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Bergland Uses Foul Languages; Threatens Congressmen

Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland, using language reminiscent of Earl Butz, warned congressmen to lay off the president.

Bergland was quoted as saying to reporters that nothing would be done to keep Democrats from getting re-elected, but after they won, they could expect visits informing them that "if you pee on the president, it's going to come right back to you."

Bergland referred to political "bedwetters" and "cheap shot" artists, saying they will learn "THE FUN AND GAMES ARE OVER."

Bergland denied having a "Hit List" but Bergland's Aide, when questioned about Congressman Richard Nolan, the farmers' champion, said "Boy, that'd be the first name that would pop into my mind."

Bergland's aide said several Georgia congressmen had tried to win political favor with the American Agriculture Movement "when they should have known better."

Congressman Nolan told reporters that Carter's cheap food policy may have something to do with the Trilateral Commission, of which both Carter and Mondale are former members. Bergland apparently has dedicated himself to protecting President Carter from embarrassment and further decline in his image and popularity.

Bergland apparently has forgotten that the "farm strikers" are part of the population he is supposed to serve.

Congressman Richard Nolan, chairman of the House Family Farm Subcommittee, has helped the American Agriculture Movement at many turns, and has written a "Dear Colleague" letter asking support for a Joint Resolution to mandate Bergland use his existing authority to raise loan rates to 90% of parity, a course that Bergland as a congressman insisted that then secretary Butz take.

Finlay Lewis of the Minneapolis Tribune, surmised that Richard Nolan would suffer Bergland's wrath unless he changed courses.

American Agriculture supporters see this as evidence that the American Agriculture Movement is getting to the administration.

Good Guy of the Week

Good Guy of the Week nomination goes to AAM champion, Congressman Richard Nolan, who is suffering Agriculture Secretary Bergland's wrath because of his outspoken support of American Agriculture.

AAM supporters, don't you agree we should rally to the aid of Congressman Richard Nolan in no uncertain terms?

August 16 - The House Agriculture Committee approved by a rollcall vote of 36 to 2 a bill aimed at forcing public disclosure of foreign land ownership.

The bill would require all foreign interests which own or operate land used for



Lending a helping hand are farmers from Iona and Winner, South Dakota. They helped with the windrowing and bale hauling at Wayne Peterson's place so Wayne could stay in Washington. These are the same fellows who gave the Petersons a feed lift last winter.

Bergland Will Use ASCS Appointments As Patronage Lever

Ag Secretary Bob Bergland said he will use ASCS posts as patronage levers to change certain congressmen's behavior.

"I've no intention of appointing some of those supported by these birds who take cheap shots," said Bergland.

"The only way they'll get these guys reappointed is to call President Carter and get me overruled," Bergland said.

It is doubtful that most farmers realize that ASCS

officials are political appointees. Apparently Bergland is saying Congressmen who play along with him will be allowed to appoint their friends to ASCS slots, and congressmen who don't go along with him will get to appoint no one.

The question arises whether knowledge of agriculture is a criteria for an ASCS appointment.

Bergland indicated the White House was aware of his plans to make certain congressmen regret their disloyalty.

Farmer Applauded at Labeling Hearing

August 23, Wichita, Kansas. An AAM farmer was applauded after he testified on imported meat labeling. The audience got so quiet one could have heard a pin drop during the testimony, a witness said. Only one other person got applause - a senator got a smattering when he stood up for states rights.

Most consumers thought of labeling as only on cans until farmers testified. Consumers thought food was too high but did not blame the farmer.

One farmer pointed out that the square meals the moderators had just eaten netted the farmer only 2¢ each.

Testifying were David Senter and Derel Fillingim, Texas. A Kansas farmer.

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agricultural or forest production to file reports with the Secretary of Agriculture. A similar bill was earlier passed by the Senate.

The bill would not restrict or regulate land purchases by foreign individuals or companies.

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House Ag Hearings Full Committee

Sept 7 & 8 - Full Committee business meeting (Markup) 1301 LHOB. Subject - Markup of the following bills: HR 12917 by Mr. Fithian et al, Rural Transportation Study (final vote.) HR 12559 by Mr. Brown of California et al, Native Latex (Guayule) Commercialization Act; HR 13706 by Mr. de la Garza, Repeal Certain Requirements Relating to Notice of Animal and Plant Quarantines; HR 12556 by Mr. Conable. For the Relief of Batavia Turf Farms, Inc. (Golden Nematode) and HR 13845 by Mr. Panetta et al. Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act Amendments.

1/3 quorum rule will be in effect; however, full quorum will be needed for final passage of these items. NOTE: If the Committee concludes with this agenda, it is expected that these meetings will be the last of the session unless an emergency arises.

SUBCOMMITTEES

Sept 27 - Dairy and Poultry Subcommittee, Oversight Hearing 1301 LHOB. Subject: The use of antibodies in animal health maintenance for poultry, dairy cattle.

Sept. 28 - Dairy and Poultry Subcommittee, Oversight Hearing, 1301 LHOB. Subject: Impact of proposed nitrite restrictions on the American poultry industry.

October 3 - Dairy and Poultry Subcommittee, Oversight Hearings 1301 LHOB. Subject: Multilateral Trade Negotiations affecting the Dairy Industry.

October 4 - Dairy and Poultry Subcommittee Oversight Hearing, 1301 LHOB. Subject: Multilateral Trade Negotiations affecting the poultry industry.

The House Ag Hearing September 28 will consider possible action by the FDA on nitrates in poultry and poultry products.

**If You Don't
Want To Be
Involved -
Quit Eating!**

August 16 - More ag news in Washington Post this week than ever. Wisconsin made the Post. Some SW Wisconsin farmers set fire to 4,000 bushels of corn and oats to protest low prices for farm products and to draw attention to the problems of farmers. About 75 farmers participated Monday in the Demo organized by the AAM of Wisconsin.

New Farm Loans

The Ag Department has announced the first loans to be made under the new \$4 billion emergency credit program approved by Congress recently. The first direct loan was made to the Joseph Kirwan family of Gregory, SD. The first guaranteed loan was made to the Bob Vincent family of Tonkawa, Oklahoma.

Railroad transportation has supposedly bounced back vigorously from the crisis situation of late winter and early spring. It is moving grain in unprecedented volume from country gathering points and on to export terminals.

Japan's agriculture minister will meet Friday in Tokyo with US Ambassador Mike Mansfield and may make further concessions on farm product imports.

China Buys Wheat

The ag department announced Monday that US exporters have reported new sales of one million metric tons of wheat to the People's Republic of China for delivery during the current year. This makes a total of 2 million tons.

August 17 - We must get more co-signers on the HJ Res 1093 to have it considered as emergency legislation to be considered this year.

Those who are important to have supporting HJ Res 1093 are:

Tobacco - Jones, Rose, Whitley of North Carolina.
Sugar - Huckaby and Moore of Louisiana and Akaka of Hawaii.

