

Pioneer Initiates Campaign

DES MOINES, Iowa — Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. has initiated a campaign to help pass a comprehensive trade agenda in Congress.

The goal is to secure passage of a series of measures in Congress that can expand U.S. agricultural exports within the global marketplace and increase demand — and prices — for U.S. agricultural products.

The program urges Congress to vote in favor of three specific items to open export markets for U.S. growers: fast track trade negotiating authority, full funding for the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and reform of the unilateral sanctions policy to keep agricultural export opportunities open.

Pioneer offers a special section on its web site, www.pioneer.com, which provides background information on legislative issues. In addition, it offers a draft letter and tips on writing members of Congress, as well as websites access to the House of Representatives so users can send e-mail to their Representatives.

The material can be accessed directly at http://www.pioneer.com/pioneer_info/statements/index.htm. Users can also visit the Pioneer home page, click "What's New" and find the material under "Tell Congress What You Think About Trade!"

Pioneer is urging its U.S. employees, sales force and customers to write, call or e-mail their representatives in Washington to ask them to pass these market expansions measures.



Dottie Freeman, manager of the farm museum, says the barn will serve as a resource for the community once it is finished.

Old Barn Finds

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roustabout was placed underneath the heavy beams and a crane with cables and a crank was used to lift the beams enough to dislodge them.

So far the reconstruction phase has gone pretty smoothly, too, thanks to the craftsmanship of Stoltzfus and his crew. Stoltzfus said he found that upon disassembling and reassembling the barn, some weaknesses surfaced in the structure that weren't really a problem as long as the barn was sitting in one place. "With this job I sort of discovered for myself that a barn can be in pretty bad shape, and you can fix it up. But as far as moving it, disassembling it and re-

assembling it, it's like five times worse. To take it completely apart and reassemble it, it was about bad enough," he said. "We did a fair amount of replacement work where we did some mortise and tenon work. There were a couple of spots where we had to replace a beam. As far as being structurally sound, maybe we could have found a better barn."

The crew's experience in the barn building business enabled them to compensate when they ran into a problem. For example, some of the posts and beams downstairs were unsound. In order to get the materials they needed, the crew tore another barn apart at Blue Ball, in Lancaster County,

Pennsylvania, and had it trucked down to the job site at the Farm Museum. The original fitting pieces mostly fit back together, explained Stoltzfus.

Instead of a stone foundation, the barn is being rebuilt on a poured concrete foundation that will eventually be faced with stone. Dottie Freeman explained that this was done for safety reasons, because such a large number of people will be using the barn. The posts rest on poured concrete footers. The framing is almost finished at this point, and new rough-cut hemlock siding and a new everlast-pattern tin roof will be installed by W.W. Builders.

Each day the crew works on the barn, they must travel from Chris-

tiana to Westminster, a trip that takes between 2-2½ hours one way. They try to come down several times a week. Freeman hopes the barn will be completed and ready to use by next spring.

In the meantime, the Carroll County Farm Museum is sponsoring several fundraising activities to help off set the cost of the project.

"Carroll County has really come together in a comraderie, donating time and talent for this project," she explained. "This is the people's museum. In the long run, tax dollars are paying for the Museum, and we are the caretakers. It is a resource that is here for the community."

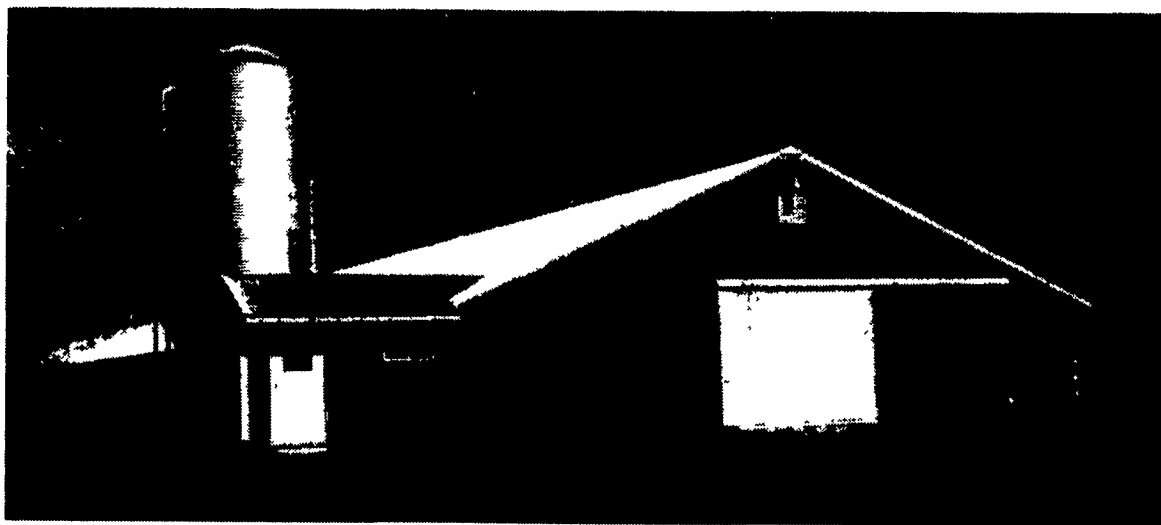
Stoltzfus shared another lesson

that might be learned from the barn. That is the way that, when it was first constructed in the 19th century, building the barn was a community event, bringing people together for a common purpose, and reinforcing their sense of community. He said that is something he thinks is missing today. The original builders were more of an interdependent group, and relied on each other more, and that was a good thing. Now, he suggested, neighbors are disconnected from one another, and the community suffers as a result.

"The original labor was probably mostly volunteer for the original building," he said, "and that's what makes a community strong."

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