

Lancaster Farming

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\$2 Per Year

Alternative Farm Measure Being Sought

Progress of the farm bill came to a halt this week in Congress, with a conference committee adjusting Senate and House versions of the proposed measure. Hopes for the "Soil Bank" proposal dimmed and prospects of a return to rigid price support program appeared USDA of-

Farms Here Too Small

Since the size of Lancaster County farms acreage-wise, is so small, prospects that the proposed Soil-Bank program will not work here appear more evident. In all Pennsylvania, Raymond Connolly, district fieldman for the Pennsylvania Agricultural and Stabilization Committee, told that no more than 150,000 acres in the entire state would be affected.

Mr. Connolly spoke at the meeting of the Lancaster County Agricultural Council.

Officials saw little opportunity for the new Soil-Bank plan meeting approval, and indications grew stronger that a presidential veto might be forthcoming.

Planting Already Started

One disadvantage of the Soil Bank plan at this time, it was pointed out, is that it pays farmers for keeping land out of production, while the planting season is already under way in many parts of the country.

School Milk Program

President Eisenhower did sign two agricultural measures this week, one exempting farmers from the two-cents-a-gallon federal gasoline tax for gasoline used in farming operations. This would save farmers an estimated \$60 million annually.

The other measure raises school milk program funds from \$50 million to \$60 million for the fiscal year ending June 30. Thus the program is extended two more years, authorizing expenditures of up to \$75 million a year for each of the two years.

President Eisenhower said meanwhile he wants to get a good farm bill and to get it promptly.

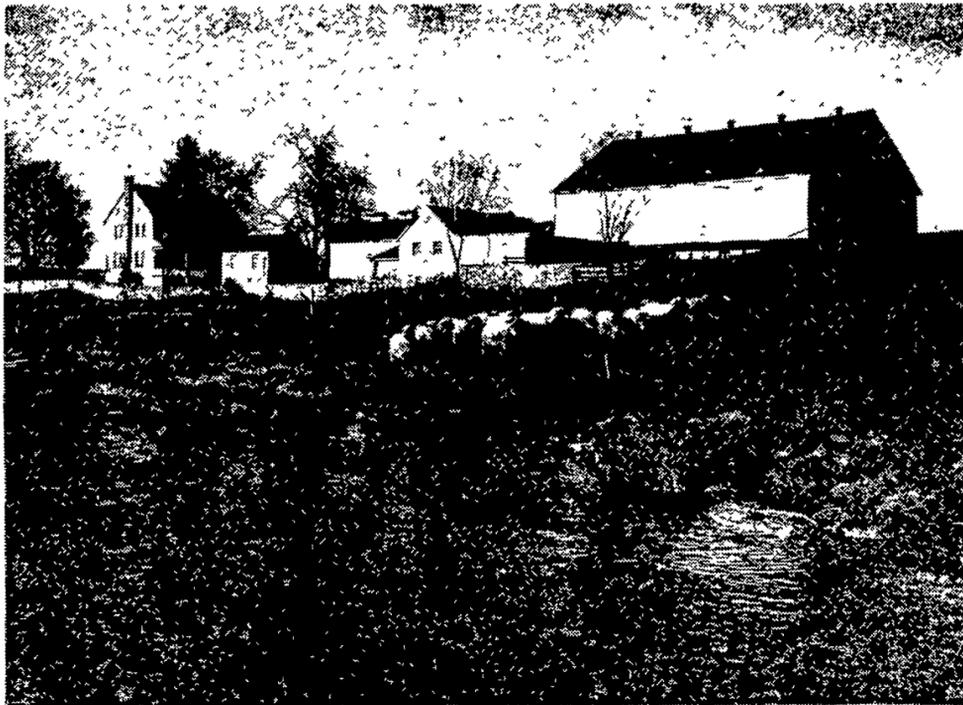
660 Farms Sign Up In Soil Conservation

A total of 660 Lancaster County farmers have enrolled thus far in the 1956 agricultural Conservation Program, a larger number than last year's total.

About 3,000 farms have been contacted for 1956 wheat acreage intentions, and about half of this number are yet to be interviewed.

May 31 is the deadline for application on 1956 corn support loans at the \$1.75 per bu support price.

Spring Scene Near Bareville



Sheep on a hillside meadow, greening grass, budding trees and a rippled pond prove spring has arrived for Lancaster farming. This scene was photographed on the farm of Arthur Hess, R1 Bareville. Mr. Hess is a brother of Edward Hess,

nationally known sheep breeder whose entries have won many blue and purple ribbons. Earth is being turned, and the tiny rows of small grains are shooting higher, disproving March's wicked weather.

PP&L Buys Land For Power Plant Near Bainbridge

Pennsylvania Power & Light Company recently completed purchase of a 766-acre tract of land 15 miles below Harrisburg for future use as a power plant site, Chas. E. Oakes, the utility's president, announced today. The actual purchase followed more than a year's investigation of the site to determine foundation conditions, stream flow and other suitability factors.

Mr. Oakes emphasized that purchase of the land on the west bank of the Susquehanna River near York Haven and directly across the river from Bainbridge, does not necessarily mean the utility expects to build a power plant of any type there at the present time or in the near future.