Corn - Harkin, Grassley, and Bedell of Iowa, Fithian, Indiana, Skeleton and Volkmer of Missouri, Findley of Illinois, Hagedorn, Minnesota, Coleman, Missouri.

Sugar - De La Garza, Texas.

Wheat - English, Oklahoma, Johnson, Colorado; Poage, Texas;

Washington Report

Foley, Washington;
Risenhoover, Oklahoma.

From the South - Ed Jones, Tennessee; Mathis, Georgia; Bowen, Mississippi; Breckenridge, Kentucky; Thornton, Arkansas.

Try to see these congressmen while they are out campaigning in their districts, or write or call their office or campaign headquarters. Get hold of their speaking schedules and be there, talking about HJ Res 1093.

August 18 - Ag Secretary Bergland said the administration would not buy up any sizeable amount of surplus corn later this year. He told reporters he "had no plans to do anything to bail out" farmers who did not cooperate with the set-aside program (and thus are not eligible for price support loans.)

Bergland also said the administration intends to use "old fashioned political discipline" after the election against Democratic congressmen who take "cheap shots" at the president, but he added that voting records alone would not be grounds for "discipline."

At the Michigan fair, the AAM booth is situated by the Pioneer Seed Corn Booth and across from two implement dealers. The farmers are not interested in buying seed corn and shiny new machinery. They are visiting the AAM booth trying to figure out how to get a fair price for what they are producing.

Government safety experts consider the latest cancer evidence against the meat preservative nitrite so damning they have already drawn up a plan to ban it completely, according to a document obtained by UPI. The joint Ag Dept, FDA action plan is still undergoing scrutiny elsewhere in the administration. It calls for a proposal to be published this fall for a phase-out of the chemical now used in bacon, hot dogs, lunch meat, and other products. The plan warns that some of America's favorite foods may never taste the same again, and that consumers, retailers and others in the post-nitrite era will have to be educated to avoid meat spoilage and botulism.

A recent study linking nitrates and cancer may force cash hog prices lower, according to livestock analysts.

The UN Food and Agriculture Organization predicts that a gradual buildup of reserves and use of export quotas should raise world sugar prices to within

the range set by the International sugar agreement.

Growing world demand for soybeans and protein will probably require an additional 50 million bushels of American Soybean production each year for the next 5 years.

August 20 - AAM would like to promote statewide unity meetings of all farmers, whether they be AAM, Farmers Union, NFO, Farm Bureau or a commodity group. The purpose being to promote passage of HJ Res 1093 to achieve 90% parity as soon as possible. All of rural America needs to get the support of all production to keep our economy going. We need to get the support of all the congressmen and senators. AAM leaders, please contact your state farm group leaders to get together to promote this one thing - price.

Japanese Orange Growers Appeal to Americans

A full page ad in Washington Post, placed by Japanese growers of Mandarin Oranges, appeals to the American people to drop US insistence for expanded exports of American Oranges to Japan. The ad says US proposals would severely damage small Japanese farms who have already been forced to cut back production and seek alternate crops

In the same paper, a full page ad for last chance at low priced Japanese made TV sets in Washington DC department stores.

USDA Wins Golden Fleece

The Ag Department has won Senator Proxmire's monthly Golden Fleece Award for a research project in which pregnant pigs walk on treadmills to ease boredom and psychological stress. The award is given for federal projects which Proxmire considers a waste of money. USDA Assistant Secretary Rupert Cutler said he was sure pork producers were interested in improving productivity would find the research useful.

Bergland Campaigning

Bob Bergland is out on the campaign trail. In Berkeley Bedell's district in Iowa, he was met with strong words from AAM, proclaiming 100% parity was the ultimate goal. He will also be met in Harkins district with the same message. Next meeting will be in Max Baucus

District in Montana where he should get the message again.

The USDA not only has the pigs walking on a treadmill, but also the USDA keeps the country's farmers walking the treadmill of poverty. We have to stop this if the nation is to survive. So farmers, let's have as many as possible in Washington September 5 and 6 when Congress reconvenes. Let's not be called vacation strikers. Renew the strike by being here this fall to save the family farm. South Dakota has their state representatives 100% on HJ Res 1093. Other states have been in and it shows. Next week we will be concentrating on the Senators here in Washington, and be out in the country working on the Congressmen.

August 21 - Make your plans now to be in Washington September 6 when Congress reconvenes. AAM work sessions begin this day on the bill, seeing both the congressmen and senators. Time is of the essence. Chairman Foley of the House Ag Committee says this is the last week the House Ag Committee will consider legislation unless it is emergency legislation. Agriculture is in a crisis, and we consider HJ Res 1093 and SJ Res 155 Emergency Legislation that has to be passed this year.

Attend the National meeting in Cheboygan, Michigan, Sunday September 3 and support the rally at the bridge the 4th protesting imported meat. Then on to Washington to get our resolution passed for better prices. In Michigan the state caucus will be on Saturday at 4 p.m. September 2 at Cheboygan Fairgrounds.

Our main job in Washington this week is to get senators to co-sponsor Senate Joint Resolution 155 introduced by Senator Zorinsky of Nebraska for 90% parity loan levels. He was very pleased to introduce this and I am sure he will handle the committee and floor work with enthusiasm.

Out in the country, we hope the AAM farmers are getting the message to their congressmen and senators that we not only want them as co-signers on HJ Res 1093 and SJ Res 155, we would like their active support in getting their colleagues on the resolution, getting the resolution through the committee, on the floor and voted for. (Tip O'Neill and Jim Wright.)

Finally, congressmen, senators and voters have to make it clear that we expect the president's signature and secretary's action to raise support levels to 90% of parity.

Many states will be represented at the bridge in Michigan. We need all of you farmers to come to Washington from Michigan to make it clear to the Congress and the administration that we have a continued page 3

Around the Countryside

Wyoming - Recently Albin, Wyoming, a community close to Burns, celebrated its 50th birthday. Howard Deselms drove his tractor, spruced up with signs, in the parade.

AAM meets every Monday night at Burns, Wyoming, the state office. They made a float, which is now traveling around the state. The Burns office manned a booth at the Laramie County Fair.

The Burns office is sending speakers out to discuss the needs of agriculture with many organizations in Cheyenne. They will host a meeting this fall with Wyoming agricultural organizations, lending institutions, and churches to exchange ideas for the betterment of America.

Wyoming State meeting is held every month in Casper.

"Most of us feel we must do 'whatever it takes' soon, before we and America sink into oblivion," says Mrs. Bill Boyd for American Agriculture in Wyoming.

Wyoming's House and Senate Ag Committees will meet in September. Wyoming AAM will press for meat labeling and inspection laws. This is part of Wyoming's Republican platform.

A formal AAM structure and membership dues were discussed at the Wyoming State Meeting August 13. Keith Weber, a man well known in the state, will coordinate organizational plans for membership.

