

Lancaster Farming

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Lancaster, Pa., Saturday, May 2, 1959

\$2 Per Year

Soil Stewardship Week - - May 3 - 11



LITITZ PHOTOGRAPHER Grant Heilman has received international recognition for many products of his artistry. None however, have brought him more acclaim than the above photo of conservation farming in Lancaster County, which was part of the U. S. pavilion exhibit at the Brussels World's Fair. Soil Stewardship Week is a time to study such enduring testimony to the importance of soil and water conservation, Resolving in coming years to foster Christian stewardship in all we do.

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of Penn State Extension specialists entered a day night for Lancaster County poultrymen to efficient, voluntary production of uniform quality eggs, as a means of raising the egg business.

On Tour
Bob Baker, who has recently returned from the nation's major poultry producing group the one he sees in the for the egg producer to learn to live market price."

was joined by Wesley and Kermit Extension marking in urging local to take full advantage fact they are sitting of the one-fourth population

Won't Do It
reliance upon and export of U. methods of extending new market noted that produce a shortage in consumption are almost as many as expected.

emphasized that for quality products not just individual must be met by the egg industry.

Agreements
pointed to the market approach solution to obtain uniformly-high-quality going to need to guarantee uniform size, yolk color, nutrition. The inking by himself in Philadelphia the Philadelphia producers he does know."

Has Quality
slides to illustrate contention that areas, including the and Far West of and are high quality and production. It is pointed out that it represents 2 per cent price sell one per cent. That means have 15 per cent of product, a 37 per cent price move them."

Present
The nearly 500 farm in Manheim school for the was heard to comment point, "Well, in I think we would off to get everyone away one egg out dozen — if they to it."

Term Easing
added that he no long-term solution egg and poultry problem in the

The first sizable rains of the season came to Lancaster County this week providing much needed moisture for the year's crops. Farmers devoted the rainy days to last minute buying of supplies and machinery for the heavy work season, repairs, livestock and visiting—under sheds, forepeaks, porches and wagon boxes.

Some pulled on slickers and hurried about plowing tomato land before it became too wet under the slow rainfall.

Some stopped to consider proclamations of "National Soil Stewardship Week." Some considered without stopping. Some did neither.

Ezra Taft Benson, secretary of agriculture, issued a statement from Washington, D.C., as did David L. Lawrence, governor of Pennsylvania, speaking from Harris-

burg, each strongly supporting the Soil Stewardship concept.



EZRA T. BENSON

Benson opened, "The eight day period, opened with Rural Life Sunday on May 3, is the time when farmers and ranchers, churches, soil conservation districts, schools, urban people and many organizations will join in emphasizing that soil is a God-given resource. The observance stresses that man is merely the steward of the soil while he uses it and that

he must pass it on in as good or better condition than he found it."

Lawrence stated, "Rapidly increasing numbers of Pennsylvania farmers have come to realize that they are not only the owners, but they are the stewards or caretakers of the soil, water and plants. Real stewardship morally obligates each generation to hand down land of greater productivity than it received."

In Lancaster County, after two days of soft, soaking rains, the Conestoga, running bank full, began to cloud with the gradual appearance of topsoil from limestone lands.

Somewhere along the watershed, farmers had ignored their stewardship, had ignored the Creator's command "to dress it and to keep it."

On a sandy hillside near Washington Boro, a back furrow—plowed up the slope—carried a small, fast-moving stream. At the hill's bottom this stream, already darkened with soil particles, carved a miniature canyon in the road bank.

The stream, joining with muddy waters of the road ditch, soon mingled in a pasture brook, slowed upon entering a farm pond and passed on to the river, minus much of the silt load.

One farmer had lost valuable plant food, another lost valuable storage for live-

Congratulations - SCD

This week, the work of members and directors of the Lancaster County Soil Conservation District was recognized in a Citation for Civic Improvement by the Lancaster Community Betterment Council. Lancaster Farming offers sincere congratulations to the district, particularly to the board of directors, for your richly-deserved recognition. May your efforts meet with even greater success in the near future.

The Promise of Hope

By Amos H. Funk, Chairman

Lancaster County Soil Conservation District

Senator Richard Neuberger of Oregon, writing in the Christian Century recently, raised the question; "What is it that makes America great?"

He repudiated the claim that it has been our free enterprise system, or the National Association of Manufacturers, or either the Republican or Democratic parties. He says the thing that has made America great has been the generosity with which the Almighty has supplied this continent with vast stores of timber, water, fertile soils and many other natural resources.

More and more thinking people are becoming concerned about the way we are allowing our God-given soil to be washed away into our fields—lost forever to our fields.

Here in Lancaster County it is gratifying to see an increasing number of people living on and off the farm, not only becoming aware of the serious erosion that has and is taking place here in our county (in some cases 75 per cent of the top soil is (Turn to page 11)



AMOS H. FUNK

be washed away into our streams and then into the oc-

FIVE - DAY WEATHER FORECAST

Saturday - Wednesday

U. S. Weather Bureau, Lancaster Office

Temperatures will average 4 to 5 degrees higher than normal range of 47 - 69. Warmer over weekend, cooler about Tuesday. Scattered showers and thunder storms Sunday and Monday.