

## From Where We Stand . . .

### Farm Competition For Labor

Labor is one of the most important "inputs" in farm production. A man may have unlimited land and capital, but to get the job done requires labor. That labor must be furnished by the farm owner and his wife, their children, or it must be hired.

According to a recent Penn State University farm economics publication, only about one-sixth of Pennsylvania's farm work is done with hired labor. In Lancaster County this figure is probably even lower.

But, as farms continue to become larger and more mechanized, and as scientific advances in agriculture accumulate, the once routine farm jobs will more and more require skilled workers. Then (and that moment is really fast approaching), farmers will have to compete with industries for skilled people. With the large number of industries in Lancaster County, and the current "zero" practical rate of unemployment, where does a farmer look when he wants to increase his labor supply and his productive capacity?

If he's looking for full-time help, he may have a real problem. During periods of high industrial employment, most capable people are working; they have money, and they are clamoring for the farmer's products. If he wants to produce more, it is often possible only

through the substitution of capital for labor — that is, investing in labor-saving devices that will enable him to increase the effectiveness of his present source of labor.

There has been a steady decline in the size of Pennsylvania's farm work force. This has accompanied a corresponding decline in the number of farms in the state, and has in turn been accompanied by a continued substitution of machinery for labor, says Penn State agricultural economist James S. Holt.

To compete in the labor market, farmers have had to make employment more attractive, Holt said. "Enlightened farmers are attempting to eliminate some of the less desirable features of farm work and add other attractions. They are increasing pay rates, shortening hours, and improving working conditions," the economist noted, adding that "they are improving supervisory practices and offering fringe benefits such as life insurance or hospitalization."

He concludes that most of these measures will increase the farmer's cost per hour of hired labor. Unless labor productivity is improved proportionally, the consumer can surely expect to pay more in the market place for those farm products with high labor requirements; or, an alternative, she may continue to seek substitutes for the high-labor-cost products.



LADY IVANHOE JOAN-TWIN, six-year-old Ivanhoe daughter finished in the reserve Holstein senior and reserve Holstein champion spots at the Southeast Regional FFA Dairy Show at Hershey for her 20-year-old owner David D. Zimmerman of Reinholds R1.

L. F. Photo

### ● Firearm Restrictions

(Continued from Page 1)  
tiol, mainly because of the great amount of publicity given to the assassination of President Kennedy and the mass murder in Texas And

WHEREAS, No legislation or control set up by our government could keep the criminal element of our nation from owning or using firearms And

WHEREAS, The use of firearms for hunting, competitive

### ● FFA Dairy

(Continued from Page 1)  
shown by Raymond K Burkholder, Jr., was Swampy Hol-low Monogram Snow The

and non-competitive shooting is a sport enjoyed by millions And

WHEREAS, The knowledge of and use of firearms is essential to rural people to protect their herds, flocks and machinery from predators of all kinds And

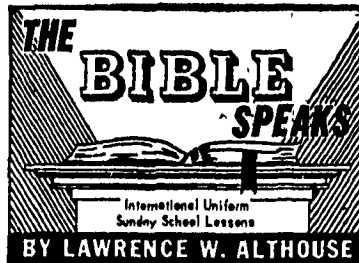
WHEREAS, Knowledge of the use of firearms is one of the things that has made this nation strong A nation in which almost every home owns one or more guns and the knowledge of how to use them is a nation hard to invade or overthrow Therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Lancaster County Pomona Grange #71 meeting in regular session opposed any and all legislation to control the sale of firearms or ammunition. three title winners were members of the Cloister Chapter

Grand champion Holstein was shown by York Countian Charles A. Rauhauser. Type judge Howard Weiss, a Holstein breeder from Lebanon County, put the York County two-year-old over Weaver's cow for the senior championship and then went along with the same placing for the two top titles

At last year's regional show, county Future Farmers showed their main strength in the colored breeds, having the junior and grand champion Jersey, and the junior and grand champion Brown Swiss. But this year they had no entries in either of those classes, and managed only two red ribbons in the Guernsey and Ayrshire divisions, the former to Jesse Lee Balmer, the latter to Linford D. Martin

Blue ribbon winners in the Holstein class were Lester S. Gerhart, Manheim Central, intermediate calf; Raymond K. Burkholder, Cloister, first, intermediate calf; Earl C. Stauff, (Continued on Page 7)



### Who's A Thief?

Lesson For August 28, 1966

Background Scripture Exodus 20:15 Amos 5:21-24 8:4,5 Mark 12:38-40 Luke 19:11-10, Titus 2:7-10

Devotional Reading Ephesians 4:25-32

There's an old saying that "to catch a thief, one must set a thief." Perhaps. But to catch a thief one must also be able to identify a thief.

