

Berwick vegetable co-op meets

BERWICK — There was a large turnout of members and guests as Berwick Vegetable Cooperative celebrated its 30th Anniversary at their annual dinner-session held recently at Maria A. Anta Hall.

Edward Hopki of Falls, President of the Board of Directors, extended a warm welcome prior to dinner and later conducted the business meeting. Secretary's report was given by Myrtle Hetherington, with Earl Miller, Vice President, presenting a report of the nominating committee. Audit report was by Robert Lussi.

Guest speaker George Hubbard, Executive Director of the Luzerne County Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service, told the organizations members they should establish closer communications with their Congressmen to keep better informed of the many varied programs available to farmers.

Hubbard explained that farm programs are constantly changing and it is necessary for farmers to keep up with them.

According to Hubbard, the various farm programs should

come from the farmers to be of most benefit to them. He said farmers must decide which programs they will support.

Hubbard also pointed out that prices must be maintained at a level where farmers are able to stay in business.

The Luzerne County agricultural official also enumerated some of the programs available to farmers and stressed the important role farmers play in the American economy.

Vegetable Cooperative manager, Angelo Venditti indicated the organization has had a busy year and urged members to use the Cooperative more often in the future. "We are ready to help you in any way we can," Venditti said.

Elected to the board of directors were: Lester Landsiedel, Dalton; Harold Smith, Nescopeck; Mucky Fought, Millville; Harold Rarig, Catawissa; and Raymond Hetherington, Ringtown.

Guests included Alfred Skala, Luzerne County Extension Agent; Thomas Jurchak, Lackawanna, C.E.D.; Allen Shoener, Schuylkill C.E.D.; Robert Houston, Columbia C.E.D. Other guests included

Marlin McClellan, Director of Central District Pa. Department of Agriculture; Russell Gunton, Director of North Eastern District Pa. Department of Agriculture; W. Wayne Hinsh, Associate Director of Cooperative Extension Service Penn State University, and Francis Witham, Head Professor of Horticulture at Penn State University.

The Vegetable Cooperative has a warehouse, and offices at 1665 Spring Garden Avenue.

Founded to provide a produce marketing service and farm supply purchasing service to vegetable and potato growers of several counties surrounding Berwick, the cooperative has grown to 152 members.

The Cooperative services 465 producers in 15 counties in Northeastern and 3 counties in Western Pennsylvania. Produce is trucked along the Eastern coast line and exported outside the U.S. by ship. Among the produce handled is cabbage, green beans, peppers, potatoes, pumpkins, sweet corn, and tomatoes. It also handles produce containers, seed potatoes, and vegetable plants.

USDA to hold hearing on marketing agreements

The Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, will hold a joint hearing July 19 to consider industry proposals to amend the Middle Atlantic and New York-New Jersey Federal milk orders. A number of proposals would extend the respective order marketing areas into 23 counties in eastern and northeastern Pennsylvania. Other key proposals that will be considered at the hearing deal with the matter of price alignment between the respective orders. Also, other proposals would amend certain provisions of the New York-New Jersey order. Proponents, which include both handlers and producer groups, contend that the changes are needed to reflect changed marketing conditions.

The hearing will convene July 19, 1983, beginning of 9:30 a.m.

The hearing will be held at the Holiday Inn West, Route 22 at the junction of Route 309 (1 mile east of Lehigh Valley Interchange of the

Pennsylvania Turnpike, N.E. extension) Allentown.

For further information contact Maurice M. Martin, Marketing Specialist, Dairy Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, 202/447-7183.

The hearing is called pursuant to the provisions of the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, as amended (7 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), and the applicable rules of practice and procedure governing the formulation of marketing agreements and orders (7 CFR Part 900).

The purpose of the hearing is to receive evidence with respect to the economic and marketing conditions in the Middle Atlantic and New York-New Jersey marketing areas which relate to the proposed amendments, and any appropriate modifications to the tentative marketing agreements and to the orders.

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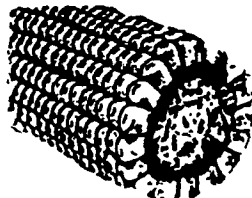
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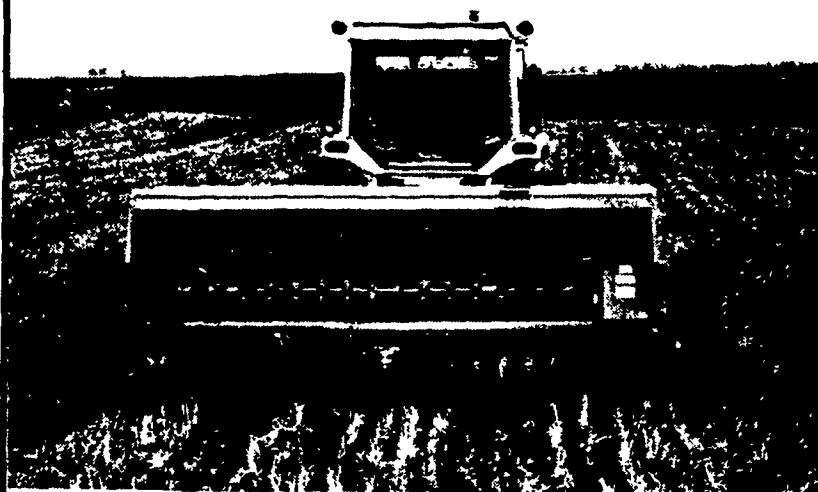
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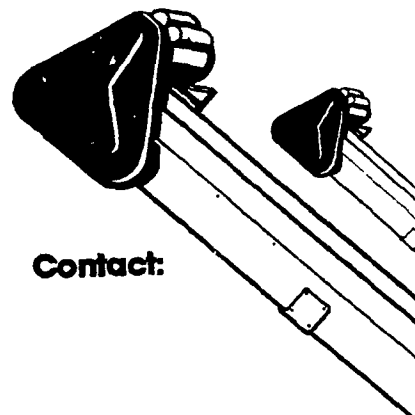
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