Cumberland Valley Cooperative Reports Drop In Sales Volume

BY KATHY GILL

Special to Lancaster Farming SHIPPENSBURG - About 600 member-owners and guests attended the 57th annual meeting of Cumberland Valley Cooperative, held here at Shippensburg High School Feb. 21. During the meeting General Manager Henry Zajac reported that sales volume for the cooperative had dropped.

Zajac said sales dropped from \$7.1 million in 1985 to \$6.6 million in 1986. Sales reflected lower fertilizer prices as well as the fact that the cooperative did not sell corn in the fall for future delivery.

The combination of lower sales and relatively stable costs meant that CVC showed a net loss of \$366,000 for fiscal (calendar) 1986.

Zajac outlined several steps that the board and management had taken to respond to the financial pressure. First, the cooperative sold its Mechanicsburg fuel oil business. Estimates indicated that organization would have the

needed to increase sales five times to operate profitably.

Second, the cooperative sold its farm equipment and machinery line at the Shippensburg branch. The building was remodeled as a Farm and Home Center, recognizing the changing market for equipment and the needs of the local community.

Third, the board directed management to consolidate services where possible and add profitable services when possible. As a result, grinding and delivery at Longsdorf has been transferred to other locations. Moreover, fertilizer spreader trucks are being better utilized by the sale and spreading of a damp, high magnesium limestone.

In other business, president Wayne Craig recognized Floyd Mains for his contributions to CVC, both as manager and as a director. Dr. Walter Kenneth from Central Soya briefed the audience on CVC's relationship with Central Soya and their Master Mix brand.



Cumberland Valley Cooperative general manager Henry Zajac reports on the co-op's progress in 1986.

He also outlined activities at the tertainment provided by Debi and company's research facility in Indiana.

The meeting closed with en-

Chris Peterson of Huntingdon, who performed Broadway favorites accompanied by a planist.

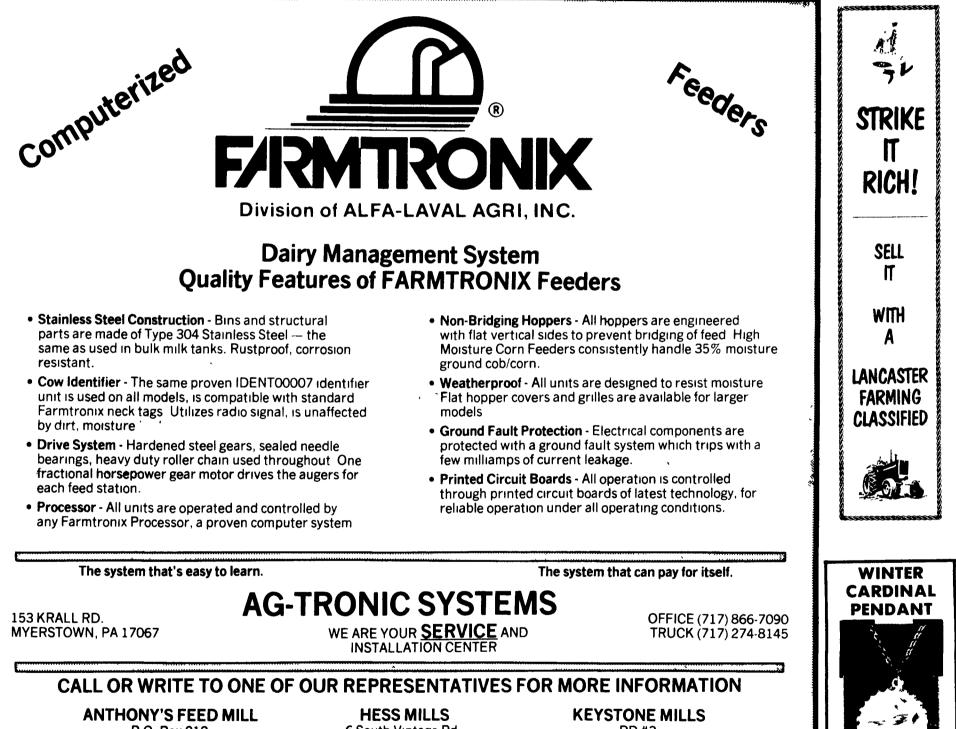
CVC Elects Directors

SHIPPENSBURG - Four new directors and two incumbents have been elected to the board of directors of Cumberland Valley Cooperative.

Ron Allison, Chambersburg, and R. Craig Fulton, Shippensburg, were re-elected to three-year terms. Allison is a dairy farmer in partnership with his brother, milking 175 cows. Fulton farms with his son and milks 90 cows.

Elected to their first three-year terms were Paul Hoch, Shippensburg; Lester E. Martin, Chambersburg; J. Robert Meyers, Jr., St. Thomas; and Frank J. Yost, Newville.

Hoch milks 150 cows with his brother; Martin has 180 dairy cows; Meyers farms with his brother, which consists of 160 dairy cows; and Yost milks 60 cows.



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