

Self-Help Sought By Grange Leader

Robert J. Giltner, master of the Indiana state Grange, is a grain farmer on 635 acres in Tippecanoe county, near Lafayette. Now serving on the commission on flood control and water resources of the state of Indiana, he is active in many state affairs.

The following remarks were made by Giltner to the recent farm forum at Taylor University, Upland, in Grant county.

We are firmly convinced, however, that practical ways can and must be developed and applied to influence or manage the volume of supply going into the market.

Commodity Programs

It is the position of the Grange that farm commodity programs should be developed—commodity-by-commodity—to meet the unique production and marketing requirements of each commodity and serve the best interest of the producers of such commodities.

It is the position of the Grange that control of farm programs should be, as a prime objective, a return to producers for their labor, capital investment, risk, and management that is comparable to the return for these factors in other parts of the economy.

All we ask of government is that it preserve and protect that right.

OF THIS AND THAT

By Lois M. Folk

Home Demonstration Agent

It's January, and we are deep in the heart of a month that this year ranges from a rainy spring day to a typical January blizzard. Even though the weather is unpredictable, two things are bound to happen every January—taxes and sales.

Have you noticed the window of your favorite furniture store? Yes, there is bound to be a sale tag there. Every January and August furniture dealers must discount merchandise to make room for new stock. Therefore, if your home is going to need a new table, lamp and chairs within the next six months, now is the time to think seriously about the purchase.

Managed marketing of farm commodities, with the help of the Government, is an essential to economic survival of agriculture in the years ahead. We deny that such marketing impairs essential freedom. We hold that managed marketing to enhance producer income is greatly to be preferred either to rigid Government controls or unrestrained free market competition that leads to chaotic markets and ruinously low prices.

We favor the use of referenda by producers of each commodity to give them an opportunity to choose the type of program best suited to their particular commodity.

Vital Programs

Emphasis on farmer-managed commodity-by-commodity programs does not lessen in any way our position of previous years in support of the associated programs so vital to agriculture, including:

1. Expanded and effective research in agricultural production, marketing and with additional emphasis on industrial use of agricultural products.

2. Expansion of cooperative purchasing, marketing, credit and crop insurance programs.

3. Expansion of foreign and domestic markets by every practicable means.

4. Credit, educational and other aids to help maintain and strengthen family farms.

5. Special assistance to farmers and part-time farmers, earning sub-standard income, through such programs as the Rural Development Program.

6. Effective and continuing programs for the conservation and development of our land, water and related resources.

7. Effective tools with which to retard the accumulation of excessive supplies and prevent unreasonably low prices.

Conclusion

On conclusion, there is urgent need for positive and constructive action in coping with the many and varied problems which American farmers face in building a stronger, more rewarding and more satisfying agriculture. We

attempted but their degree of success has been limited, at best. It is our position that there is no practical way of controlling positively the quantity of production of any particular crop, or the total production volume of agriculture.

"And a good time was had by all" might well be applied to the group who participated in the market tour to Chicago. And it was informative too. An excellent description and function of the stockyards was given by Bill Jones of the Stockyards Company. The only difficulty was the 2½ inches of rain on Monday evening and Tuesday. Tuesday, we were informed, was the warmest January day in Chicago for 70 years. In the group were: Homer Winteregg, William Riechert, Sheldon Wagley, Robert H. Isch, Oscar Brown, Loren Kruezman, Ben Gerke, Chester Adams, Stu McMillen, Adelbert Reckweg, Roland Beer, and Milo Fuchs.

Ag. Policy Meeting

115 ag. leaders from 8 northeastern Indiana counties attended the ag. policy meeting held Wednesday in Allen county. John Dunbar and Heavy Kohlmeier lead the group in thinking through economics policy. Each of the group had a chance to participate in the discussion and get their two cents worth.

Extension Committee Meeting

The annual Extension Committee meeting was held Thursday. Officers elected were: Homer Winteregg, chairman; Everett Singletary, vice chairman; Mrs. Lester Sipe, secretary; Wilbert Thieme, treasurer; and Mrs. Gale Cook, director. Township representatives reported on the 4-H club leadership for 1960, and the project committee reported on their activities. Miss Jane Knapo, Home Demonstration Agent Supervisor, spoke to the group on what the census figures tell us. Hugh Heckard, County Agent Supervisor, from Purdue, emphasized the importance of each committee member's participation. The 1960 Adams county plan of work was discussed and distributed.

