

Joint study committee on milk marketing sets initial meeting

HARRISBURG — The future of mandatory wholesale and retail pricing of milk in Pennsylvania will be the topic of discussion during the first meeting of a newly created joint study committee, announces Sen. Edward W. Helfrick, chairman of the Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee. The meeting will take place in the Main Capitol Building, Room 461, at noon on Wednesday, Feb. 27.

"Late last year, as the General Assembly was considering Sunset legislation dealing with the Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board and changes to the State's Milk Marketing Law, an amendment was offered in the House which called for an additional study on resale pricing of milk," recalls Helfrick, who sponsored the original legislation (S.B. 1527). The Committee has until December 31, 1985 to report its findings to the General Assembly."

Helfrick points out that Act 243 of 1984 spells out the makeup of this joint study committee, consisting of four members representing consumers, four milk dealers, and four milk producers. These members are designated by the majority and minority leaders of

the House and Senate. Also serving are the majority and minority chairmen of the House and Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committees, and a member-at-large appointed by the state's Secretary of Agriculture.

An advisory committee, made up of the chairman of the Milk Marketing Board, the dean of Penn State's College of Agriculture, and the dean of the Wharton School of Business, and their respective

staffs, will be assisting the Joint Study Committee in its evaluation of milk prices.

Members of the Joint Study Committee and Advisory Committee include: Sen. Edward Helfrick, chairman, Senate Agriculture & Rural Affairs Committee; Sen. Patrick Stapleton, minority chairman; Rep. Samuel Morris, chairman, House Agriculture and Rural

Affairs Committee; Rep. Carmel Sirianni, minority chairman; James Sumner, director of the Bureau of Markets, Dept. of Agriculture; Daniel Martin, Manheim, producer, Theodore Hoover, Fatton, producer; Timothy Merwarth, Easton, producer; Barbara Robison, Coal Center, producer; Thomas Laudenslager, Wawa, milk dealer; William Schneider, Pittsburgh, milk dealer; Norm Rich,

Lewisburg, milk dealer; Richard Hartman, Reading, milk dealer; Patricia Long, Lebanon, consumer; Dortha Charles, Elizabeth, consumer; John Lord, Abington, consumer; Carol Brann, Lewisburg, consumer, Robert Derry, chairman, Pa. Milk Marketing Board; Samuel Smith, dean, Penn State's College of Agriculture; and Russell Palmer, dean, Wharton School of Business

Helms calls credit relief measure "substantial assistance"

WASHINGTON — Senator Jesse Helms, Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, said Secretary Block's announcement of credit relief measures for financially-strapped farmers is "timely and substantial assistance that will help farmers obtain funds necessary for spring planting."

"These new guidelines will help farmers and bankers make more effective use of the credit initiatives announced by President Reagan last year," said Helms. "It will also help to alleviate the substantial backlog of loan applications so that farmers can obtain necessary credit in a timely

manner.

The measures recently announced modify a credit program implemented in September by allowing banks to write down government guarantee for up to 90 percent of the loan. Banks will still have the option of obtaining the guarantee by writing off 10 percent of the loan principal.

"This plan will call for all sectors of the farm financial community, including producers, commercial bankers, and Federal financial personnel to cooperate in an effort to provide timely operating loans," said Helms.

"This certainly is not a long-rang answer to the problems in rural

America. It is a temporary solution for this lending season, but an effective one.

As our farmers know, these actions are no substitute for profits. During consideration of this year's farm bill, we must use that opportunity to make long-overdue changes in the government credit policy. And, we must also make necessary changes in farm policy to ensure that farmers can earn profits in the marketplace and earn increased income in the future," Helms concluded.

A significant aspect of the relief measure is a comprehensive review of agricultural policy through the establishment of a

Farm Credit Coordinating Group. The group will include the Secretary of Agriculture, Chairman of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Comptroller of the Currency, and other Treasury, USDA, and Farm Credit Administration officials. They will be responsible for coordinating the activities of the various government and private organizations involved in agricultural lending in dealing with current credit problems. Guarantees for operating loans will be provided to producers who have loans with failed financial institutions. Agencies with oversight of the nation's financial system will coordinate to ensure that banks provide reasonable forbearance with viable producers who may be experiencing temporary financial difficulties.

Also, USDA will institute credit hot lines, ease restrictions in recruiting members of credit support teams, and solicit state government and commercial bank personnel to aid Farmers Home Administration personnel in processing loan applications.



You're In
American Bank
Territory

A farmer's life isn't always good weather and bumper crops. Sometimes you need financial help. That's why it's good to know that American Bank's Agri-Business Department has regional offices throughout southeastern Pennsylvania. There's one nearby to help you.

Our regional Agri-Business offices give you something most banks can't. Understanding. Our Agri-Business experts live and work in your area. Each has a solid farming

background, combined with years of banking experience. Our special understanding means that loan decisions are made quickly, right in your local branch office.

Along with the personal attention we'll give you, American Bank has the resources you need.

When you need farm loans, or any banking service, see the American Bank Agri-Business specialists near you. It's good to know you're in American Bank territory.

Palmyra/Myerstown
Andrew C. Terrell
717-274-6402

Kennett Square/Thorndale
Gary Kline
215-444-6060

Lancaster
Bob Zook
717-295-8577

Reading
Dave Myers
215-320-2884

Or call 1-800-222-2150

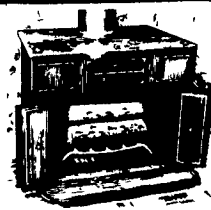
AMERICAN BANK

A **Meridian Bank**

An Equal Opportunity Lender

MEMBER FDIC

Watch Next Week's Paper For A
SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT
From Nu-Pulse
On
COMPUTER FEEDING



**Hydro Heater,
Conestoga &
Baker Stoves
Or Fireplace
Inserts**
"Before You Buy...
Give Us A Try"

J&A STOVE SALES

3753 East Newport Road, Gordonville, Pa. 17529
ROUTE 772 - 1/2 MILE EAST OF INTERCOURSE
717-768-8913

**You Can't Beat This Lineup
Of
TOP QUALITY SEEDS
For
HIGH YIELDS**

ALFALFA

WL 311 WL 313 WL 318
Saranac AR Shenandoah
Cimarron Magnum Big Ten

CLOVERS

Cert. Arlington Medium Red
Alsike

SEED OATS - NEW - TOP YIELD

Certified Larry Certified Porter

SOYBEANS

Certified Williams 82

— Free Inoculation (Except Soybeans) —

REIST SEED COMPANY

Finest Seeds (Since 1925)
Mount Joy, PA 717-653-1121