Wyoming AAM will invite the Wyoming Bankers Association, PCA, Federal Land Bank, FmHA, State Farm Loan Board, the Commissioner of Agriculture, the Farmers Union, Farm Bureau, NFO, WIFE, Grange, Stockgrowers, Woolgrowers, and Wheatgrowers to a meeting in late September to discuss productivity tax, rail car shortages, and imports.

Keith Weber was elected to represent feed grains on the commodity committee; Walt Kranz, small grains, and "Hap" Stuart, livestock. A specialty group representative is needed.

Wayne Moore suggested AAM ask politicians to comment on the government's cheap food policy and the purpose of the USDA, instead of whether they support parity or not, and have a tape recorder handy. Comments will be compiled for distribution before the primary.

New Burns Office hours are 9 to 3 p.m. Monday and Thursday.

Lusk, Wyoming - The AAM booth won third place at the county fair. It was decorated with a United States map with American Agriculture Goals overlaid. Signs proclaimed the 5 goals.

Sadie Hanson manned the booth, and when people weren't picking up American Ag News papers, she dashed around the parking lot and threw them in the cars while people were watching the rodeo.

The AAM float held two people with pitchforks, in costume, at the front, and at the back Uncle Sam was hanging the US farmer.

"It seems a leader isn't enough - we've all got to act as if we are the only Robinson Crusoes around," says Sadie Hanson.

News From Minnesota

We drove from western Montana through east Montana, North Dakota and Minnesota the past week. Cattle were almost non-existent the whole way, with grass lush and untouched. The formerly large herds appear to be gone. We saw only a few herds and they consisted of only about 30-40 head or even less.

We are very familiar with the area and were amazed at the decline in cattle numbers, far worse than we had imagined. Talked to several ranchers who told us herds were sold out after 2 years of drought, severe winter and low prices. They said the cattle truckers and haulers have also gone out of business so there would not be anyone to move cattle even if they restocked, which they probably will not.

It sure seems strange that NCA seemed so thrilled with Carter's statement that he will not reopen imports this year. I feel sure other countries do not have cattle either, just as AAM maintained. When we left home, cattle prices had been declining a dollar a week for several weeks, and it looks as if supply and demand is not working again, and the beef packers monopoly is back in total control. Also, we encountered several freight trains pulling box cars marked "Mitsui Lines" (Japan).

Here in Minnesota we are now reading that milk is becoming in short supply. We also noticed the big dairy herds are very small, evidently cut back along with beef cattle. At the auctions, one sees no beef breeds, just dairy cattle to supply local meat. Along the way it appeared to us in all the states that there were not enough cattle to supply the people living nearby - no surplus to ship out of the county.

We purchased gasohol at the Farmers Union gas station at Wolf Point, Montana. The manager told us users are enthusiastic, the main cost being freight from Illinois. He said he expected the giant oil companies to close them down though, and not let them sell gasohol. As one senator said, the oil companies are stronger than the US government.

We passed a great number of feedlots, including several commercial, and there was not even one head of cattle in them. So why are beef prices steadily falling? The packing monopoly must be clearly back in the saddle again. Fat cattle declined \$2 in St. Paul on August 17, continuing the trend downward.

Nita G. Robbin

Ness City, Kansas - AAM entered a float in the Ness County Parade and placed first in that category and won \$10. Their booth at the Ness County Fair won a blue ribbon and \$15. They distributed 500 American Ag News, and plan to buy an AAM Flag with their winnings.

Idaho - The Northern Idaho AAM office will have a booth at the Latah County Fair and hand out American Ag News and copies of the Cederberg-Nolan bill summary.

A strong move is on to limit taxation to 1 percent of property value.

Mayfield, Kentucky

Alvin Jenkins spoke at the Graves County Fairgrounds at Mayfield, Kentucky August 24. This was the first big meeting since spring. Everyone ate a pot luck supper before the meeting.

R. L. Holloway, Abilene, Texas, and the Ron Ibbetsons, Colby, Kansas, were at a family reunion at Walnut Springs, Texas weekend before last. They learned that Iredell was just 10 miles down the road so stopped in even. saw the newly discovered Dinosaur Tracks near Iredell. Mr. Holloway said that big things can come from small towns.

Guymon Panhandle District meets every third Monday at 8 p.m. at the Hooker American Legion Building.

**Whatever
It Takes -
American
Agriculture**



This tractor was driven by Howard Deselms in the Albin Days parade celebrating Albin, Wyoming's 50th anniversary.

Washington Report

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crisis in agriculture. We have an emergency resolution that must be considered in this 95th congress.

Co signers on HJ Res 1093 as of August 21 are Nolan, Cederberg, Traxler, Robinson, Hightower, Carr, Fraser, Pressler, Baldus, Glickman, Evans, Brown, Abnor, Pursell, Kildee, Jenrette, Thone, Smith, Sebelius, Kastenmeier, Robinson, Fountain, Marlenee, Holland, and Oberstar.

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Coming Events

Stonington, Illinois - Free supper and rally August 28 at Bob Carter farm. Guest speakers will be Gene Schroder and Dr. Lybecker, economist from Southern Illinois University.

El Reno, Oklahoma - Rally August 31 in the Educational Building at the Fair Grounds at El Reno. 8 p.m. Alvin Jenkins will speak.

Cheboygan, Michigan - September 1 - 4, National AAM meeting

Coffeeville, Kansas - J. C. Lewis will speak at 8 p.m. at the high school, West 8th and Roosevelt September 1.

Hoisington, Kansas - Barbecue hosted by Great Bend, Galatia and Albert AAM, in conjunction with the annual Labor Day Parade. Parade is through downtown Hoisington. Barbecue tickets on sale now at all Barton County AAM offices and some local businesses.

Alvin Jenkins, one of the original founders of AAM, WILL SPEAK.

The speech is free. Barbecue tickets are \$2.50 each. Mail orders to American Agriculture, PO Box 111, Albert, Kansas 67411. For further information, call 316-923-4573.

Esteleen, Texas - J. C. Lewis will speak September 5.

Wathena, Kansas - J. C. Lewis will speak at Wathena at Christ Lutheran Church on Hwy 36 West on September 12 at 8 p.m.

Lewis will also be guest speaker on Gregg Everett's Open Line on KKJO (St. Joseph, Missouri) between 9 and 10 a.m. September 12.

Mailbag

Spreading Word

I was passing the J. C. Lewis tapes to neighbors and decided that wasn't good enough, so worked on bankers, lawyers, and business men. Then realized that isn't fast enough. So I call editors of magazines, managers of radio stations, and presidents and managers of big companies and coops to ask them to listen to the tape. I should do more. We must contact church leaders - that would be spreading the word faster than just the local ministers.

There is a priest in central Kansas telling of the Trilateral every Sunday. One Sunday he just named the members and companies involved.

Mrs. Lois Scheufler

Wants Chaplain's Corner Back

What happened to the Chaplain's Corner in the American Agriculture News. The Chaplain's article read in the April 6 issue, "If we don't return to God when we are in trouble, or under stress, how can we expect Him to help us in these times only if we don't read His word and give Him praise for what we have and what He has done for us already. Do not seek just a price, but seek also what is right and try to correct what is wrong."

