

## Truck Economical, Fast, Flexible, Essay Contest Winner Asserts

First place winner in the Essay Contest at Southern Lancaster County Joint Community High School was Robert Paul Bucher, R1 Peach Bottom, who here has developed the theme, "Full Utilization of Our Land Resources Through Truck and Bus Transportation."

Robert, 16, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul E. Bucher, was award-



ROBERT PAUL BUCHER

ed his choice of a steer or heifer, value not to exceed \$150., by Herr's Motor Express, Quarryville. He has two sisters, Joyce and Linda. Before entering Solanco, he was a student at Fulton

Township Elementary School.

At Solanco he is active in the Groundhog Chapter, Future Farmers of America, football, he's president of the Junior class, on the FFA Sentinel and the County FFA Sentinel. Robert is active in 4-H and the Church of Brethren Youth Fellowship.

His supervised farming project as a Freshman was one Jersey calf. His projects increased year by year, and as a sophomore it developed to a Jersey calf, a Jersey heifer, two acres of corn and 11 fattening hogs. As a Junior, the Jersey heifer and the Jersey calf were included, augmented by an increase to three acres of corn, 10 fattening hogs, two steers, two improvement projects, and one gilt.

In his senior year he proposes a Jersey heifer, Jersey cow, five acres of corn, 15 fattening hogs, one sow and litter, one gilt, one steer and one improvement project.

His future plans? Robert would like to attend Pennsylvania State, and eventually work in some phase of agriculture.

### "FULL UTILIZATION OF OUR LAND RESOURCES THROUGH TRUCK AND BUS TRANSPORTATION"

The history of this great truck and bus industry is as amazing as the part it plays in our everyday lives. We hope to show how fast this fleet has grown and that every one in the United States as affected by it, especially the folks who depend on the land and its resources for a livelihood.

The bus story starts with the early 1900's and has steadily grown until in 1953 there were 243,000 buses of all kinds in this country. Although the bus and its work are less spectacular than the truck, we must not forget the 8-million children brought to and school each day, many of which would not have gone on to high school if they had to find their own transportation, as did their parents twenty or twenty-five years ago. So think what valuable information and field trips pertaining to their future life's work many of these FFA boys and FHA girls would be missing if it were not for the school buses.

Then, too, the farmers and their wives have more opportunity to go in groups, by bus, to educational meetings, farming demonstrations, or visit their State Colleges, learning new and better farming methods to use when they get home.

#### 20 Billion Miles by Bus

Mother or the children need not wait until it suits dad to take them to town — the bus is handy, and they can go and come as they please, feeling more like working after an occasional day off for surely some of the 7 billion rides on local bus systems annually, or more than 20 billion miles of intercity travel each year is done by farmers and their families.

Fifty years ago (in 1905) there were only 700 trucks in the United States but today that number has increased to nearly 10 million trucks — one third of which are on the farms. This great fleet of trucks transports more than three-fourths of the yearly freight tonnage in the United States, and in the following paragraphs we shall prove

that trucks haul nearly 90 per cent of all farm products to market.

Motor trucks have given the farmer a chance to make more money on practically everything his land will produce. Since there are several different kinds of farming in the United States, and since more than one-half the farmers have their own truck, we will try to show how each one uses his own and commercial vehicles to the best advantage.

#### Livestock Feeders

The livestock feeder uses trucks in many different ways. Probably the feed for the large beef cattle ranches in Texas or the hog farms in Iowa is brought to the farm in a bulk feed truck all mixed and ready to bag or store in a bin or maybe a truck comes to the farm and grinds the corn, grains, etc. as the farmer wants them. As a means of getting the fed animals to market at the best weight and for the best prices, trucks are ever increasing in popularity as shown on this chart, which tells the per cent of livestock taken to terminal markets in 1952 as compared with the year 1933 — and these figures have increased 60 per cent since 1951.

1933: cattle 44 per cent, calves 51 per cent, hogs 55 per cent, sheep and lambs 21 per cent.  
1952: cattle 76 per cent, calves 80 per cent, hogs 81 per cent, sheep and lambs 49 per cent.