Easy, you say. A thief is one who steals my car, picks my pocket, breaks in my house and



Rev. Althouse also to the salesman who comes to my door and takes my order and payment for a product he has no intention of delivering, to the racketeer who gets a "kick-back" on the sale of parking meters to our city government, to the "wheeler-dealer" who cheats the government "blind" with grandiose schemes that result in federal contracts.

### Subtle Thief

So far, so good: we can all identify these thieves. All violate the eighth commandment: "You shall not steal." (Exodus 20:15 RSV). But don't close the door on your "rogues' gallery" too soon. Perhaps there are some others who qualify for that dubious distinction.

What about the merchant who sells defective or inferior products as "quality merchandise"? Is he a thief? What of the salesman or manufacturer who knowingly misadvertisises his product? Is he a thief? What about the used-car salesman who turns back the speedometers of his cars or the corporation executive who conspires with other firms to fix prices? Are they thieves?

If you are a consumer, your

answer is probably a resounding "YES!" Good going there but don't stop now! There are more thieves on the loose in your community!

Perhaps where you work? "No thieves there," you say. Ah but you must look more closely for these men are subtle. A subtle thief is still a thief. For example, there's the thief who pilfers petty amounts of his employer's products, tools or raw materials. "Such petty amounts?" you protest, your face reddening. There's also the subtle thief who cheats on his lunch time, his coffee breaks, and clean-up time at the end of the day. "You're becoming a bit personal, aren't you?" you say with a trace of belligerence in your voice. There there's the thief who makes a real art out of making six hours of real work appear to be eight hours' worth.

### Call It Business?

What of the man who pads his expense account a little or inflates his deductions on his income tax report form? How about the person who "lifts" little souvenirs when he travels, hotel towels, ashtrays, etc? "Come now," you identify a thief, a ban-too far.

This was also the charge that

We can carry was leveled at the Prophet Amos, and apply the very picaresque in his pronouncement of condemnation. The eighth commandment, they said, "You shall not steal," identified a thief as one who took someone else's property by violence or by stealth. To Amos, however, it was obvious that there were other forms of thievery more subtle but no less sinful. He condemned the merchants who made additional profits with rigged scales, deceptive merchandise, or inflated prices.

"This idiot doesn't understand business," his enemies retorted. He understood it and it was because he understood it as a violation of the will of God, that he condemned it. What they called "business" he called "sin." Would he say anything less of what some of us today call "making it cool?"

Who's a thief? Maybe you?

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## Read LANCASTER FARMING For Full Market Reports

## Now Is The Time . . .

By Max Smith, Lancaster County Agent

### To Allow Corn To Mature

Dairy and livestock producers who are going to make all or part of their corn crop into silage, are reminded of the increase of feed value as the corn approaches the full dent stage. Due to recent rainfall in most sections of the county, corn is really making a fast change and in many cases will make more of a crop than expected several weeks ago. Growers are urged to wait until the ear is in full dent stage before making into silage.

### To Add Ground Limestone

Cattle feeders may want to add 20 pounds of ground limestone per ton of corn silage when filling the silo this fall. Research

work of a number of experiment stations show increased gains on cattle when this extra calcium is added to corn silage. However, this practice is not advised for dairy cattle.

### To Be Alert For Silo Gas

Within the next month many silos will be filled with forage crops that have been through a period of drought; when you make silage from heavily fertilized corn, or other silage crops, following a dry season, there is always some danger from silo gas. This heavier-than-air gas is deadly and can kill man or beast. The greatest danger period is 10 days after filling the silo.

### To Go Easy With Nitrogen

Winter grain producers will recall the heavy lodging of winter barley this past year. In many cases this was due to some carry-over fertilizer from 1965, since we have had dry weather in most areas this present growing season, we can have the same situation this winter. Fertilizer for wheat and barley on most fields should include only



SMITH

**LANCASTER FARMING**  
Lancaster County's Own Farm Weekly  
P.O. Box 266 - Lititz, Pa. 17543  
Offices 22 E. Main St., Lititz, Pa. 17543  
Phone: Lancaster 394-3047 or Lititz 626-2191  
Don Timmons, Editor  
Robert G. Campbell, Advertising Director  
Subscription price \$2 per year in Lancaster County, \$3 elsewhere  
Established November 4, 1955  
Published every Saturday by Lancaster Farming, Lititz, Pa.  
Second Class Postage paid at Lititz, Pa. 17543