This could surely be what is wrong with the farming industry. We have been relying on others to help us in our troubles instead of relying on God to direct and guide us.

Maybe we have put our faith in our congressmen, our secretary of agriculture, and our president, instead of God. Why not turn to the Bible, pick it up and read it each day in the time we spend complaining about our prices. Spend some time praying for our leaders instead of cussing them. Pray that they might follow 2 Samuel 23:3, "When one rules justly over men, ruling in fear of God."

2 Chronicles 7:14 tells us how to receive 100% parity if we would only follow.

Would like to see the Chaplain's Corner back in the American Agriculture News.

Melba Gray
Spade, Texas

Chaplain, that is your cue!
Editor

Your newspapers are passed from one farm family to another until they are tattered and torn.

We have also heard a number of tape recordings by J. C. Lewis and others. All of this tells us we have been asleep.

Best wishes to all of you.
Robert C. Patterson
Waynesboro, Virginia

Parity is Value of Products, Not People

This letter is not intended to dispute the editor's integrity or wonderful service he is doing for the farmer with the American Agriculture News. All of us are indeed grateful and cannot thank the Nellises enough.

I only wish to make a correction on the editors view of true parity for a bushel of wheat. Instead of \$50 a bushel for wheat, I believe true parity is more like \$7 or perhaps a little better, considering the rate of inflation and price indexes during 78. True parity as of November, 1977, (1910-1914 equals 100) was \$6.98 a bushel. This was computed by people who have been computing true parity since the middle thirties.

If professor Luther Tweeten of Oklahoma State University really understood Natural Economics or Raw Material Economics, which is unlikely he does, he would be quite correct in claiming the FARMER can make do and even realize a small profit with 75% parity, providing the farmer has a bumper crop every year. But what the good professor does not understand is that we then shortchange the rest of the economy 25% of real buying power and devalue the dollar 25%. This causes the government to borrow excessively and constantly feed the interest mill, along with high unemployment. The nation needs full parity value on its agricultural raw materials more than the farmer does.

The parity concept did not originate to be placed on people or the producer himself, but on the raw material he produces. If the producer does not produce anything, it is unlikely he can be paid for production that does not exist or just because he is such a fine fellow. Oil companies know they do not get paid for anything they do not produce, so they make certain there is ample value placed on their production. If they drill a dry hole, it does not pay them back a dime for the raw material is lacking to create the dollar. The value is on the oil, and not on the man that owns the well. Likewise, the value is on the raw material coming off the farm instead of on the farmer.

For some reason, the public has been led to believe that the farmer wants parity value placed on himself because he is greedy, instead of the parity value being placed on the raw material. This sort of propaganda has been used by the economists and money changers to work on people's jealousies and prejudices to backbite one

another over who is getting rich and what a terrible person the farmer is to want to be paid baskets of money for the people's food. It is a magnificent scheme they have brainwashed the people with. To steal from Mother Earth and a man's labors and take it all away from the many and put it into the hands of a few.

By following the erroneous supply and demand theory, the pyramid has been turned upside down where the value is placed on the dollar at the printing press and allowed to trickle down to the bottom, leaving what is left over for the raw material. How stupid can the economists be? What is the need to print money without first having the raw material as a basis for printing the dollar in the first place. The value starts at the bottom, which is the raw material, and multiplies itself into what amount of dollars is necessary to put into the system to operate the economy.

This business of putting value on people alone is really stupid. We all would be in a sorry state with trainloads of money in a desert and a wall around the desert to keep us from getting out or anything to get in.

What would we do with our dollars? Not a damn thing. We would all perish unless we could make the desert produce something to sustain us. The parity concept and value is on the raw material and not on man himself. God put people on the earth, with the earth, the sky and the sea being the people's economy. He did not give us money. People created this for convenience as an exchange for their production. The value of the dollar starts with the raw material and the people's prosperity.

Since Agriculture leads the nation in raw materials, it is natural that it sets the pace for the economy. Since only about 41% value has been placed on the raw material, it is not hard to see why we do not have a 100% dollar. The US is not generating enough earned dollars into the system to buy up its production so, of course, the government has to initiate wild spending programs to borrow the money into the system to buy up the production.

The foreign central banks now hold \$178 billion of our Government Securities, more than all of the US banks and the Federal Reserve hold together. Surely it is not hard for the American people to see their country is being sold right out from under their noses and Americans will shortly be relieved of their Constitutional Rights because the US no longer belongs to the American people, but to a few foreign banking families. The logical conclusion to this is that the American people should make Congress and government economists as well as Land Grant College economists be held accountable for this High Treason.

Rose Kohl
Ellis, Kansas

To Be Commended

Canadian Minister of Agriculture Eugene Whelon and several US Senators, including George McGovern, are to be commended for advocating an agreement between the US and Canada to share world grain markets and raise commodity prices. I believe Australia would join it too.

Maggot of the Week nomination to Secretary Bergland for opposing this agreement.

The agreement would be a perfect complement to the Cederberg-Nolan Bill.

David Wahl

Let's Bargain With Our Production

I just came home from an NFO meeting in Des Moines. I am also a member of Farmers Union and Wheat Growers.

At the meeting in Des Moines, we took an inventory of farm produce available among the people there, and the average of the farmers there.

Out of 10,000 people there, the average age was 47. We are not youngsters any more, but we have one heck of a job to do.

We can fight with Washington, keep on our toes with the issues, and, as your paper does, relate to the people things that are going on.

However, I don't think the politicians are going to allow 100% of parity or cost of production plus reasonable profit, which are basically one and the same thing, only a few cents difference.

My idea is to stay and fight from the legislative side, and put our production together and bargain with it. NFO has the system now. All we need is the production, because they are getting calls from the manufacturers ready to sign contracts for production. We can do it without the government being a middleman in our business.

A resolution was passed at our NFO meeting to support the AAM bill for 90% of parity. To back this up, lets put our production together and make parity a reality. It will work if we farmers and ranchers will do it.

As long as corporations keep us divided, we can't do the job reaching a parity level.

LABELING from 1 whose name we didn't get, and four WIFE members from Kansas, Beverly Snyder, Mildred Van Nahmen, Peggy Arensman, and Judy Simpson. Witnesses said their testimony was superb and hard hitting. They quoted some from American Ag News.

Farmers were stopped as they left - everybody wanted to talk to them. One Florida orange grower asked for a copy of the lawsuit Texas filed requiring to make the state enforce a meat labeling law.

The hearings were conducted jointly by FTC, FDA and USDA. Next hearings will be in Arkansas.

AAM has brought the problem out and being in Washington is no easy job, as I was there a few times with the Wheat Growers.

We need to be there, but we also need expert marketing people working for us. We are only lucky if we beat our neighbors a nickel or two on grain or cattle. Market our production together and we are all ahead.

