

From Local Ag Teachers:



Thoughts in Passing



The article this week was prepared by Dick Thomas teacher of agriculture at Lampeter-Strasburg High School.

Reevaluate Our Priorities

To every coin there are two sides, and to every issue there are two contrasting positions. While some praise others protest the cuts that Mr. Nison is making

in the budget. While some will work to get agricultural land taxed on its agricultural value others will work to keep the tax laws as they now exist. Many agree that the Federal budget must have a limit . . . but are the cuts to be made in the large military budget or in those of education, social aid or agriculture.

People in the agricultural community are disturbed at the cuts that have been made in the agricultural budget especially the popular conservation programs. Many in government positions do not understand the importance of these rural programs or understand the burden of property tax on the farmer. With a loss of roots in the soil comes a loss of respect for natural resources and understanding of persons working the soil. The result of the change from rural to urban means that the farmer has lost influence at most levels of government because those in government no



longer need his vote to get into office nor do many of them have roots in the soil as they did in the past

Ungreased wheels are expected to squeak for themselves and, the agricultural community is expected to speak for itself. Indeed it is essential that we tell our story and make our views known, for unless we are about the task it will not be done. In the F.F.A. the rising sun symbolizes the new day that is dawning . . . When all farmers will learn to work together. We can no longer afford to support our own ag organization against another ag organization when we all have in common the goal of creating and maintaining conditions that allow the person in agriculture to support his family, to become a good citizen, and to have all of the necessities that rightly belong to all people

We must tell the story of a modern productive agriculture that provides 3 jobs out of every ten in this country. When issues arise concerning the welfare of agriculture we must together develop and defend a logically consistent position, and then see that this position is known and understood at all levels of government. To do this will insure the implementation of the FFA creed of "Leadership from ourselves and respect from others"

State Farm Price Index Up 16 Points

The January 15 Index of Prices Received by Pennsylvania farmers advanced 16 points or 5 percent from a month ago, according to a report this week from the Crop Reporting Service. Since mid-December all farm products were up except milk, down 5 cents

The biggest increase was milk cows at \$540 per head, up \$20 from last month followed by lambs at \$31.50 per cwt, up \$3.80 from last month steers and heifers at \$37.80 per cwt, up \$2.30, alfalfa hay at \$55.00 per ton, up \$2.00, hogs at \$32.40 per cwt, up \$1.10, and other farm products were up an average of 37 cents

Nationally, the Index of Prices Received by Farmers also increased 5 percent. Contributing most to the increase of selected commodities since mid-December were cattle, eggs, hogs, broilers, tomatoes, potatoes and calves

Lower prices for cotton, dairy products and corn were partially offsetting. The Index of Prices Paid by Farmers was up 2 percent from a month ago and the Parity Ratio at 80 is up 2 points

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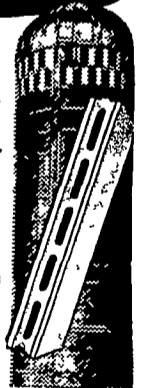
Fulton Grange Plans Meeting

Fulton Grange 66 will hold their regular meeting February 12, 8 p.m. at Oakryn. The Lecturer, Mrs. J. Stanley Stauffer Jr. will be in charge of the program. It will feature a slide presentation of "Covered Bridges Of The East Coast" by J. Edwin Brown of Nottingham. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have traveled from Maine to Florida taking pictures of covered bridges and present a very interesting narration. The Galbreath sisters will provide vocal selections. Grange women are to bring a dessert box to serve two and they will be auctioned off. The Junior Grange will also meet.

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