

Help Us Serve You

Don't assume we know about your farm organization's meeting. To get your meeting on our Farm Calendar, it's safer to assume we don't know.

Remind us by calling 394-3047 or 626-2191 or by writing to Lancaster Farming, 22 E. Main St., Lititz, Pa. 17543. You'll be helping us to serve you better.

P.S. — If you're not sure you told us already, we don't mind hearing from you again.

Property Tax

(Continued From Page 1)

amendment, the lawmakers will be faced with the complicated job of defining various land uses. Enabling legislation will also have to include safeguards against speculation in farmland. The crux of any legislation that comes if the constitutional amendment is approved is to tax farmland according to its agricultural value.

Now farmland is taxed at market value, the same as any other property. Thus when an industrial plant goes up next to a farm, the farm's value goes up because it is assessed according to what similar land surrounding it is sold for.

For most of the state's farmers a reassessment of their property will mean lower property taxes. While this is what some officials want to happen, others fear it will mean higher taxes for non-farmers.

"If you reduce the assessment on farm land, you have to pick up the taxes someplace," said Albert Hydeman, executive deputy secretary of the community affairs. He earlier suggested total reform of the state's tax system rather than a piecemeal approach.

Rowland, while an ardent supporter of the farm legislation, expressed some concern over a study of New Jersey's farm-support legislation which showed the state lost some \$47 million in

tax revenue that was passed on to other taxpayers. However, he claimed there were some fallacies in the study.

So far, local government officials who may stand to lose revenue if the legislation goes through have been supporting the constitutional amendment.

Silver Spurs

by Cherri Gochnauer and Patti Nauman

The Silver Spurs 4-H Horse and Pony Club held its monthly meeting on Feb. 2 at the home of Beth Robbins. The meeting was called to order by the vice-president Wylie Baker. Dues and roll were taken by secretary Rick Rehm, and Junior treasurer Jim Glick. The secretary then read the minutes which were approved as read. Sixteen members, 8 visitors and 9 adults were present.

Project reports were given followed by a reading of the changes in 4-H Showmanship Rules by Mrs. Rehm. Discussed under new business was an ice skating party. Beth Robbins also showed a film on her project.

The next meeting will be held at Roxanne and Roberta Stein's on March 2 at 7:30 p.m. The meeting was adjourned and refreshments were served.

Pa. Broiler Placements Up 10 pct.

Placements of broiler chicks in the Commonwealth during the week ending February 3, 1973 were 1,242,000 according to a report this week from the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service. The placements were 10 percent above the corresponding week a year earlier, and 7 percent above the previous week.

Average placements during the past 10 weeks were 6 percent above a year earlier.

Settings for broiler chicks were 1,849,000 - 5 percent above the previous week but 4 percent below the comparable period a year earlier. The current 3-week total of eggs set is 9 percent below the same period a year ago.

Inshipments of broiler-type chicks during the past 10 weeks averaged 8,000 compared with 19,000 a year ago. Outshipments averaged 211,000 during the past 10 weeks, 6 percent below a year earlier.

Placements in the 22 States were 57,495,000 - approximately the same as the previous week but 4 percent below the corresponding week a year earlier. Average placements during the past 10 weeks were 3 percent below a year ago. Settings were 70,436,000 - nearly the same as the previous week but 9 percent below a year earlier.

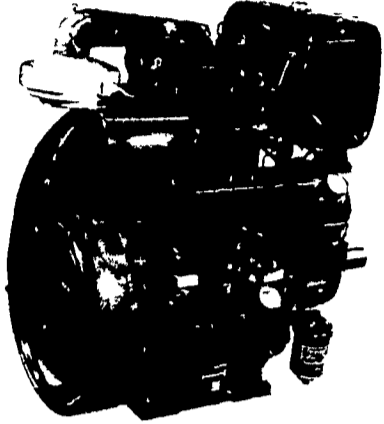
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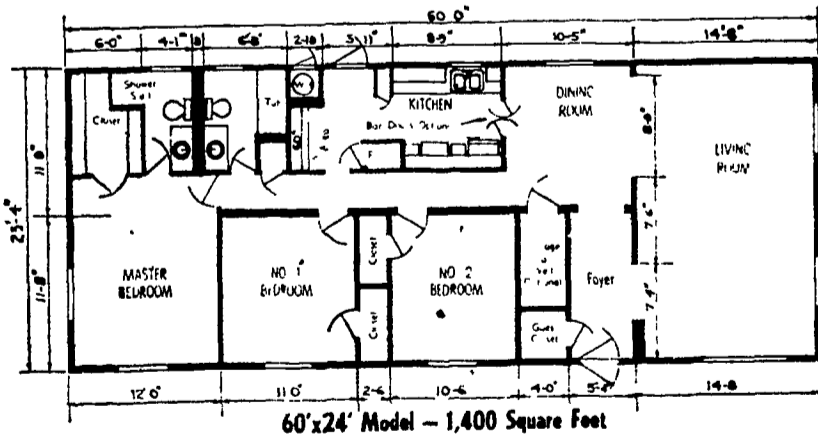
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Referendum Fails By 2-to-1 Margin

Pennsylvania dairymen defeated referendum a proposal to put a levy on their milk production to promote milk products.

With all 15,866 ballots counted, the vote was 9,894 against and 5,972 for.

The proposal, supported by State Agriculture Secretary Jim McHale, would have levied 5 cents for each hundred weight of milk and would have brought in an estimated \$2.6 million a year for promotion.

Some observers felt failure of the proposal could be interpreted at least partly as a no-confidence vote in McHale.

A department spokesman

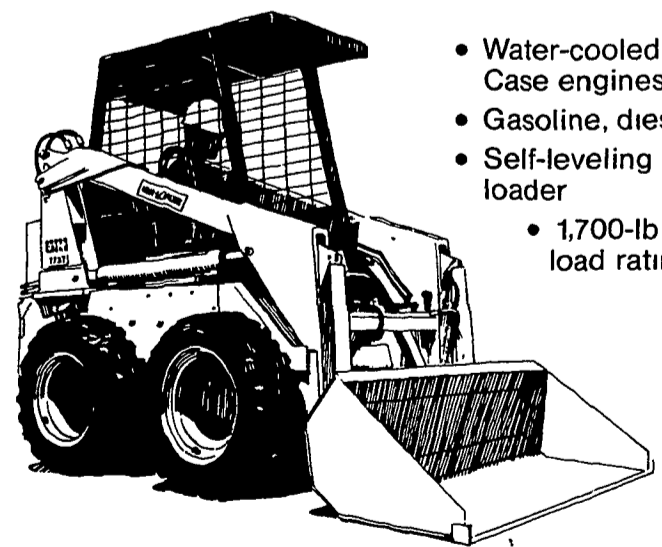
denied this and noted the same referendum failed in 1969 during a different state administration.

Actually the failure, the spokesman said, was "a combination of things—high prices of hay and feed in recent months" because of bad weather and other economic factors.

"Somewhat suspect are the grain export deals" which hurt the farmer, he added.

The referendum came at a time when dairymen statewide are complaining of high production costs that are threatening their very existence. Private statistics show continuing rising costs per hundredweight on an average statewide basis—\$5.97 in 1970, \$6.32 in 1971 and \$6.57 in 1970.

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