"But, to insure a continuing supply of electric power for Central Eastern Pennsylvania we must lay the ground work for new generating station capacity years in advance," the PP&L head said. He pointed out that long-range plans are an integral part of the utility's operations. In its planning for the future electrical requirements of its 10,000 square mile service area, PP&L projects these needs many years ahead on a broad basis with the plans becoming more definite as the customer needs become more evident.

Chicago Steers Score Top of \$27

In spite of a three day supply of cattle at 12 major markets that totaled 188,000 head against 180,000 last week, fed steers on the Chicago market at mid-week sold uneven with high choice and prime active, steady to \$1.00 higher than Tuesday, averaging fully 50 higher reaching \$27.00 on two loads of 1,192 and 1,237-lb steers, higher since last May. Next highest was \$26.50, paid for two loads averaging 1,126 and 1,185 lbs, and most prime steers sold from \$24.00-25.50. Choice steers 1,100 lbs and down sold steady to strong with other weights and grades rather slow averaging steady. Bulk choice steers in Chicago Wednesday brought \$19.50-21.50, good \$16.75-18.50.

West Earl Twp. Farm Sells at \$1203 Per Acre

Selling April 1, 1939 at \$36,949.36, a West Earl Twp. farm of 89 acres this week sold for \$106,000, or \$1,203 an acre.

David W. Martin was the previous owner, selling to Edwin B. Nolt, Jr., who announced his purchase was an investment. The farm is known as the Noah L. Nolt Farm and sold to Mr. Martin April 1, 1939. There are two brick homes on the property, a 60 by 100 foot bank barn, 36 by 40 chicken house, tobacco shed, implement shed, garage and a milk house now being constructed.

The price, although high in Lancaster County annals, is well below the record \$1,832 per acre paid in a 1950 auction for a weaverland Valley farm.

Mr. Nolt is inventor of a hay baler which has been developed by New Holland Machine Co. into one of the outstanding in the industry.

Farm Women to Meet Nov. 3rd, Manheim School

Plans are being developed for the annual Lancaster county convention of 23 Societies of Farm Women, to be conducted the first Saturday in November, Nov. 3, at Manheim Township High School.

Mrs. Neal Clark, from Society of Farm Women No. 1, R1 Littleton, and Mrs. Clyde Hottenstein, Society of Farm Women No. 5, R1 Manheim, were named for the place committee, according to County President Mrs. E. Robert Nolt of R1 Lancaster.

Program Committee

Within the next month, a program chairman and committee members will be named, and other committees will be appointed later, probably in June. Arrangements were discussed this week in a meeting of the county executive committee at the home of Mrs. Henry Reist, Mount Joy. She is president of Society 4. Mrs. Esther Weidler, who heads Society 19, was co-hostess.

To Meet June 2

Another meeting of the executive committee has been called for 2 p. m. June 2 at the home of Mrs. C. H. Reinhold, president of Society 10, East Petersburg.

Other dates announced in which the County societies will participate include April 25, Homemakers Day, at the First Presbyterian Church, Lancaster; April 25, also, members to be hostesses at the Health Fair in the Lancaster YMCA from 4.30 to 6:00 p. m., and on Friday, April 29, from 6 to 9 p. m. Camp Swatara has been scheduled for Aug. 19-21.

Precipitation in March over Norm In This Section

Prospects that soil is pretty well saturated and will be fine for working seem evident at this time, according to the U. S. weather bureau office in Lancaster.

Showers Wednesday morning delayed further start on spring field work throughout Lancaster County, and numerous complaints were voiced on the farm front that already a 20-day delay has been caused by soggy, unworkable ground.

WET GROUNDS!

Wet grounds caused postponement of yesterday's Al's Chalmers Gigantic Field Day. Instead, the program will be next Tuesday, April 10, 1956, at the David Witmer Farm, five miles east of Lancaster on Route 30, opposite the Guernsey Sales Pavilion starting at 9:30 a. m.

March left Lancaster County like a cowardly lion Saturday morning, and by afternoon turned into a gentle lamb. Easter Sunday was mild, in direct contrast to the trace of snow that fell Saturday morning.

April About Normal

Precipitation in the County last month was two inches above normal. When ordinarily 3.50 inches fall, the March total was 5.50 inches. During the month the total snowfall in Lancaster County was 12.2 inches, the most in 12 years.

With a normal 4.25 inches in February, a surplus in March, and precipitation forecasts about normal for April, the January moisture deficit should be wiped out, Bernard M. White of the Lancaster weather bureau office advises.

January's total was but 1.75 inches.

Warmer weather prevailed through Thursday here, with scattered showers and thunderstorms. Temperatures are expected to remain quite mild through April, averaging about one degree below normal.

Two Oklahoma communities were struck early this week by tornadoes, when the Spring twister season in the Plains States got underway. Tornadoes struck elsewhere along the Mississippi Valley area too.

Outlook for April

In but three years of the past 40 has more snow fallen on Lancaster County than in March, 1956. In 1944, a total of 13 inches was reported here, in 1941 the total reached 16 inches, and in 1917 a whopping 17 inches fell on the Garden Spot.

But everywhere across the nation, the farmer's eye is on the (Continued on page three)

Keystone Dairy Sale Top \$710, Avg. \$321

Fifty head of dairy cattle totaled \$16,056 to average \$321 in the Saturday sale at the Keystone Sales Barn, Mount Joy, reports Clarence Lyons, manager.

Tops recorded included \$710, while another brought \$650 and a third \$500.