What I am saying is NFO has the marketing system set up and ready to go, so lets get our people together and go with farm power. We can do it.

Eugene E. Biskry
Craig, Colorado

Lady Writes Pillsbury

Jean Baugh, Old Glory, Texas, wrote to the chairman of the board of Pillsbury Company complaining about the letter that Pillsbury's employee, Mr. Blegen, wrote to a newspaper criticising farmers.

Chairman of the Board William Spoor replied that Blegen was guaranteed freedom of speech as long as he did not use the Pillsbury name in connection with his letter.

Spoor said he hoped Mrs. Baugh would continue to buy Pillsbury products, and said he would like to meet her, that she must be a very gracious and determined person.

Jean said Spoor had to be a true diplomat, because she didn't write a particularly gracious letter.

Spoor sent her 4 free Whopperburger coupons, but she says she's still going to boycott their products, because they obviously condone their employees conduct.

No Farmers No Food No Kidding

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American Ag News

Nolan's Dear Colleague Letter

Following is Representative Richard Nolan, Minnesota, Dear Colleague letter sent to all congressmen urging support of HJ 1093.

Dear Colleague:

For the past 30 years, farmers have served as the shock absorber for everybody else's inflation. For almost two years, Carter Administration officials have repeatedly voiced opposition to a more realistic farm commodity price support program, claiming that higher support prices would fuel inflation.

By now, it should be clear that blaming farmers for inflation is the oldest shell game in town. Unfortunately, the antiquity of the game has not caused its abandonment. On August 1, 1978, banner headlines in the Washington Post proclaimed that "Inflation Pressures Ease as Farm Prices Decline," clearly suggesting that farm prices are the culprit behind "soaring inflation rates."

In reality, the farmers share of the consumer food dollar has not kept pace with inflation and, in some instances such as bread, the farmers share has dropped substantially. Meanwhile, the spread between what the farmer receives and what the consumer pays has been increasing - a clear indication of rising middleman costs. Farmers themselves continue to face an economic crunch as market prices, particularly for grains, fail to cover costs of production. In western Minnesota, grain prices remain at exceedingly low levels. Despite the claims of Carter Administration officials, grain prices have not

improved much since last year, and, indeed, are worse when rising costs of production are taken into account. The Carter Administration's set-aside and reserve programs have simply failed to adequately raise market prices for wheat and feedgrains. The current market prices, as well as the support levels and target prices, are a disaster for farmers.

Farmers need a better price support program and they need it before Congress adjourns. On July 31, 1978, I therefore introduced HJ Res 1093 which mandates an increase in the price support levels for milk, wheat, feedgrains, soybeans and cotton to 90 percent of parity. In addition, HJ Res 1093 also adjusts the grain reserve's release and call-in levels to 100% and 110% of parity respectively.

HJ Res. 1093 is similar to a resolution introduced on March 9, 1976, by then Congressman Bob Bergland. Congressman Bergland's resolution (H. Con. Res 578), called upon Agriculture Secretary Earl Butz to use his existing authority to "promptly raise price support levels to 90 percent of parity." Bergland described his request of Secretary Butz as "exactly what should be done as soon as possible to offer protection to farmers..." Since President Carter and his economic advisers will not permit Agriculture Secretary Bergland to raise the support levels to 90 percent of parity, HJ Res 1093 mandates such an action.

Raising and stabilizing the prices of milk, wheat, feedgrains, soybeans and cotton at 90 percent of parity will have a positive effect, not only in the farm sector but also throughout the Nation's entire economy:

Farm income will be raised substantially but consumers will not be gouged. When the increase in prices received by farmers at 90 percent of parity levels is expressed in terms of cents per pound, the modest cost to consumers is more readily revealed: milk - plus .0268¢ lb; wheat - plus .0332¢ lb; corn - plus .0216¢ lb; soybeans - plus .0252¢ lb; cotton - plus .2444¢ lb. (figures derived by subtracting current national average market prices from the 90 percent of parity prices.)

Raising the support levels to 90 percent of parity will fight inflation by putting earned income into the hands of farmers and the unemployed, thus reducing interest rates and the balance of payments deficit. Such an economic stimulus will more than offset the small increase in consumer costs resulting from the increase in support levels.

Raising the support levels to 90 percent of parity will not increase Treasury costs. As President Carter himself has stated, commodity loans are a recoverable item for the government.

HJ Res. 1093 represents an immediate step, which Congress can take before this session adjourns, to realistically improve the existing price support programs. HJ Res 1093 already has been unanimously endorsed by the American Agriculture Movement's national delegates and by representatives of the National Farmers Union.

I welcome your support and cosponsorship in order to raise the price support levels and to encourage the Carter Administration to pay more heed to the views of

Agriculture Secretary Bergland, rural lawmakers, farm leaders and their allies. For more information on HJ Res. 1093, see my remarks in the Congressional Record on July 31, 1978, pp H7569-H7571. If you wish to cosponsor or if you need additional information, please contact Randy Henningson or Jack Boyan of my staff at 52331.

Sincerely,
Richard Nolan
Member of Congress

HJ Res 1093

JOINT RESOLUTION

Whereas Congress has given the Secretary of Agriculture the authority to raise the price support levels and target prices for agricultural commodities in order to provide farmers with realistic price protection; and

Whereas the Secretary of Agriculture already has the authority to raise the price support levels for milk, wheat, corn, and soybeans to 90 percent of the respective parity prices; and

Whereas the prices farmers receive for major agricultural commodities remain at levels which are below the cost of production: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That title 1 of the Agricultural Act of 1949 as amended, is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section 113:

"Sec. 113 (a). Notwithstanding section 201 of this Act, the price of milk shall be supported at not less than 90 percent of the parity price thereof.

(b) Notwithstanding section 107 of this Act, the Secretary shall make available to producers loans and purchases on each crop of wheat at not less than 90 percent of the parity price thereof.

(c) Notwithstanding section 105 of this Act, the Secretary shall make available to producers loans and purchases on each crop of corn at not less than 90 percent of the parity price thereof.

(d) Notwithstanding section 103 of this Act, the Secretary shall make available to producers loans and purchases on each crop of soybeans at not less than 90 percent of the parity price thereof.

(e) Notwithstanding section 103 of this Act, the Secretary shall make available to producers loans and purchases on each crop of upland cotton at not less than 90 percent of the parity price thereof.

(f) Section 110 of this title is amended by deleting parts (5) and (6) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

(5) conditions designed to induce producers to redeem and market the wheat or feed grains securing such loans without regard to the maturity dates thereof whenever the Secretary determines that the market prices of wheat or feed grains have attained a specified level which is not less than 100 percent of the respective parity price thereof; and (6) conditions prescribed by the Secretary under which the Secretary may require producers to repay such loans, plus accrued interest thereon, and other charges as may be required by regulation, whenever the Secretary determines that the market prices of wheat or feed grains are not less than 110 percent of the respective parity price thereof."

