

It's The Law

"It's the Law" with simple answers is offered by LANCASTER FARMING in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Bar Association. General interest questions are welcomed, and will be answered as soon as possible. Letters must be signed. Answers will not be published on a specified, requested day. Questions cannot be answered by mail, and LANCASTER FARMING will reject any inquiry which is not of general public interest. Address all inquiries to "It's the Law," LANCASTER FARMING, Quarryville, Pa.

Q. If I open a savings account and put a sister's name on with my own, is it enough to say and/or, and just what does that term mean?
R. L.

A. The term "and/or" is ambiguous and should not be used to create a joint account with right of survivorship. It is suggested that the best way to create

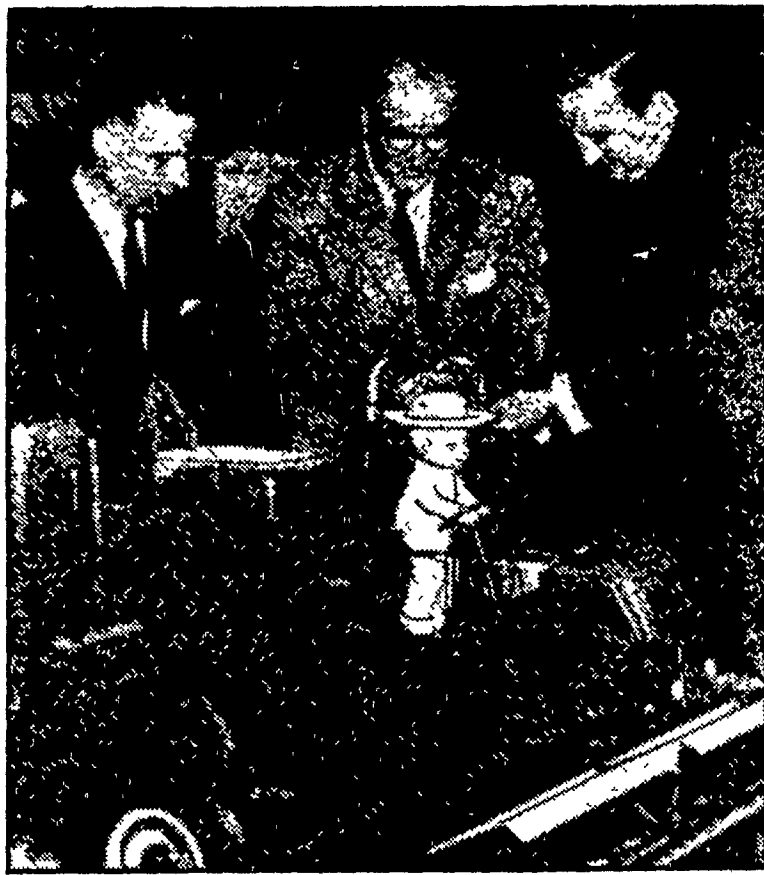
a two-name account with survivorship is to have both parties sign a signature card upon which it is clearly and unambiguously stated that their tenure is to include the feature of survivorship. The signature card should also clearly state whether either party or both shall have the right to withdraw funds from the account.

Q. If a baby is born June 22 and dies in the hospital on June 23, is there any reason why I cannot get a birth certificate to that effect? Neither the hospital nor the coroner will give me any satisfaction concerning the same. According to the Bureau of Vital Statistics there is no record of birth or death. Can you give me any information on how to obtain my baby's birth certificate?
D. R.

A. You are entitled to have both a birth certificate and a death certificate. Your attending physician should have attended to the preparation, signing and filing of the birth certificate and your undertaker should have done the same for the death certificate. If they are reluctant to do so now, you might remind them that they are liable to a fine or not less than \$50 and not more than \$300 for their failure.

Under the circumstances it can be expected that they will help you. Then wait a reasonable length of time and reapply to the State Department of Health, Registrar of Vital Statistics in Harrisburg, Pa., for a birth certificate and death certificate, indicating your relationship to the child. They will advise you as to the fees you must pay.

