



Tony Stemberger



Stan Steen



Gerald Weber

Egg order

(Continued from Page A1)

favors the utilization of more efficient birds.

He said that an egg allotment system would require an assessment of less than ¼-cent per dozen.

Although producers were generally in favor of a mandatory research and promotion checkoff program, most felt that the proposed one-cent per dozen was excessive. Accordingly, the committee has recommended that a figure of ½-cent per dozen be used, with the amount being raised to not more than one cent over a five year period. A ½-cent checkoff would raise between \$22 million and \$24 million annually, Weber said, with a minimum of five percent being set aside for diet and health research and dissemination of this information.

Also to be included in the final marketing order draft will be a provision for surplus hen removal.

Producers would be assessed at the rate of ¼-cent per dozen on a continual basis to build a fund to pay for the removal of excess hens during a predetermined time of the year.

Weber also indicated that there will some type of quality assurance clause developed for use in the final draft.

Also on hand to discuss marketing order pro's and con's was Stan Steen, director of the Ontario Egg Board, who recently chaired the International Egg Commission's supply management symposium in The Hague.

"There is a great feeling throughout the world today for some type of assessment to improve the lot of farmers," said Steen, whose province of Ontario has maintained an egg marketing board for the past 20 years.

On the plus side, Steen noted that the use of quotas in Canada has eliminated "boom and bust" cycles during the past 10 years. No producers have lost money, and the more efficient ones are doing very well.

"The system does tend to preserve the status quo," he noted, adding that Canadian producers do find it difficult to expand. Steen said that hen numbers have been reduced and most Canadians are operating at about 70 percent of their capacity.

Steen cautioned that an egg control system will be very difficult to handle in the U.S., where more eggs are produced in Pa. alone, than in all the Canadian provinces combined. He recommended that the country be divided into "egg sheds" delineated by the major population centers. Production could then be more closely monitored, with stiff penalties imposed on producers who over-produce.

He also cautioned against exempting producers with less than 3,000 birds from production controls.

"You'll have small producers coming out of the woodwork," he warned, reminding his audience that only a one-percent increase in production can lead to a five-percent decrease in profits.

The evening's final speaker was Penn State economist, Tony Stemberger, who pointed out that the central purpose of the marketing order ought to be controlling the supply of eggs. Noting that a quota system is not specifically designed for the purpose of having the consumer pay higher egg prices, he pointed out that prices will automatically go up as supplies are cut back and the demand increases.

"We found out last winter that consumers are willing to pay more for eggs," he said, alluding to

prices that reached \$1.50 per dozen early this year.

When asked if quantity controls were favored primarily by the larger producers responding to the survey, Weber pointed out that there was no correlation between the size of the producer and his feelings concerning quantity controls.

Weber said that, once an acceptable marketing order has been drawn up, the final draft will be submitted to the USDA for public hearings. This phase will require 12 to 18 months, he said.

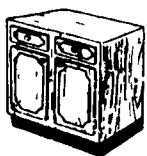


GIGANTIC SELECTION
IN
Lancaster Farming's
CLASSIFIEDS

W. W. CHARLES & DAUGHTERS, INC.

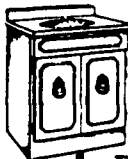
Building Supplies

PRE — HUNTING SEASON SALE

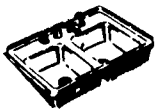


Interior Pine
Paneled Doors
1-3/8" - 1-3/4"

\$20 & up



NEW
Double Bowl
Porcelain, Bone & White



Kitchen Sinks

\$15.00 ea.

Seasoned Firewood
Kindling Wood

Rail Fencing
Green House Wire

Wide Variety Of
LIGHTS

75% OFF LIST

Vinyl Prints, Wood Grains,
Veneered Paneling —

All Plywood Backed

Large Variety To Choose From

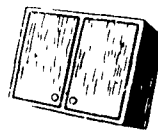
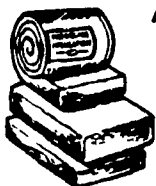
NEW Briggs Drop-In Bathroom
Wash Bowls For Vanities

Bone &
White

\$12.00 ea.

- 4x8 5/8" T-111
- Treated & Regular Lumber
- Ceiling Tile
- Vanities
- Resilient Flooring
- Insulation
- Molding
- Kitchen Cabinets

Armstrong, Congoleum, Tarkett, Mannington



NEW PROVIDENCE (717) 786-3738
Mon.-Thurs. 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Tues.-Wed.-Fri. 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Sat. 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Closed Sunday

OXFORD STORE, Rt. 10 North
(215) 932-4521
Mon. thru Fri. 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Sat. 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Closed Sunday

NOTICE: During Hunting Season
Hours May Vary — Please Call
First.