Laugh of Week

Tom Foley said, in announcing the Commodities Futures Trading Commission had been extended another 4 years, "Our basic objective in this complex bill is to make the corrections needed to assure that commodity futures markets fulfill their prime function - to serve farmers and the general public by providing a fair, open market where prices will accurately reflect the supply-demand situation for farm and other commodities."

For detailed questions on these and other sections of the bill, consult Bob Cash-dollar, House Agriculture Committee, 1301 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515 or 202-225-1867.

Government Had Rather Help Healthy Industry

From the Nebraska American Agriculture News. Dr. Rudy Schmittou was sent by the federal government to talk to Idaho trout farmers, who produce 90 percent of the world's supply. Schmittou asked how much federal money might be allocated to help them.

The trout farmers suggested they didn't need any help from the government.

Dr. Schmittou reportedly said it would be a better use of federal funds to help a healthy industry rather than waste money on one in trouble.

Editors Note: Makes sense, especially if you keep the new definition of USDA in mind - Unified, Systematic Destruction of Agriculture.

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Does America Demand Imported Beef?

A full page ad in the Washington Post August 2, sponsored by the Meat Importers Council of America, proclaimed in nearly 2" letters "America Demands Imported Beef."

The ad claimed: 1. The US cannot economically produce enough lean beef to satisfy consumer demand for hamburger and other processed meats.

2.Imported beef is lean.

3. Imported beef is an inflation fighter. Without it hamburger would become an "endangered species," no longer affordable as a staple.

4. More import restriction would force hamburger prices to \$2 a pound.

5. Consumers directly benefit from the ready supply of imported beef.

6.Despite public need, 26 bills are pending before congress "supported by certain domestic cattle interests," which would further restrain imported beef.

7. Texas Senator Bentsen's bill HR 5052, has been approved by the Senate and could become law. This bill would eliminate the President's authority to suspend meat quotas in time of need. This would assure less beef imports in the future.

8.Congressman Gibbons of Florida, in the consumer interest, has introduced HR 12752 to repeal quota restrictions on imported beef.

10. The natural law of supply and demand should be allowed to operate.

US Will Stockpile Wheat

House Ag Committee Release, August 15, Washington DC -The House Agriculture Committee today approved a bill which would convert part of the nation's current wheat surplus into a reserve for use in meeting future hunger emergencies in developing nations.

The bill by Chairman Thomas S. Foley, D-Wash, would earmark three million metric tons of wheat - 110 million bushels - as an International Emergency Wheat Reserve. It was approved by a rollcall vote of 25 to 16.

"It makes sense to acquire and store this grain now and to insulate it from the markets," Foley said.

"Taking wheat off the commercial market while supplies are heavy can help improve prices for farmers. At the same time, we would be making an important contribution to world food security by setting up a stockpile ready for quick shipment to help meet emergency needs in developing countries in years when other world supplies were exhausted," he said.

(The remainder of the news release tells how good this will be for farmers.)

The ad urged voting against Bentsen's bill and for Gibbons bill.

The council offered to send further information on imported beef. The address is Meat Importers Council of America, Inc, One Penn Plaza, New York, New York 10001 (212/594-2348).

Neale Chaney, Washington State Democratic chairman, is nominated for Maggot of the Week because of his comment "the price of wheat is up so the farmers aren't angry anymore." He noted

Democrats are worried because Jimmy Carter's popularity is ailing.

Jesse Bankston, Louisiana Democrat, said part of Carter's problem was a media bias against Southerners. (Does that explain his ailing popularity in the south too?)

Joke

The psychiatrist was talking to Secretary of Agriculture Bergland.

"There, there," comforted the doctor. "You mustn't feel that way. The whole nation doesn't hate you. Four million farmers, maybe, but not everybody in America."

Sent in by Linda from Hugo, Colorado.

Have you heard about the new pens? They says USDA...and they stand for Unified, Systematic, Destruction of Agriculture.

A public opinion poll shows only 6 percent of Americans polled blamed high food prices on the farmer.

New Bumper Sticker - Save the Kangaroo. Eat United States Beef.

According to NFU testimony, the ICC has granted 19 freight rate increases since 1967, effectively doubling the agricultural freight rates. FU also says rail car shortages have depressed grain prices to farmers by as much as 10% a bushel.

Farm parity has dropped 1% to 72%.

Parity price for wheat is \$5.30; Corn, \$3.71; Oats, \$1.92; Barley, \$3.27; Grain Sorghum, \$6.15; Cotton, lb, \$.9060; Peanuts, lb, \$.315; Soybeans, bu, \$8.76; Beef cattle, cwt, \$62.70; Hogs, cwt; \$61.50; eggs, \$.881; wool, lb, \$1.48.

Have you gotten those prices lately? If you had, you might be able to pay off part of the mortgage!

Farmers Make National Geographic

The August, 1978 National Geographic features a full page color picture of Georgia farmers' tractorcade in Atlanta last winter. The picture and short summary of the farm situation are part of a write-up entitled "Georgia Unlimited."

Maggot of the Week

that 65,000 people turned out when Carter was in Spokane.

AAM supporters say that advance men saw to the attendance. Many were school children, and all was pre-arranged.

Chaney said "His biggest problem is that damned inflation."

Campaigning Democrats apparently prefer that Kennedy campaign for them, not Carter.



Quinter, Kansas was responsible for this work of art on a float in local Appreciation Days. Vivian and Leo Norton did the painting. Words of wisdom by Ed Jamison.



Hmmm. This close-up of the devil reminds us of someone vaguely familiar.

Carter's Words Should Haunt Him

"We need to take agricultural leadership in Washington out of the hands of the corporate interests and the grain speculators and we need a Secretary of Agriculture and a President who understand the problem of the family farm and the consumer," said Candidate Carter August 25, 1976, at the Iowa State Fair.

Yes, Carter's words were true then...and they are true now.

The 1976 Democratic Platform also recognizes the problem. It says "Without parity income assurance to farmers, full production cannot be achieved in an uncertain economy. We must assure parity returns to farmers based on cost of

production plus a reasonable profit."

Apparently bothe the Democratic Party and President Carter know the solution to the problem.

Secretary of Agriculture Bergland also knows the answer, as evidenced by his 1976 Dear Colleague letter asking then Secretary of Agriculture Butz to use his existing power to raise loan levels to 90% of parity.

The question is, since it is apparent that the administration and the Secretary of Agriculture know what to do, why don't they do it?

What force is keeping them from taking the action they know will solve the farm crisis?

Citizen's Audit

We received this Citizen's Audit through our membership in the National Newspaper Association. Congressman Charlie Rose, North Carolina, asked newspapers to reprint the questionnaire. Rose is Chairman of the Congressional Committee on The Forum on Regulation. He will compile the answers in a statistical form and report to Cognress.

The questionnaire was formulated on a bi-partisan basis with the help of the Library of Congress and outside professional help, Rose says. It was pre-tested by the University of North Carolina in Wilmington, North Carolina.

