

This Week

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farmers for the alleged 'high cost of food.' Others believe that farmers are getting rich at taxpayers' expense," or that 'farmers are subsidized to make up for their inefficiency.' These fallacies must be effectively dispelled."

Consumers, for example, can buy almost one-third more food for each hour of work than they could in '47, even though food prices are higher. An hour's work in 1960 would buy 25 pounds of beef compared with an

average of 1.9 pounds in 1947-49.

Since 1947-49 farmers' share of each dollar spent by consumers for food has declined by 13 percent, but the spread between what the farmer receives and the consumer pays has increased by 45 percent.

Department of Agriculture figures show the average consumer spent 27 cents out of each dollar earned in 1947 for food. Last year he spent only 20 cents. Food still is the biggest bargain in America.

Farm Breakthrough
"In the past two decades,"

Mr. Freeman said, "the average farmer has tripled his output per hour of work. Nothing like this has ever been known in the world before. It is one of the significant and important breakthroughs of human history.

"The truth is," Mr. Freeman said, "farmers have been subsidizing consumers rather than the other way round. Because farmers have been subsidizing the rest of the economy - - - farm income has steadily declined.

"The incomes of our farm families are lower relative to the rest of our economy than

at any time since the 1930s. Farm net income has dropped about one-fifth while for the rest of the nation it has increased by about two-fifths in the past 10 years."

The food that can be purchased with wages for one hour's work in America would take four hours of work in Russia. The average American farmer feeds himself and 25 others. In Russia four people on farms feed themselves and only six others in cities.

"We need to tell—and re-

tell—that story," Mr. Freeman said.

Gardenspot

(From page 1)

Thursday night at the home of Walter Overgaard, Lancaster R4.

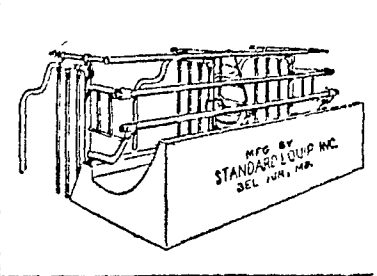
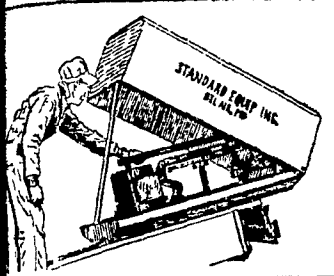
In other action the club donated \$10.00 to the International Farm Youth Exchange fund, and made plans to operate a booth at the Annual 4-H Spring Jamboree on April 29.

During the program, Ellen and Esther Overgaard presented a demonstration on the control of common plant diseases. A film on fire safety was shown by Mr. Richard Hagy of 111 Crest Lane, Lancaster.

Next meeting of the club will be held May 18 at the home of Wilmer Wenger, 76 Greenfield Road, Lancaster.

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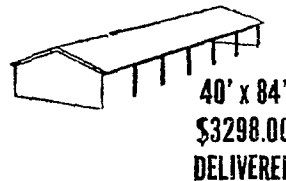
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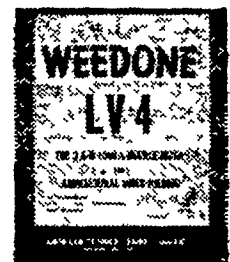
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