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some segments of agriculture.

Q. So we could say Extension in a way helps city and urban people become more aware of agriculture? Another area is the whole idea of textbooks, either giving an antiquated idea of agriculture or they give problem examples where agriculture is not in the text at all. Is there some way that we can get ag in the classroom through our textbooks? Is there some way Extension or Penn State itself can work on that?

A. I think there are ways that this can be done. I think this is certainly not one where all the ideas have been expressed. We all have to think creatively. The ag in the classroom concept makes a lot of sense to me in terms of getting in the hands of our science teachers examples and materials that they can utilitize in their classroom setting. For example in the food science area, there is a workbook that has been put together. It's made up of experiments for junior high school and high school level students that science teachers can utilize in their science laboratory. These are experiments on food. One has to do with the jellying phenomenon that occurs when you make jello. That's something that we all take for granted. But there is some very interesting chemistry involved there. One has to do with bread baking. And that's a very interesting process as well. So if we begin early, I think we can help students make that connection between the food that they eat and the interesting science behind it. And they will, then as they are looking at career opportunities and career possibilities, make that connection. And food science is in agriculture. The same thing can be said for some of the other fields in agriculture.

Q. So they pick up some of the ideas about agriculture by osmosis?

A. Yes. It's sort of by association. I think the word agriculture, quite honestly, except for those of us who are immersed in it, sometimes hurts us more than it helps us because of the narrow definition most people assign to it. Some are suggesting we ought to change the name of our college. I'm not about to jump into that one in my first year. But it's an interesting thought, because agriculture implies farming. It ought to be food in agriculture or agricultural sciences. Again the kids that are looking out there at a career, find it a bit misleading. Also don't forget the Governor's school for agriculture which we had for the first time this summer. That was a case where we had 65 of the brightest, young high school students from around the state and 28 or 29 of them came from one per each one of the intermediate units around the state. The other 35 or so came from across the state on a competitive basis. But in that five week period those kids had an opportunity to work with our faculty in laboratory settings, in field settings, in a whole variety of experiences. The enthusiasm it generates has come not only from farm kids where you would have known it would have been generated. But also for kids who came out of urban and suburban settings. I just had a letter last week from one of the people from Allegheny County talking about how they had formed a local alumni group for the school. They want to have an alumni get-together next year when the group is back. I think again we have been able to do something innovative.

Q. Let's jump a bit to the subject of biotechnology. Again it goes back to the production end of it. What ramifications do you see biotechnology having in agriculture? Whether it be in plants or dairy. It all has its implications on agriculture to some degree.

A. I honestly believe, Everett, that biotechnology is going to allow our producers, growers and processors to be more efficient in the long run. Now we are just at the beginning of time, if you will, as far as biotechnology is concerned. I think there are an infinite number of possibilities. For example, we now have the ability to move genetic information, pieces of genes, from one cell to another. That's simple biotechnology. The neat thing about that is that if you can identify what piece of a gene in a particular plant is responsible for resistance to a particular disease then you can transfer that gene into a plant that doesn't have that resistance. What that means is that you no longer have to spray for that disease. So this not only has the saving economically, but tremendously impacts environment. They are now breeding new varieties of fruits and vegetables and field crops with disease resistance built in. We've been breeding for disease resistance for a long time. But it's the old trial and error method. This one is resisted and this one isn't. And if we cross it maybe we'll get one. It's a very random type thing. But with biotechnology we have the techniques where we can identify that segment of the gene that's got that resistance in it. Then you can move it around into anything. You can move it from bacteria into plants into animals. That's a very exciting kind of thing. What that means is lower costs. And it's environmentally attractive. You can alter nutritional quality and so on. On the animal side. The work that's going on in our dairy and animal science department includes feeding growth hormone to pigs. What we are able to show is that we can produce leaner pork by the use of this growth hormone. You have much less fat and you don't have to change the feed. It doesn't alter the eating quality. And the consumer wants less fat. Let's face it. We do need to be thinking about what is attractive to the consumer, not what we think is good for agriculture. This is what biotechnology can do. And what that means then is that we can tailor make our products. Therefore, presumably make them more marketable. So I think it has tremendous marketing potential in agriculture.

Q. How would you assess the future of agriculture?

A. We have today in spite of all you hear, some incredible opportunities in the food agriculture and forestry sectors. I think we've just got to identify and define those sectors. Address them vigorously and not ring our hands about what has been or what might have been. Let's be positive. Seek out opportunities. A friend of mine said, "There are no problems. There are just opportunities." I think that's true in agriculture. Agriculture defined in a broad sense. The importance of research and Extension to identify and explore these opportunities is an incredible opportunity. But we are not going to make advances if we don't have those good research and Extension programs.

Lancaster Farmers to Meet Oct. 13

LANCASTER – The 35th annual meeting of the Lancaster County Farmers' Association will be held Monday evening, October 13, 1986, at 7 p.m., at the Country Table Restaurant, Route 230 East, Mount Joy.

Purpose of the session is to elect officers and adopt policies for the general farm organization, which has 1,187 farm members.

The terms of seven Board of Director members expire at this annual meeting, including Issac Geib, Manheim; Earl G. Martin, Ephrata; Dennis Weaver, Lititz; Earl Newcomer, Washington Boro; Paul Hartz, Morgantown; Gordon Hoover, Gap; and James Hess, Quarryville.

The farm group has been actively gathering policy suggestions from its membership, which will be submitted to the total membership for its consideration. Once policies are adopted they remain in force for one year.

Delegates to the annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Farmers' Association, which will be held November 17, 18, & 19, at Hershey Lodge Convention, Hershey, are to be chosen also.

President Donald Ranck, Paradise, will give his annual report along with several standing committee chairmen.

Tickets for the county annual meeting are available from any board of director member, or can be paid at the door Monday evening.

Entertainment will be provided by the LANCO LADDS, a barbershop quartet from Lancaster. Their routine includes classic ballads, comedy, and beautiful harmonizing.

The Lancaster County Farmers' Association is active in community affairs and is a lobbying organization working to secure favorable legislation for the rural community. It also offers business services to its members.