

Corn Growers attend US-USSR trade meeting

MOSCOW, USSR — "For farmers in the United States and consumers in the Soviet Union to take full advantage of the interdependence of our agricultural economies, there must be re-established a mutuality of confidence in the reliability of the United States as a supplier and of the Soviet Union as a customer," stated Jack Parsons, a corn farmer from Wapello, Iowa, and president of the National Corn Growers Association.

In an address before a meeting of the US-USSR Trade and Economic Council in Moscow, Parsons emphasized the importance of reliability as the basic requirement of expanded trade between the two countries. The US-USSR Trade and Economic Council is comprised of agricultural and industrial entities in the United States and their governmental counterparts within the Soviet Union. The purpose of the Council is to provide regular fora for the exploration of opportunities for expanded trade between the two countries.

"General trade and economic relations between our two countries must be allowed to develop on the basis of mutual benefit that can be derived from a genuine trust and rapport of a 'reliable supplier' and a 'reliable customer'," Parsons stated.

Notwithstanding the serious decline in trade between the U.S. and USSR, Parsons indicated there have been some improvements in the trade and economic climate for the two countries over the past thirty months.

"On Oct. 15, 1982, President Reagan issued his 'doctrine' on U.S. grain and agricultural export sales, particularly to the Soviet Union. It was a welcomed and

needed commitment from our president to U.S. farmers. President Reagan has on three occasions in 1982 made clear his commitment to U.S. grain farmers about having fair and open access to overseas markets: On March 22, 1982, to the agricultural editors and Washington farm leaders at The White House; on Aug. 2, 1982, at the National Corn Growers Association annual convention; and again on Oct. 15, 1982," Parsons said.

During the meeting he also stressed the importance of negotiating a new long-term grains agreement between the United States and Soviet Union. According to Parsons, the basic purpose in having a long-term grains agreement... "is to provide a concrete structure for achieving the goal for a reliable supplier-customer relationship."

"The outcome of the debate and negotiations among Soviet and U.S. Government officials on a new long-term grains agreement," Parsons stated, "will in large measure affect the interdependence of the Soviet and U.S. agricultural economies. Potential volumes of U.S. corn and grain exports to the Soviet Union will determine in a significant degree the level of corn and grain production in the United States in subsequent years," he said.

Parsons cited the current and past high levels of corn production in the United States and the depressing effects such accumulated stocks have had on grain prices. Stressing the seriousness of this dilemma, he indicated that "...in order to allow corn prices to rise to a level that is profitable for farmers to produce, there are several measures that can be adopted: either export

more corn, provide for incentives to reduce corn production; or both."

He indicated that U.S. corn farmers would prefer to maximize production and gain a profitable income from the marketplace. "However, to obtain such a profitable income from the

marketplace requires, among other developments, reliability of trade in corn between the United States and the Soviet Union," he said.

"The interdependence of the Soviet and American agricultural economies is clearly established as we move into the 1980s," Parsons

continued. "On the basis of moving toward this goal of reliability, other sectors of trade and agreements on technical and scientific cooperation and exchanges can also be revitalized and enlarged. These goals will be the challenge to both countries in the 1980s," he concluded.

Pa. Brown Swiss Assn. plans convention



Officers of the Pennsylvania Brown Swiss Association are: left to right, William Daubert, vice president; Audrey Queitzsch, secretary/treasurer and Donald Trimble, president. Officers and members of the Assn. gathered recently for their annual meeting held in Carlisle to discuss routine business of the Association, and hear what Brown Swiss Bulletin editor Connie Grittonland, National Association secretary/treasurer had to say about the National Brown Swiss Convention that will be held in Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania Brown Swiss delegation began making preliminary plans at last weeks meeting for the national event.

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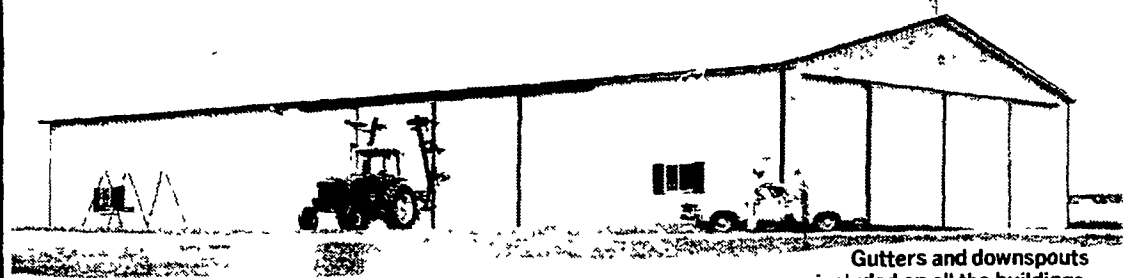
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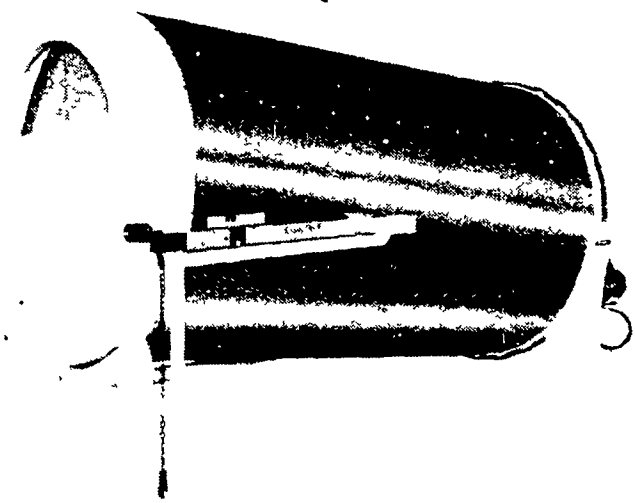


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