The dairy farmer has progressed from the time when he had to live near a railroad to get his milk to market, until he began taking his own milk by small truck or trailer to the creamery. Now trucks have advanced to the place where a covered truck picks up the cans or a refrigerated tank truck pumps the milk from a milk-house tank on the farm, thus further reducing the costs of handling and marketing the 97 per cent of milk produced that travels to market by this method.

The truck has been an important factor in the growth of poultry farming. It can be used to bring the baby chicks to the farm, to move them from brooder houses to range shelters, and to take them to market after they have reached the proper size. The quality of poultry and eggs depends on speed — so it is understandable why 95 per cent of the eggs, 99 per cent of the live poultry, and 85 per cent of the dressed poultry moves by truck. Of course the feed, insecticides, and supplies are delivered to the farm by trucks.

#### Trucks Haul Crops

The farmer who raises his crops to sell to an outside market, rather than feed his farm animals is a great user of trucking facilities. The man who raises corn in Iowa and other north central states will use this means of getting his product to market. The Kansas man who raises wheat, or the North Carolinian with tobacco, as well as the Southern rice and cotton farmers lean heavily on the tractor-trailers to get their crops to market in the shortest, safest time possible, and also to get their fertilizers and weed killers to them when they are needed.

The development of the refrigerated trucks both mechanical and ice or CO<sub>2</sub>, has been a great boon to the fruit and vegetable farmers. Now over one-half the orange crop of Florida moves to market as frozen concentrate, and more vegetables are being quick frozen and trucked to their destination than ever before. Folks in the northern climates can enjoy out-of-season vegetables and fruits because of the speed of trucks in preventing spoilage and making deliveries to grocers in good condition — ready to sell. This is proved when we know that perishables can be shipped from Florida to Boston 18 hours quicker, to Chicago 22 hours quicker, and to Philadelphia 30 hours quicker by truck than by rail.

Another land resource we must look into is coal mining, which has been given new hope since the motor truck, with its fast, flexible, and cheaper service, is being used extensively. Coal is mined in over half the

## Washington Notes

Secretary of Defense Charles E. Wilson has ruled out the possibility of enough cuts in military spending to balance the budget in the next fiscal year. He declared that \$34 billion would be a rock bottom figure on military spending. Both he and Secretary of the Treasury Humphrey agreed that higher Federal tax receipts still might bring the budget into balance.

#### SLUM CLEARANCE

The Federal Housing Administration made its first mortgage commitment in a program designed to enable private enterprise to replace slums with modern housing. The commitment covered the billion dollar urban redevelopment project in Harlem.

#### GERMAN REUNIFICATION

The reunification of Germany "within the framework of a plan for European Security" has been assigned top priority at the forthcoming Big Four meeting in Geneva, by the foreign ministers of the United States, Great Britain and France.

#### ARMY MANPOWER

The Army has requested a 3,000 increase in monthly draft calls and a 16,000-man rise in

states, but Pennsylvania is the leader, and the miners of our state are looking to the truck to help them hold their own in the competitive fuel market field. This explains the fact that coal shipments by rail have sharply decreased while truck shipments have more than doubled in the last few years.

#### Oil Also Goes By Truck

Oil is one of America's greatest natural resources, found chiefly in Texas and other Southern states, but also in Pennsylvania where some of the finest grades of oil in the world are produced. The tank trucks are playing an important part in this industry, since they bring the gas and oil to the service stations where the public may buy it. Better still, they deliver these items, plus kerosene, greases, fuel oil, and others right to the farmer, saving him the time and trouble of going after them. There are 23 million homes in the United States heated by oil and coal that depend on trucks to get these fuels to them in any kind of weather and over any kind of roads.

The last natural resource we shall discuss, although we know there are others, is lumbering. For a time the lumber men thought their work was doomed because new materials were taking the place of wood in the building industry and the expense and time involved in getting their products to market was a great detriment. But, as in many other occupations, the truck came to the rescue, hauling the huge logs to the sawmill, then the sawed lumber to the lumber yards, and later the seasoned boards to the place where buildings were being constructed, sometimes on farms or many other places.

