

# Unity Rally Draws Attention

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restrictions on and challenges in agriculture, and will probably not become a farmer.

Majority Chairman, Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee Michael Waugh, told participants that "today is a day well spent. It's extremely important to your business and to your future to be here today."

He urged producers to "work together. We're more diverse today than ever before in agriculture. We're specializing and incorporating and becoming more than a family farm. More than ever it is important to organize, be united, and be involved."

"Learn how to work with the media and politicians," he said. "We need all who are involved in agriculture to speak together and be united."

Michael O'Pake, minority chairman, Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee, noted that "agriculture remains this country's number one industry." Pennsylvania is the top producer of mushrooms, potato chips, pretzels, and processed chocolate and cocoa, "a sampling of Pennsylvania agriculture's impressive resume," he said.

O'Pake also emphasized the importance of speaking with one voice. "Without this unity, I would be discussing the vagaries of 'what if,' but today I'm discussing the excellence of 'what is.'"

"People underestimate the

degree to which they can influence public policy by relating with those representatives who make legislative decisions," said Raymond Bunt, majority chairman, House Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee.

Legislators without a vested interest in an issue look to representatives who have committee appointments for information, he said. "Creating an organized approach does make a difference. We are interested in seeing that all sectors of agriculture be profitable," said Bunt.

Peter Daley, minority chairman, House Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee, asked the crowd to imagine what would happen in Pennsylvania "if we all got together and announced that the producers of Pennsylvania were going on strike."

"You will never see an announcement by farmers of Pennsylvania that they are going on strike," he said. "You will never see children without milk at the breakfast table. Farmers made, and continue to make, Pennsylvania what it is."

Agriculture Secretary Sam Hayes also spoke at the event. Hayes reviewed several of the commonwealth's industries that "are remnants of what was much larger."

"When this country started, agriculture was number one. It had to be number one by necessity. They knew they had to feed themselves. Whatever they were

professionally in the old country" took second place to the pressing need of food production, said Hayes.

"Agriculture has continued to be on the center stage economically, politically, and socially," he said. "Today it stands as number one and we're proud of it. Our mission is... to be sure that agriculture in the 21st century doesn't become but a remnant of what it was in the 20th century or in earlier days."

Hayes also warned about forcing agriculture "off-shore by public policies that would cause frustration or alienation."

In keeping with the recent agriculture week's theme, "Harmony in the World," Hayes said that "there cannot be harmony without strong agriculture. There is no harmony if men and women do not have the requisite food, clothing, and shelter that agriculture products provide."

"We have to give full recognition that one of our strategic strengths is our agriculture industry. We must continue to produce food in sufficient quality and quantities" to keep America from relying on foreign agriculture.

"When we are dependent on others, we have to make decisions we would not normally make. With agriculture as number one we are not compromised."

The rally was conducted in conjunction with Pennsylvania Farm Bureau's state legislative conference. The conference concluded with a banquet Tuesday evening.

# Cattle Gift Creates Bond

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Villagers learned how to utilize the manure to produce better crops. They constructed a milking shed. Sule said that in tropical climates such as West Africa, calves need to be kept with the mother to enable her "to let down milk."

Fencing also prevented cattle from eating a neighbor's grain. "It brought peace to our community," Sule said of the infighting that often had resulted when a neighbor's cow ate another's crop.

HI also provided Sule's Muslim village with seeds

through the passing on the gift program.

The African government was very supportive of the new way of raising cattle because it helped solved the grazing conflict that had plagued the country for generations.

"HI calls this informal training, but I call it 'formal education,'" Sule said of the agricultural methods that help his community better itself.

Unexpectedly, the Oklahoma City bombing caused an additional benefit to the West African village.

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Volunteer committee members for the southeastern Pennsylvania Heifer International include, from left, Rev. John Dieterly, Manheim; Nancy Brown, Lancaster; Mark Nestleroth, Manheim; Frank Baber, Lancaster; Cassell Mummau, Mount Joy; Rev. William Brown, Lancaster; and Rich Schmidt, Wrightsville.



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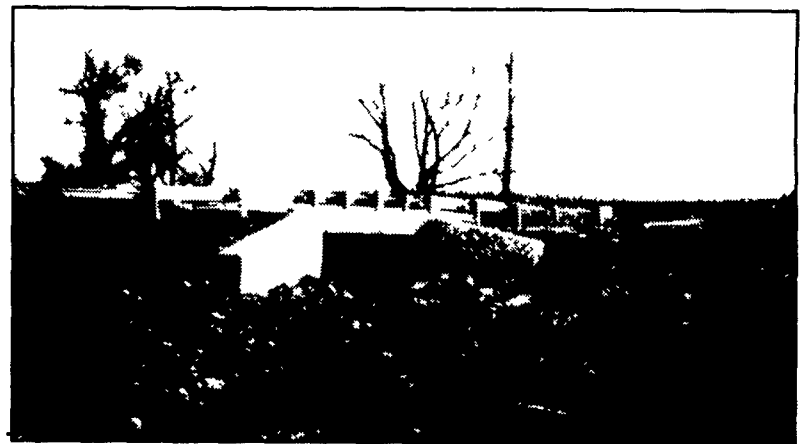
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