S.C.S. Annual Meeting

Don't miss the annual meeting next Tuesday evening. They have an excellent speaker in Mr. Claude Ebling. Be prepared for a good meeting.

Fertilizer School

Plan your fertilizer program with the help of agronomist Jim Morrow and economist Paul Robbins. They will be speaking on fertilizer economics and plans.

Tuesday afternoon, Jan. 19. The meeting is at 1 p.m. at the Co-Op building in Monroe.

Farm Visits

John Foley, Extension Agricultural Engineer, assisted with farm visits on Friday, Jan. 15. Farmers visited to assist with building plans were Roger Koenen, Paul Kohne, Walter Kaehr, Jack Meyer, Doyle Lehman, and Gorman Kauffman.

Plan to attend Farm Science Days at Purdue University Jan. 25-29.

Exhibits for the fifty-third state grain and seed show will be accepted at Purdue University's Memorial Center, Jan. 25. The show, open to both junior and senior exhibitors, will be held during Farm Science Days, Jan. 25-29. Premium lists are available from county agricultural agents.

Winter is a good time to install new or sharpen old knives in the forage harvester, reminds Purdue University agricultural engineers. Time spent in the farm shop now will pay off in reduced power consumption and time spent in the field next summer.

Begin trimming fruit plantings in January, say Purdue University horticulturists. Apple plantings should be trimmed first, then peach trees. Grapevines should be pruned until late February or early March.

which usually handle low grade beef.

In general, buyers are satisfied with the cuts they cook and describe their delight in terms of tenderness and flavor. Dissatisfaction they attribute to toughness.

Empire birdsfoot trefoil continues to be the best variety for permanent pastures in Indiana, according to Purdue University agronomists.

CONSUMERS CAN'T BEEF

Eighty-three pounds of beef per person will be supplied Americans in 1960. Purdue University consumer education specialists predict. This increase of two pounds over the 1959 figure will result from larger mid-year supplies of medium and lower grades of beef.

How satisfied will you be with your 83 pounds? Studies indicate that many consumers look for lean beef with little or none of the "marbling"—white fat distributed marble-like in the lean—which indicates higher grade cuts. Others associate marbling with juiciness, flavor and tenderness.

Your preference is influenced by what you're used to buying. Market tests indicate that when all qualities of beef are offered at the same price, low grade beef is bought more frequently at stores.

AGENT'S COUNTY CORNER

By L. N. Seltzright
Market Tour

"And a good time was had by all" might well be applied to the group who participated in the market tour to Chicago. And it was informative too. An excellent description and function of the stockyards was given by Bill Jones of the Stockyards Company. The only difficulty was the 2½ inches of rain on Monday evening and Tuesday.

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Five-Day Science Clinic At Purdue

Purdue University's Farm Science Days will be held Monday through Friday, January 25-29, 1960 on the Purdue campus.

W. F. Graham, supervisor of agricultural conferences at Purdue said more than 5,000 persons are expected to attend. Meetings will be held in the Purdue Memorial Center and the Union building.

Free parking of cars in the Purdue football parking lot, just north of Ross-Ade stadium, as well as free bus service to and from the parking lot and Memorial Center, will be available this year for the convenience of visitors.

Emphasis this year will be directed to the importance of science as applied to specific farm enterprises, such as swine, beef and dairy cattle, sheep, crops and fertilizers.

Indiana State Corn and Sheep Show and the Junior Corn and Soybean Show entries are due January 25 with exhibits open to the public from Wednesday morning until Friday afternoon. A banquet honoring 1959 corn champions will be held Thursday noon.

Indiana's Farm Management Association banquet will be held Tuesday noon, Jan. 26 and the annual banquet of the Indiana Livestock Breeders' Association is scheduled for Wednesday evening.

Indiana Rural Youth Day will be held Thursday with a banquet that night.

The Purdue Agricultural Alumni fry will be held at noon, Friday, Jan. 29 in the Armory.

For the homemakers, tours and programs have been scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday. A program for parents of Purdue students and parents of prospective Purdue students will be held Wednesday morning.

Record Books Available From County Agent

LAFAYETTE, Ind. — It's time to start farm records for another year. F. V. Smith, Purdue University agricultural economist, reminds Hoosier farmers.