In summary, we have tried to show that rural families all over this great land of ours depend on bus transportation to get to school, to go on field trips and educational demonstrations, and as a means of leaving and returning to isolated places for pleasure and business. These same people use the truck because it is economical, fast, flexible, mobile, and convenient — ready to provide service easily adapted to the land and its resources.

#### I List of References

A. Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association - Harrisburg. 1. The Farmer's Stake in Motor Truck Transportation 2. Trucking in Pennsylvania 3. Bus Facts, 23rd Edition B. American Trucking Association, Inc. - Wash., D. C. 1. What Do You Know About Trucks? 2. Paper on Truck Statistics. C. Compton's Pictured Encyclopedia - Copyright 1949.

over-all strength to help train youthful volunteers under the new six-months Reserve plan. The proposed increase in manpower would give the Army 1,043,000 men on June 30, 1956, compared with the present goal of 1,027,000 set under the cut-back manpower program.

#### AIR STRENGTH EXPANSION

The 137-wing goal of the Air Force might have to be expanded to match the growing air power of the Soviet Union in the opinion of General Thomas D. White Vice-Chief of Staff of the Air Force. The officer explained the Russians had 20,000 combat planes while this country had "thousands less" U. S. planes are, however, of higher quality, he said.

#### LIFE EXPECTANCY.

The average length of life among American's wage earners and their families has reached an all-time high of 69.8 years, according to statistic compiled by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. This is a gain of almost a full year over 1953. The average length of life in the wage-earner group will probably pass the 72-year mark within a year or two.

#### SMALL PLANE TOLL.

Fifty-two persons died in small plane accidents throughout the country during August according to the Civil Aeronautics Administration. Of 312 reported accidents, involving \$100 or more damage, 77 were caused by collisions with trees, fences and other objects on the ground; 61 by stalls and spins in the air, and 37 to groundloops.

#### LESS PRINTED MONEY.

One way the Treasury expects to save money for the taxpayers is to print less of it. The treasury estimates it will save about \$1,350,000 a year, beginning Nov. 1, by turning out only about 86 million sheets of new money, compared with 98 millions sheets in the fiscal year. Each sheet contains 18 bills, about 63 per cent of which are \$1 bills.

#### BUSINESS IN 1956

While the best business year in history was forecast for 1955, the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, expects a more moderate rise during the 1956 year.

#### TO SAVE CRANES.

The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service has joined forces with Canada in protesting an Air Force plan to operate a bombing range near the Texas wintering grounds of the almost extinct whooping cranes. They are asking that some other site should be found for the range or "a crippling blow" would be dealt to the birds, now only 28 in number. The birds nest in summer in the wilds of Canada and migrate to the Matagorda Island area of Texas for the winter months.

## Spring Needs

ORDER NOW

### Field Seeds

Prices are lowest in 20 years.

Alfalfa  
Red Clover  
Alsike

### Seed Potatoes

Cobblers  
Katadins  
Kennebec  
Vigoro

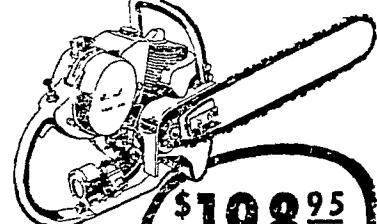
## GROFF'S HARDWARE

New Holland Ph. 4-0851

## Silver King

### DIRECT DRIVE CHAIN SAW

- cuts faster
- lighter in weight
- costs less to maintain
- lasts longer



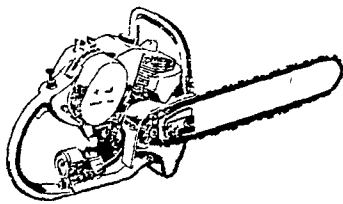
\$198<sup>95</sup>  
with 18" bar and chain

A one minute demonstration will convince you that the Silver King is amazingly superior. See it today!

## LESTER A. SINGER

R. D. 1, Ronks, Pa.

## Silver King



T. J. MATTHEWS  
278R2

A. H. BURKHOLDER  
175

### QUARRYVILLE CONCRETE PRODUCTS CO.

THOMAS J. MATTHEWS, Gen. Mgr.

Phone  
109R2

Concrete or Cinder Block.  
Chimney Block and Lintel.  
Steel Sash, Cement Paint.