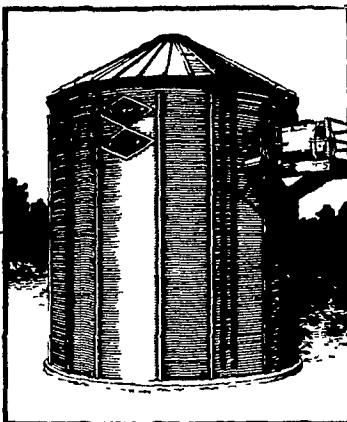
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