

1 1/4 million served in Pa. Needy Program

HARRISBURG — State Agriculture Secretary Penrose Hallowell recently told the Pennsylvania House of Representatives Special Bipartisan Committee to Investigate Food and Cheese Distribution that "at least 1.25 million needy Pennsylvania individuals, couples and families" have been served by the Needy Family Program since January, 1982.

Hallowell praised what he called "an incredible record of accomplishment" and an "amazing volunteer effort from hundreds of charitable, non-profit and service organizations and thousands of individuals volunteers across the commonwealth." He said, "The unprecedented use of local governments and volunteers enabled us to assume the responsibility of this

program on short notice without additional staff or cost to the state's taxpayers."

Since February of 1982, 19,454,450 pounds of cheese and 9,050,064 pounds of butter have been distributed to needy Pennsylvanians.

Hallowell told the Committee "The thousands of individuals, hundreds of social service organizations...and the dozens of county and local governments who have participated in this program have made it possible." He said that through their efforts, more than \$42.5 million in cheese and butter had been distributed throughout the commonwealth.

"We are proud of our role in serving as a clearinghouse for orders, scheduling and delivery of these commodities," he said, "and we

will continue our efforts to respond to both local needs and federal program changes."

A full text of Secretary Hallowell's testimony to the Committee states:

"Mr. Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to speak with your committee. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture is responsible for government donated food programs, including the distribution of cheese, butter and other surplus food commodities under the Needy Family Program.

"President Reagan announced plans for a program to help reduce inventories of surplus dairy products at the Commodity Credit Corporation, in December, 1981. In January of 1982, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture signed an agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to serve as "middleman," in coordinating the receipt and distribution of cheese to the needy of our state. Since February of 1982, 19,454,450 pounds of cheese and 9,050,064 pounds of butter have been distributed to at least 1.25

million needy Pennsylvania individuals, couples and families.

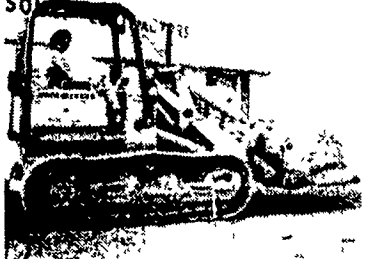
"These figures in themselves bear out an incredible record of accomplishment, and place Pennsylvania among the national leaders in total number of pounds of these commodities distributed to the needy. This record would simply not have been possible were it not for an amazing volunteer effort from hundreds of charitable, non-profit and service organizations and thousands of individual volunteers across the commonwealth. Organizations such as the United Way, Salvation Army,

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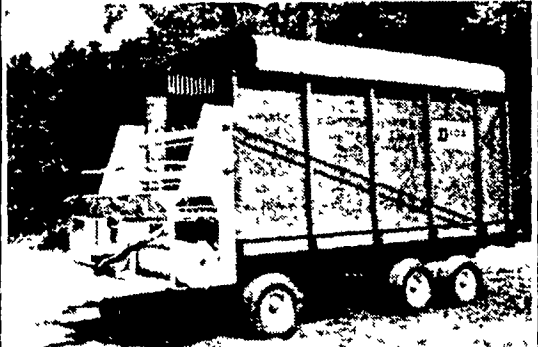
Size	4 Mil Price	6 Mil Price
16'x100'	\$16.65	\$24.80
20'x100'	\$20.75	\$31.00
24'x100'	\$24.80	\$37.20
28'x100'	\$28.95	\$43.40
32'x100'	\$33.05	\$49.60
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