

# NFU, Farmland Industries Officials Meet

KANSAS CITY, MO — National Farmers Union President Leland Swenson has urged Farmland Industries officials to maintain basic cooperative principles within Farmland's "Project Tomorrow" restructuring proposal.

During a meeting at Farmland's Kansas City headquarters, Swen-

son called on Farmland President James Rainey to adhere to cooperative approaches of governing the system such as "one member-one vote."

Farmland officials unveiled "Project Tomorrow" earlier this year and touted it as a program to make the agribusiness giant more efficient and competitive. The

proposal would raise the equity and patronage requirements local co-ops must meet to gain voting status within Farmland. Presently, any local co-op that pays a \$25 membership fee is eligible to vote, but Rainey contends that larger patrons of the regional co-op should be afforded greater control. "Project Tomorrow" would raise

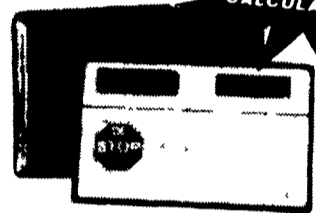
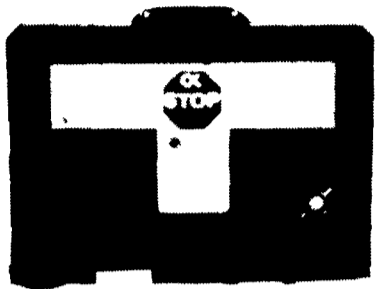
the requirements for membership of local co-ops in the Farmland system but maintain the one member-one vote principle for those co-ops meeting the requirements.

Following the meeting Swenson said, "We were in agreement that,

in the face of the changing agricultural climate, cooperatives too, must make adjustments." Swenson pledged to help Farmland carry on the "basic cooperative principles" that he says have served co-ops and their farmer-owners well during changing times.

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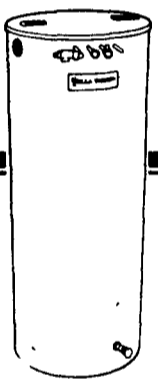
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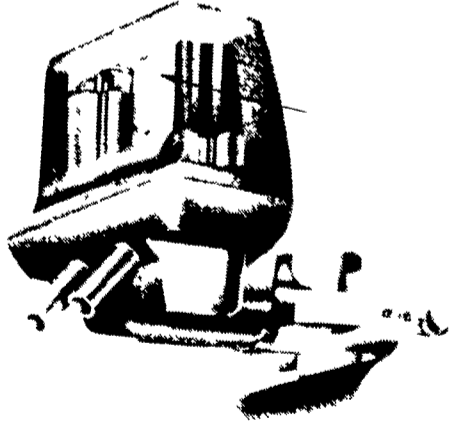
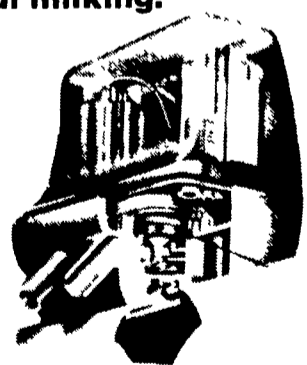
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