

Outlook '67
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LIVESTOCK

Hogs

Total hog slaughter for this year was off about one percent from 1965, but the second half of the year alone ran eight percent ahead of the year before.

Prices of barrows and gilts at eight major markets averaged about \$24 per hundred-weight this year, approximately \$2.50 above last year. This was the highest yearly average since 1948 for hogs.

For the coming year, it is predicted that hog slaughter will be up and prices down somewhat. Producers in the 10 corn belt states planned to farrow six percent more sows in the December 1966-February 1967 period than a year earlier.

Prices in 1967 can be expected to rise from early in the year to a high during the summer, and then decline to a low next fall. This will be a more normal seasonal pattern than existed in hog prices this year.

Part of the strength in hog prices, especially after mid-year, will result from the smaller beef supplies. On balance, hog prices are expected

to average moderately below 1965. However, they are expected to continue favorable, leading to further expansion into 1968.

Cattle

Fed cattle prices in 1967 will be higher and the price pattern will be much different than this year when prices were highest in the winter and early spring. In early 1967, prices will strengthen from current levels, but average below year-earlier levels. Further strengthening in the second half will raise average prices above year-earlier levels.

As the price outlook for cattlemen brightens, liquidation of cattle numbers may be slowed considerably in 1967, if not stopped, the experts say. As a result, cattle and calf slaughter will be somewhat smaller and beef and veal production will decline significantly for the first time since 1958. Slaughter of all classes of cattle is expected to be below 1966, with sharp reductions in cow and calf slaughter. The expected reduction in beef supplies, and continued brisk demand, points to strong cattle prices, with all classes of cattle benefitting.

Day on the moon is fourteen times as long as on earth.

Farmer Bosses

(Continued from Page 4) security, hospitalization benefits and being able to get time off for personal matters are important to the worker's well being and thus affect his work capacity.

It's up to the farm manager to build respect in the eyes of the worker. The better the opinion his hired hands hold for him, the more control he will have over them.

The personality of the worker is a vital factor, according to Mitcheltree. The farmer must deal differently with the man who hopes for personal growth and recognition, than with the one who wants only food, exercise and comfort. He must motivate the former, and provide needs for the latter.

With all help the farmer should act with dignity, treat his men with respect, be fair and consistent and provide good working conditions. He must also know how to deal with mistakes so the help is not antagonized.

Mitcheltree also advised the farmers to learn to operate with an aura of prosperity. People like to work for those who are prosperous. He should, therefore, emphasize the good points, not the problems.

The importance of the work-

TAX PLANNING

(The following article is the third in a series of four articles on year-end tax planning prepared for this newspaper by the Committee on Taxation of the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants.)

Tax Deduction For Child-Care Expenses

A frequently overlooked deduction to certain taxpayers is the deduction for child-care and disabled dependent care. In addition to the dependen-

er's interview and orientation should not be overlooked. Invite the prospective worker to bring his wife to the interview, and, in the case of non-English speaking workers, get someone to translate a welcome to give the relationship a good start.

Members of a labor conference panel backed up Mitcheltree's views and assessed the local situation. They answered questions from the audience and discussed the feasibility of hiring local high school and college students to help alleviate the labor situation.

cy deduction, employed women and widowers may deduct up to \$900 paid for the care of certain dependents. In order to claim the deduction, the taxpayer may be a woman, whether single, married, separated, divorced or deserted; but a man must be a widower, divorced or legally separated or have a wife who is incapacitated for at least 90 consecutive days.

A limited deduction of not more than \$600 if one dependent is being cared for or \$900 for two or more dependents, is available to a taxpayer who hires a maid or sitter or pays a nursery, boarding or day school for care of the dependent in order for the taxpayer to work at gainful employment. The child must be under the age of 13 or the dependent must be physically or mentally incapable of caring for himself and may be of any age.

If the husband is capable of self support, a joint return must be filed and the \$600 (or \$900, as the case may be) deduction is reduced by the excess of the couple's adjusted gross income over \$6,000.

Us to All of You . . .

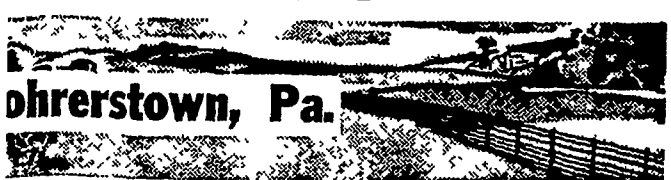
CHRISTMAS

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