

The Carlisle Mercury/Im Jones photo
Tobacco buyers follow the auctioneer through Farmers Tobacco Warehouse No. 4 in Paris on Monday. Monday was the first market day since Thanksgiving and saw the price per pound stay in the \$1.74 to \$1.75 range.



Girl Scouts provide drug information booklet to schools

Adults sometimes need a little help in understanding the problems facing young people.

Wilderness Road Girl Scout Council recognizes this need and is responding by donating the series of booklets, "Contemporary Issues," to Nicholas County schools.

The series, published by Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., addresses topics that concern today's youth and provides activities and discussion ideas for all age levels. Preventing substance abuse, youth suicide, and child abuse are among the subjects covered as well as exploring the worlds of science and technology, facing family crises, and growing up female.

"The Contemporary Issues booklets are wonderful tools for drawing young people into discussions, getting them to think about the decisions they are and will be making as they grow older," said Kaye Wells, field executive for the Girl Scout Council. "The primary goal in using this material is to help girls and boys develop the self-esteem necessary for making responsible choices."

The first booklet in the Contemporary Issues series, *Time In to Well-Being: Say No to Drugs*, was originally published in 1985, for use by Girl Scout councils across the country. Booklets on the problems of teenage pregnancy, illiteracy, and prejudice, discrimination and racism are in development, as is one on environmental conservation.

"These are current issues—the kinds of problems and choices children and teenagers face these days," said Wells. "The Girl Scouts is an organization committed to helping girls grow into ca-

publ women and doing that requires that the program is up-to-date on what young girls need.

"The schools have the same commitment to young people and it is hoped through this joint effort that girls who are not Girl Scouts and Boys will also reap the benefits of the Contemporary Issues series," she said.

The series is designed to be appropriate for students in kindergarten through senior high school. Guidelines are presented for discussion groups through which the participants make their own decisions and form their own opinions. The material does not advocate any one side of an issue, nor does it lead participants to preconceived conclusions.

"These are topics that, hopefully, teens can discuss with their family," Wells said. "Unfortunately, there are many young people who don't feel comfortable talking to parents about these things. In a group of friends, they are more likely to open up. By talking to others, who have been hesitant to ask the same questions for fear of being laughed at, they quickly discover that they have the same concerns as everyone else. Their confidence in themselves grows right before your eyes."

"Growing older can be a frightening process. Helping students work through their problems also helps relieve some of the stress of maturing. Wilderness Road Girl Scout Council is very happy to be helping the students of Nicholas County Schools," Wells said.

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