Q. My husband deserted me and our two children over two years ago I never knew where he was two months ago I received a check from the Army. He enlisted two months ago. The check is only for the two



THEY'LL HARVEST SURPLUSES—Secretary of Agriculture Ezra T. Benson, center, scoops grain from pickup truck of model threshing unit at Department of Agriculture in Washington shortly after announcing that the government will make available to overseas relief agencies as much surplus food as they can handle. Representatives of two of some 18 agencies which will share in the 1½-billion-pound distribution of various products are R. Norris Wilson, left, executive director of Church World Services and Msgr. Edward Swantrom, executive director, Catholic Relief Service.

children and nothing for me: I am badly in debt, not receiving any support for over two years. Doesn't he have to make an allotment for me also? Is he compelled to put Government insurance in children's name?
P. H.

A. A deserting husband has to provide for his wife and his children, unless he can prove that the actions of the wife would give him grounds for divorce in Pennsylvania. Said husband would have to make an allotment from his Army pay, including his wife and children, if the wife is free from any fault. He is also compelled to make his Government insurance payable to his wife and children.

First try settling this with the Post Finance Officer where your husband is, explaining the facts to him. If this does not produce the desired result, contact the local District Attorney's office.

Q. Please tell me the penalty for a person forging his wife's name to gain exemption on his Federal income tax.
W. S.

A. Maximum of \$2000 fine or five years' imprisonment or both.

Q. How can a property owner procure a copy of the deeds which have been lost?
E. T.

A. A property owner may procure a copy of deeds which have been lost in one of the following three ways:

(a) If the deed has been recorded in the office of the Recorder of Deeds in the county where the land is located, he may secure from said Recorder a certified copy of his deed.

(b) If the deed had never been recorded and the grantors are available, these grantors may make another deed, stating therein that it is for replacement of the lost deed.

(c) If neither (a) or (b) is possible, appropriate action would have to be taken in the Equity Court of the county in which the land is located.

Q. The first part of September 1954 we sent some clothes to the dry cleaners. When we went to get them we found out that their cleaning plant had burned down — our garments also. We filed out a paper stating what we thought our garments were worth. I haven't heard a thing from them since September I've also written them a letter but have received no answer. I have asked the woman at their store and they know nothing about it. Shouldn't I have heard something after all this time?
W. L.

A. The fact that you have heard nothing from the dry cleaning concern in the interim is an indication that it may be trying

to avoid reimbursing you for your loss. You should consult a lawyer and secure his advice as to whether you have a valid claim.

Q. My husband left my three children and me a few months ago. My young son bears his name. Is it legally possible to have his given name changed?
M. H.

A. Yes, it is legally possible. However, your problem will be to convince the court that the name change is necessary and appropriate. Under the law the court has broad powers in refusing or granting a name change.

Q. If a man and wife together buy a piece of property and the husband dies, can the wife sell all or part of it for self-support when past the age to go to work? Both signatures are on the deed.
M. R.

A. If the title to the property was taken in the name of the husband and wife, upon the death of the husband title to the real estate automatically would vest in the wife. Therefore, the wife may sell all or part of the real estate with or without a good reason for doing so.

NEW ATOMIC TESTS

Two members of the Senate-House Atomic Energy Committee have raised the possibility of new U.S. atomic tests next spring — perhaps a hydrogen explosion in the Pacific in Washington, however the A. E. C. declined comment.

19 Counties in West Disaster Areas by Flood

The Department of Agriculture has announced designation through Dec. 31, 1956, of 12 counties in Washington and seven counties in Oregon as an area where the Farmers Home Administration may make emergency loans to farmers whose berry, vegetable, and other crops were damaged by a freeze in November of 1955.

The Washington counties named are Clark, Cowlitz, Island, King, Kitsap, Lewis, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Thurston, and Whatcom. The Oregon counties are Clackamas, Columbia, Marion, Multnomah, Polk, Washington and Yamhill.

Four of the counties in Oregon affected by the recent action were already designated for emergency loans through June 30, 1956, because of severe damage to vegetable crops from heavy rains and floods last October. This action extends the designation for those counties, Clackamas, Marion, Washington, and Yamhill, through December 31, 1956.

Emergency loans are made to finance continued normal operations.

Sweet Potatoes

Tempt Taste

To make the family's mouth water, serve appealing flavored, attractively colored sweet potatoes.

They can brighten the meal in many ways, Louise Hamilton, extension nutritionist of the Pennsylvania State University, says.

Use sweet potatoes boiled, fried, mashed, candied, or glazed. Team them with delicately flavored meats, such as pork and chicken, or with fruits, such as apples, pineapple, and oranges.

Sweet potatoes are good for the family, too. One medium-sized potato contains about twice the recommended daily allowance of vitamin A plus worthwhile amounts of vitamin C and some of the B vitamins.

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