

The lively questioning of Labor Party speakers which followed these presentations contrasted sharply with the demoralized response to Staley's speech. In West Branch, Michigan, the meeting of 100 farmers would have adjourned without any discussion if not for Labor Party organizer Wayne Evans' insistence on political discussion. Evans' speech drew out a full range of responses from the swinish "Aren't workers paid too much?" to a clear recognition that Evans had spoken the truth. Evans' proposal for building a farmer-worker alliance impressed farmers as more serious than the NFO officials' windbagging, for despite the NFO pitch for new membership, no one would sign up.

Although NFO executive member Butch Swain and some second-level leaders took some initial steps to organize with the Labor Party this summer, many have held back since. One of the reasons is an organizational financial crisis and threats to place the organization into receivership. It was predictable that, under pressure, these more honest farm leaders would go along with withholding actions, a standard NFO tactic and the way the organization was built. The NFO, already discredited among farmers, must be held responsible for helping whip up hysterical food destruction by farmers around the country, driving one more wedge between farmers and their working class allies.

PROTESTING U.S. FARMERS URGE FOOD DESTRUCTION AND CUTBACKS

Oct. 16 (IPS)--Livestock farmers throughout North America have stepped up their desperate protest actions, destroying their own livestock and threatening to withdraw from production. In most cases, farmers' anger has been diverted by politicians along protectionist lines that remove responsibility for the crisis from the Rockefeller cabal. A few leading examples have been compiled by IPS:

*In Curtis, Wisconsin, Oct. 15, the NFO led about 300 farmers in the slaughter of more than 650 calves and 15 pigs as a protest against rising feed costs and low prices for farm products.

*In Oklahoma, a new group emerged calling itself the "Concerned Cattlemen of Oklahoma." Frank Spagna, the chairman of this self-described "grass-roots group of farmers," has announced an eight-point program, including demands to halt all imports of beef and dairy products and to stop all exports of fertilizers.

*In Southeast Colorado, 250 cattlemen met to discuss the economic crisis. Henry Blackburn, president of the Southern Colorado Cattlemen's Association, voiced these farmers' despair: "The bottom's dropped out of the market and we're at our wits end." The president of the Colorado Cattlemen's Association is leading a delegation to Washington, D.C., to meet with President Ford.

*In East and West Texas, beef and dairy farmers are holding off on their threatened slaughter actions until they meet with U.S. Department of Agriculture officials and House Agriculture Committee head, W. R. Poage. The Texas Commissioner of Agriculture John C. White, who is acting as the farmers' "advocate," has called for beef and dairy import controls.

*In Quebec, at an Oct. 12 rally, 1500 farmers led by the Quebec Farmers Union threatened to stop all cattle shipments until the spring unless they receive subsidies.

ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION CONTROLS WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE

Oct. 13 (IPS)--The Rockefeller Foundation is the real power running the upcoming United Nations World Food Conference, IPS was told today. In an Oct. 13 interview, a Rockefeller Foundation information officer admitted to IPS that although former Egyptian government official S. Marei is the nominal director of the World Food Conference, the real controller is the deputy director Dr. John Hannah. Hannah began his career in food control under the personal guidance of Nelson Rockefeller in 1949, when Rockefeller headed up the predecessor agency to AID. A faithful Rockefeller family servant ever since, Hannah has drawn his Food Conference staff directly from the top officials of the Rockefeller Foundation's agricultural section. The major document to be submitted to the conference by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) actually was written by Dr. Colin McClung of the Rockefeller Foundation.

Although the Foundation does not expect any specific food control schemes to emerge from the conference itself, the main objective is to convince all participating governments to accept the principle of food control, the Foundation spokesman stated.

FAO BACKS FOOD CONTROL

Oct. 15 (IPS)--The head of the UN-affiliated Food and Agriculture Organization Boerma issued a call yesterday for every major food-exporting country to set aside a part of their production for the developing countries. Thus Boerma has backed the mechanism for Rockefeller's plan to take control of the world's food supplies and make political decisions about who shall eat.

Boerma praised the Ford Administration's cancellation of the Soviet Union's grain order, which he said was the type of action necessary to insure food supplies for the poorer nations. Under the cover of alleviating "Third World" famines, Boerma is moving to establish a world rationing system where selected labor-intensive "development" zones will receive grain while the rest of the population is allowed to starve.