

Lancaster County's Open Space Is Doomed, Says W. H. Whyte

Lancaster County has only "one year or so" to save her open space from urban sprawl, according to William H. Whyte, Jr., Editor of Fortune Magazine and author of several articles and books dealing with life in Suburban America.

The speaker at the forum on Monday night, sponsored by the Conestoga Valley Association, stressed that we still have most of our space free from development but we must act quickly to prevent urban sprawl from spoiling the entire character of the county. White pointed out to the more than 500 agricultural and industrial leaders in attendance that the problem of urban space is not one of too little land, but of too little space. Many areas near towns and cities appear to be built solid with dwellings and industrial establishments, but because of the "leapfrog" methods of acquiring sites for building developments, sometimes 5 acres are needed to do the job that two should do.

Whyte said that in many cases a very small fraction of the total land area in a county withheld from development as building sites is enough to preserve the scenic and aesthetic character of the entire county. He suggested that in some areas the purchase of easements by

the county or city government might be needed to preserve open space, but this must be preceded by a strict zoning ordinance. He was quick to point out however that zoning laws are not enough in themselves to prevent urban sprawl from swallowing up the open space around centers of population.

In answer to a question from the audience, White said that easements and zoning ordinances on a small acreage would not prevent sprawl on the surrounding area, but would control the character of the area.

In his preliminary remarks Amos Funk, president of the Conestoga Valley Association, said that the association does not wish to stop the progress of the bulldozer but only to direct it, to prevent the pollution of streams and develop desirable recreational areas.

We judge ourselves by what we feel are our capabilities — the world judges us by what we accomplish.

To protect the life of the President and to suppress counterfeiters are the two statutory duties of the U. S. Secret Service.

The Answer To Why Cows Leave Home

At what age does a cow leave home? As a rule, at about 6 years when she stops producing or breeding, unless she dies first of disease, infection, broken bones or from eating a few too many nuts and bolts.

Would it be profitable to concentrate on efforts to lengthen a cow's life? Some think it may have possibilities for improving the herd. A longer life would theoretically mean more calves and more milk.

But a study of 40-year herd records at USDA's Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Md., shows that automatic selection for long life—incidental to selection for high production and other qualities—is already so intense that it would be practically impossible to exceed it by deliberate effort. Moreover, the heritability of long life appears to be so low that the effectiveness of deliberate selection for this characteristic is questionable anyway.

Longevity Influences Studied

The evaluations were made by ARS dairy husbandman J. B. Parker and associates to determine environmental and genetic influences on long life in nearly 1,000 Holstein and Jersey cattle. None of the herds had ever been culled for low production or poor type during the forty years.

Reasons for disposing of cows are important in judging the overall herd longevity.

Evaluation of the Beltsville herd disposal records showed that cows were removed for various diseases, infections, and udder troubles. Easily the largest number, however, were removed as nonbreeders—41 percent of the Holsteins and 24 percent of the Jerseys. This indicates the importance of nonbreeding as an influence on the life expectancy of cows.

The large percentage of nonbreeders removed may have resulted because more detailed disposal records are kept in the Beltsville herds than are made in most Dairy Herd Improvement Association herds. The Beltsville data may reflect more accurately the importance of poor reproduction performance as an influence on longevity than DHIA information.

High Producers Tend to Last

A positive relationship — low but significant — was found between long life and first-lactation production in both Holstein and Jersey herds. This suggests that cows that are high producers in their first lactation don't "burn out" or stay in the herd for a shorter time than other cows. In fact, the data indicate that the higher pro-

Hatchery Name Representative

Paul Metzler, New Holland, Pa. has been appointed Sales & Service Manager for Eastern Pennsylvania Amctutz Hatcheries, Westminster, Maryland. Mr. Metzler, Manager of hatchery explained that this is a move to improve service to the poultrymen in the area.

Mr. Metzler has had experience in all phases of service, selling and hatchery management.

ducers tend to stay in herd longer than low producers even when no selection is practiced for production. This findings should be of special significance to selection committees when they evaluate progeny based primarily on first-lactation records.

These evaluations don't detract from the importance of bringing about longer life through improved management, say the scientists. Disease and injury prevention practices and proper feed and management can bring about longer life and prove the efficiency of hatchery operations.

"Everyone knows that many of the new drugs are not cheap. These days you can expect to pay as much to cure a girl of pneumonia as to take her to dinner at the theatre."

—Chicago Tribune

Farm Women No. 8 See Demonstration

"Picture Party Loaf" the demonstration which won seventh place in state competition at the Farm Show for the Donegal FHA was one of the features of the January meeting of Farm Women Society No. 8. The demonstration, presented by Evelyn Esbenshade and Helen Musser, followed the report on the state convention by Mrs. Paul Witman as the group met in the home of Mrs. Clinton Eby. Mrs. Roy Forney, Jr., Mrs. Christian Miller, and Mrs. Lloyd Derr were Co-hostesses, and Mrs. Warren Helsey had charge of the devotions.

Following the program an auction sale was held with Charles Shaub serving as auctioneer.

The next meeting of the group will be held Feb. 20 at the home of Mrs. Abner Anbridge R1. Mrs. Witman is reporter for the group.

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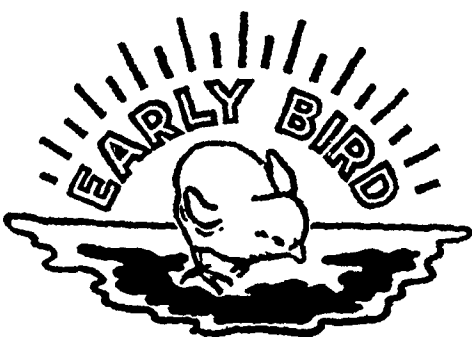
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