An accurate farm record makes preparing income tax returns more easy. But perhaps more important, Smith points out, is the use of the record for a critical analysis of the year's business.

By comparing his figures with a good standard, a farmer can find strong and weak points in his operation. Thus, he has a basis upon which business management decisions can be made.

A farmer should take a complete inventory at the beginning and at the end of the year. The net change in inventory values needs to be considered along with net cash income to determine farm earnings. Income and expense records should be kept up-to-date.

Purdue's department of agricultural economics has three farm record books available at cost—35 cents each. These are:

The Indiana Farm Record Book. Bound in grey, it is designed for farmers who keep records mainly for income tax use.

The Indiana Farm Account Book. It has a yellow cover. This book is as satisfactory as the Indiana Farm Record Book for tax use; it also provides for both landlord's and renter's entries.

The Indiana Farm Depreciation Book, used to supplement either of the other books, provides for keeping a 10-year depreciation record of farm property.

These Purdue books are available from either the county agricultural agent or from the Agricultural Economics department, AES Annex, Purdue University, Lafayette.

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Massive Soil Bank, Lower Price Supports Farm Bureau Goal

The Indiana Farm Bureau proposes a land retirement program which will take 60 to 70 million acres of farmland out of production for a number of years to solve the surplus problem.

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Emphasis this year will be directed to the importance of science as applied to specific farm enterprises, such as swine, beef and dairy cattle, sheep, crops and fertilizers.

Indiana Farm Bureau favors the continuation of price supports on the commodities presently under such a program. Such supports, however, should be used as a marketing tool, rather than as a device to fix prices. Price supports must be set at levels that will not cause marginal acres to be planted to such crops, or that will cause the shift of plantings to higher production cost areas.

The following outline gives the program which Doup presented to the group for the Farm Bureau.

Conservation Reserve

The most pressing problem facing American agriculture is that of production adjustment to market needs. Too many resources are being employed in the production of farm commodities. One of these resources is land. Agricultural economists estimate that upwards of 60,000,000 crop acres of land should be retired from production. Farm Bureau agrees with such a retirement proposal.

In 1956, by resolution, the American Farm Bureau favored a Soil Bank proposal. Each year since then, Farm Bureau has supported a land retirement program.

Farm Bureau policy for 1960 states that we favor a properly designed and administered conservation reserve program which

1. Retires land that would be devoted to the production of crops,

2. Keeps land out of production for a long term of years,

3. Prohibits harvesting or grazing land under the program,

4. Encourages farmers to put entire farms in the reserve, and

5. Secures sufficient participation to reduce production substantially, bringing total agricultural production into balance with domestic and foreign market demands.

Market Expansion

A. Abroad

1. Reciprocal Trade Agreements,

2. Trade Development Act (PI 480)

3. Rotterdam Trade Office

4. Sponsor and support International Trade Conferences, Fairs and Exhibits

5. St. Lawrence Seaway

Porter County Deep Water

B. At Home

1. Better diets.

Each of these programs (and others that will be initiated) help to expand the markets for agricultural products.

Farm Bureau feels that market expansion should be a major part of our program. To do this effectively, we must continuously improve the quality of our products sold both at home and abroad.

Research

Adequately financed and properly co-ordinated agricultural research programs of our Land Grant Colleges and the United States Department of Agriculture can make major contributions toward expanding markets, increasing farm income, benefiting consumers and reducing surpluses.

Agricultural research can have favorable influence in cutting costs and improving methods of producing, marketing, processing, and distributing farm products.

Research has been, and will continue to be helpful in improving the quality of agricultural products. Through research programs, additional uses for agricultural products will be developed.

Farm Bureau favors the expansion of our agricultural research program.

Rural Program

Some progress has been made through this program of assisting farmers who are under-employed. This program should

1. Encourage off-farm employment.

ment—new industries,

2. Assist farm families in finding job opportunities, and

3. Train for non-farm occupations—industrial skills.

Perry county in this program. It has made a major contribution to the increasing of income of this rural area. Other Indiana counties have established such programs and are also beginning to show progress. The Rural Development Program should be extended to other counties where the need exists.

Purdue Sees Higher Hog Prices In State

Purdue University agricultural economists see higher hog prices

—\$15 to \$17 next June or early July—as a result of reduced spring sowings.

For the next two or three months, however, low prices will continue as a result of breeding herd liquidation