

LOOKING OUT ONTO THE PATIO at the Lancaster County Farm and Home Center. The Center is located on ten acres of land provided by the late Elmer L. Esbenshade and covers more than 28,000 square feet. It now houses five government service agencies and special meeting rooms for farm organizations.

Landscaping of the grounds was planned by a specialist from Penn State and shrubbery was donated by individuals and nurseries, as well as the labor required for the grading and seeding.

The Agencies now having their offices in the building are the Lancaster County Cooperative Extension Service, the Lancaster County School Board, the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, the Soil Conservation Service, and the Farmers Home Administration.

Plans have been completed for dedication of the Center on June 9 at 2 p.m. The featured speaker will be Dr. Russell E. Larson, dean of the College of Agriculture, The Pennsylvania State University.

more disheartening than the

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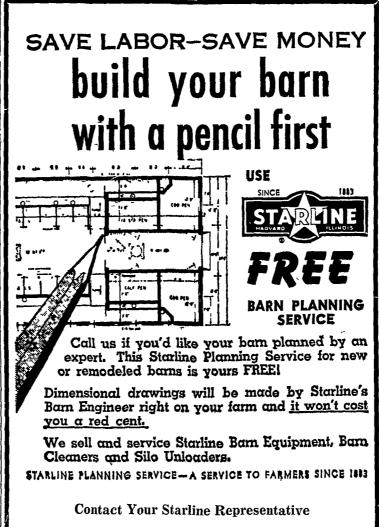
Hard-To-Handle **Crops Are Easy Going** For A Haybine® **Mower-Crusher!**



Did you know that fraud per- Pennsylvania's economy alone. petrated on Pennsylvania con- And the pity of it is that the sumers costs more money than majority of victims are the elthat needed to operate the derly, the poor, the uneducated. State's health and welfare pro- What, for example, could be grams for a) entire year?

Although only a relatively few case of the elderly couple, retirindividuals and firms on the ed after a lifetime of labor being fringes of the legitimate busi- defrauded of their meager savness community engage in fraud- ings!

ulent practices as a matter of To provide the Pennsylvania course, it has been estimated consumer with the strongest prothat those who do currently tection program in the entire drain nearly \$500 million from United States, this Administra-



tion has drawn on two years of experience in the operations of our new Bureau of Consumer Protection.

As a result, the General Assembly has before it for action today several bills designed: first, to give you, the consumer, the information you need to protect yourself from gyp artists, mechanisms to put these fraudulent operators out of business permanently.

At the very heart of the program is a bill to make the Bureau of Consumer Protection, which exists now only by Executive Order, a permanent part of the Department of Justice-and to give that agency the authority it does not now have to crack down on fraudulent operators.

Under present law, it is not at all unusual for the Justice Department to detect fraudulent practices only to have the operators continue in business simply because the authority to force them to stop is weak and unclear. Clearly, those who live by fraud will not easily yield to persuasion, which is about the only real weapon we now have to protect the public. Secondly, I have asked the General Assembly to immediately spell out as illegal some 14 different forms of deceptive business practices and unfair competition, including the creation of confusion and misunderstanding through either false advertising or the substitution of pressure tactics for legitimate salesmanship. Of key importance to this measure is a provision for substantial penalties for violators. including fines and forfeiture of co.porate franchises In other words, those who refuse to do business ethically will be put out of business. The third major thrust of this new consumer protection package involves improvements to the Goods and Service Installment Act enacted in 1966 Based on our experience over the first full year of operation, this proposal is necessary to give the Attorney General specific authority for its enforcement.



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