So here it is. Fill it out and mail it to the address on the bottom of the form. We have purposely put this questionnaire below the American Agriculture News dateline so they will know where it came from - don't trim the edges too closely! Editor

If you would like the Springfield Office to send your local newspaper a weekly press release, write the name of your paper and its address and mail to AAM, Box 57, Springfield, Colorado 81073, attention of Laurie or Leone.

Classified

Classified ads are 20¢ per word paid in advance.

For Sale: 480 acres in Grant County, Kansas. 2 wells, 2 mile underground line. 160 acres has been machine leveled. 2 bedroom house, 30,000 bushel grain storage. Low interest loan may be assumed. Call 316-495-2251 or 495-3973. 4p15

American Agriculture Flag 3 ft x 5 ft flag, 5 or more, \$19 each. 1 to 5, \$23 plus \$1 postage. 12" x 18" flag, lots of 5, \$4.80 each. 1 to 4, \$6. Decals, 4" x 6", 2 year durability vinyl, 5 or more, 75 cents. 1 to 4, \$1. Flag and poem on cotton paper, lots of 5, 35 cents each. 1 to 4, 50 cents. Send orders to Lee Batson, Rt 1, Box 190, Seminole, Texas 79360.

Headland, Alabama has front car tags with AAM emblem for \$1.50 postpaid. Plastic POSTED signs, 6 x 10, reading "No Hunting, Fishing or Trespassing until 100% Parity". Cost is 25¢ postpaid. Call 205-693-2975 or mail check to AAM, Headland, Ala 36345.

When that time of life has come to a lady, dependant on herself, now is the time to seek advice.

36 yr Southern traditional respectfully acknowledges that need. Qualified by experience and research information services, we may discuss management. Negotiable and very reasonable. Washington state. Write Royce Coffey, 6253 Pinecrest Drive, Paradise, California 95969.

CITIZEN'S AUDIT

Congress is now considering a number of important issues about which the public's needs, wishes, and priorities need to be determined. By answering this short questionnaire, you can register your views and opinions on these issues. It is important that everyone who receives this questionnaire answer it, so that all opinions — and not only those of some people — are recorded. To make sure your opinion is counted, please mail this back today.

A report on this survey will be given to Congress for its information when considering proposed new laws. The results will be issued in a statistical form, and all individual answers will be kept strictly confidential.

For each question, just place an (x) next to the one answer that best represents your opinion.

1. In general, do you think you are better off, or worse off, as a result of Federal regulations now in effect regarding:

	Better Off ¹	No Difference ²	Worse Off ³	Can't Say ⁴
a. Food and drugs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Schools and education?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Working conditions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Water and air pollution?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Hiring and employment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Advertising, packaging and labeling?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. How businesses are run and operated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Do you think the Federal government is or is not, doing enough to inform people like yourself about regulations that affect them?

☐ Doing enough OR ☐ Not doing enough ☐ Can't say

3. In your opinion, are most Federal regulations:

a. <input type="checkbox"/> Really needed, OR <input type="checkbox"/> Not really needed <input type="checkbox"/> Can't say
b. <input type="checkbox"/> Working the way they're supposed to, OR <input type="checkbox"/> Not working the way they're supposed to <input type="checkbox"/> Can't say
c. <input type="checkbox"/> Practical and well thought out, OR <input type="checkbox"/> Not practical and badly thought out <input type="checkbox"/> Can't say
d. <input type="checkbox"/> Simple and easy to understand, OR <input type="checkbox"/> Complicated and confusing <input type="checkbox"/> Can't say
e. <input type="checkbox"/> Based on up-to-date information, OR <input type="checkbox"/> Based on out-of-date information <input type="checkbox"/> Can't say
f. <input type="checkbox"/> Fair to the people affected by them, OR <input type="checkbox"/> Not fair to the people affected by them <input type="checkbox"/> Can't say

4. How confident are you that when new Federal regulations are issued they are based on proven facts?

☐ Very Confident ☐ Somewhat confident ☐ Not confident ☐ Can't say

5. How confident are you that new Federal regulations are issued without unnecessary delay if a need has been proven?

☐ Very confident ☐ Somewhat confident ☐ Not confident ☐ Can't say

6. In general, do you think Federal regulations are enforced too strictly, or not strictly enough?

☐ Too strictly ☐ About right ☐ Not strictly enough ☐ Can't say

7. In general, do you think Federal regulations have too much or too little detail?

☐ Too much detail ☐ About right ☐ Too little detail ☐ Can't say

8. In your opinion, how often is the cost of developing and enforcing Federal regulations justified by their benefits?

☐ Most of the time ☐ About half the time ☐ Seldom ☐ Can't say

9. In your opinion, how much of the paper work required by most Federal regulations is necessary?

☐ Almost all ☐ More than half ☐ About half ☐ Less than half ☐ Almost none ☐ Can't say

10. What is your opinion regarding the effect of government regulations today compared with 20 years ago:

- a. Are most products safer, or not as safe, than they would be without these regulations?
☐ Safer ☐ Not as safe ☐ No effect on safety ☐ Can't say
- b. Do most products cost more, or cost less, than they would without these regulations?
☐ Cost more ☐ Cost less ☐ No effect on cost ☐ Can't say
- c. Are working conditions safer and healthier, or not as safe and healthy, than they would be without these regulations?
☐ Safer and healthier ☐ Not as safe and healthy ☐ No effect on safety and health ☐ Can't say
- d. To what extent, if at all, do you think business firms are losing money or going out of business as a result of these regulations?
☐ A great extent ☐ Some extent ☐ A little ☐ Not at all ☐ Can't say

11. Which do you think should be more important when deciding whether the costs of a regulation are worth it:

☐ How the regulation will affect prices, wages and employment, OR ☐ How the regulation will affect such things as the environment, safety and health

12. What ideas or suggestions do you have to improve Federal regulations?

PLEASE RETURN TO: Congressman Charlie Rose
P.O. Box 23421
Washington, D.C. 20024

Carter Jokes About Farmers in Washington

President Carter, speaking in Missouri, joked about farmers in Washington on tractors and with goats. Carter then told farmers how much better off they were now.

Following is an excerpt from the speech.

"When I took office a little more than a year and a half ago, the farm economy was in bad shape and apparently was headed for a serious depression. It was one of the greatest problems that we had to face.

"The American farmer has a right to expect two things that you were not getting then: a stable and secure income and access to adequate credit at reasonable interest rates.

"And all Americans on and off the farm have a right to expect one big thing that nobody is getting today: a dollar that will still be worth as much tomorrow as it is now.

"Not long ago, some of your neighbors, maybe even some of you here today, came to visit us in Washington, on tractors, and with goats.

"Some of you may even have visited Bob Bergland's office, although I understand he was out at the time. The rumor is that he went out through the window. But we could understand clearly the message that was brought and the message that was on the hearts and minds of the farmers who stayed at home.

"Things have changed for the better since then. The new programs passed by Congress have now begun to take effect. Net farm income in 1978, this year, will be up about 25 percent over last year, that is income above costs, an increase of more than \$5 billion.

"Beef prices should be strong and relatively stable for the last half of this year, and Glenn Grimes of the University of Missouri has said that the general price of cattle will be very strong for the next three or four years.

"If demand stays high, which we expect it to do, stable prices, sustained even increasing herd sizes, and adequate domestic meat production is important for farmers and also for consumers.

"Our decisions have been sound, careful and well considered. I will not permit any more expansion in beef imports this year - I will not permit unrestricted beef imports next year - and I am strongly and permanently opposed to any price controls on meat or other farm products."

The speech continued along the same vein.

One notable paragraph says "The effect of that bill (1977 Farm Bill), carefully considered and passed by a wise Congress, interested in you, are now being felt - in record net farm income all across the country. This bill

They Don't Want Farmers Back in D. C.

"We want to know what farmers see as their major problems, and we want to do something about them before they all descend on Washington again," said Jack Cassidy, assistant to the administrator of the USDA's farm-lending agency, the Farmers Home Administration.

The statement was made at the Small Farms Conference sponsored by the USDA and the Community Services Administration.

Officials of the conference admitted the regional conferences around the country resulted directly from the farm strike.

88 farmers from Minnesota, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma and Wisconsin participated.

Topics thrashed over included inflation, parity, food costs, government regulation, inheritance taxes, imports, government loans, getting more information to farmers, and farmer action.

Some farmers, probably AAM, urged other farmers to force government policy changes by becoming active with farm organizations, local levels of government agencies, university extension services and politics.

"We don't have any lobby in Washington. The USDA does not speak for us and some of the farm groups have lost sight of us. Nobody speaks for us, so we've got to speak for ourselves," an Iowa farmer explained.

The Washington Spotlight says Continental Grain Company has made a five year agreement with the Soviet Union to supply them with a minimum of six million metric tons of grain per year. Spotlight says Continental, Cargill, Cook and other companies have already sold 14.4 million tons to the Soviets this year.

Spotlight says Continental and Cargill and Cook were recently found guilty of conspiracy to steal grain by short weighting shipments and conspiracy to cover up the theft.

Spotlight charges that Continental makes massive payoffs of officials of all countries, including the US. Spotlight says the company keeps a large PR department in New York - to keep its name out of the papers.

will mean fair returns for farmers, reasonable prices for consumers, and a stable farm economy throughout the next four years."

Do you suppose the President would be interested in hearing from American Agriculture on how good things are down on the farm? Editor

Short Snorts

Soviet cotton fields were reported to have been replanted three or four times this year due to heavy rain and hail damage.

Plains Cotton Growers, Incorporated, decided not to report yield predictions this year because the information was apparently serving other segments of the cotton industry more than their own growers.

A provision to cut off millions of US dollars going to help Mexico spray herbicide on marijuana was tacked on to the 1979 foreign military aid bill.

The amendment requires that paraquat must be mixed with another chemical that would warn marijuana users the paraquat was present. But they know of no such chemical.

The herbicide was supposed to kill marijuana plants, but growers were harvesting immediately after the spray, before the kill.

USDA forecasts cotton production at 18 percent below last year's production.

USDA says sorghum acreage is down 10 percent, but soybean production is up 3 percent for a record high. Corn production is forecast at 2 percent above last year's.

A bill to require nonresident aliens to pay capital gains taxes on the sale or exchange of farmland was introduced in the Senate by Wendell Anderson, D-Minn, and Malcolm Wallop, R-Wyoming.

Tax exemption has encouraged a surge in farmland investment by foreigners. Nobody seems to know exactly how much farmland foreigners own in the United States, but it is considerable.

Stuart Awbrey wrote a column in the Hutchinson News August 10 criticising farmers and Senate Candidate Bill Roy for making a fuss about the Trilateral Commission.

Awbrey defends the Trilateral Commission and feels sorry for those who believe this "garbage" that is floating around.

Linda Collins, president of Rush County, Kansas WIFE, called Awbrey. She said she was yelled at and put down, but one fact emerged from the conversation - Awbrey said he was a former member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

As The Farmer Goes - So Goes The Country!

Export Contract Reporting Taken Out of CFTC Bill

The House-Senate Conference Committee struck down an amendment requiring international grain companies to disclose details of their overseas sales within 48 hours of signing the contract.

Ag Secretary Bergland and major grain companies lobbied to beat the reporting amendment, introduced by Rep. Neal Smith, D-Iowa.

The present system, which will continue, allows voluntary reporting of foreign sales to the USDA. Smith contended that this method gave scant information, and allowed the grain companies enough time to hedge against a secretly negotiated grain deal before news of the sale caused a price increase. Smith's amendment also called for the CFTC to make foreign grain deals public knowledge 24 hours after the grain companies reported.

"The multinationals really went at this thing heavy. They lobbied hard, which is nothing new. They've done it before. They're smart enough to hoodwink others to be their lackeys," said Smith.

The CFTC, since created in 1974, has had exclusive right to investigate and prosecute fraud cases. CFTC officials admit, however, that they lacked manpower and funds to police the industry.

The few states which have attempted enforcement with general anti-fraud laws or state security laws. States now can try to get a federal judge to issue an injunction against violators, but the judge must let the state proceed without assistance from federal prosecutors under a legal technicality.

The conference committee changed the wording slightly to authorize states to seek injunctions in federal district courts, but the CFTC would still be entitled to intervene.

Also, states are forbidden to take civil action in federal court against contract markets, clearing houses, boards of trade licensed by the CFTC and floor brokers.

Gasohol Notes

"We could phase out ALL fossil fuels and atomic energy within 10 years. We can live on the energy income from vegetation and winds and tides and the sun. We can do it all. And we had better," said Buckminster Fuller, discoverer of the geodesic dome, architect, scientist, and thinker, World Fellow in Residence bestowed by the University of Pennsylvania, Bryn Mawr College, Haverford College and Swarthmore College.

Featured on a recent Mike Douglas show was a fellow who had driven 5,700 miles in a car with conventional carburetor powered by gasohol. He proved there is no reasonable objection to the use of gasohol. He stated that only the vested interests of oil companies are preventing its development.

The Minnesota Energy Agency gave a \$40,000 grant to the Renville County Agri-Energy Corporation to study gasohol.

The Renville corporation sold gasohol from pumps in Olivia earlier to test public reaction. The Farmers Elevator Company in Truman, sold 1,500 gallons the first day.

Gasohol cost only three cents a gallon more than unleaded gasoline, but backers say it gets 5% more gas mileage.

John Millhone, energy director of the Minnesota Energy Agency, said the grant to the Renville group will be used in an application for a \$15 million loan guarantee by the USDA for a gasohol plant estimated to cost \$20 million.

Final approval of the \$40,000 grant is imminent, when the Renville group meets all the conditions.

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