

# Vote "Yes" For Open Space

When William Penn became the Commonwealth's first governor, he wrote a letter to the Committee of the Free Society of Traders in England. In part of the letter he said:

"The country itself, its soil, air, water, seasons and produce, both natural and artificial, is not to be despised. The land containeth divers sorts of earth, as, sand, yellow and black, poor and rich; also gravel, both loamy and dusty; and, in some places, a fast fat earth, like our best vales, in England; especially by inland brooks and rivers. . . The air is sweet and clear, the Heavens serene, like the south part of France rarely overcast. . . I bless God, I am fully satisfied with the Country and the entertainment I got in it. . ."

Governor Penn might write a different letter today. He might no longer be fully satisfied with the country.

Since Penn's day, we've destroyed much of the beauty that made the state an attractive haven for many of Europe's oppressed religious minorities. Where once there were forests, fields and clean streams, there are now too often parking lots, super highways and streams that carry more filth than water.

Much of the state's open space has been gobbled up in the name of progress and profit. People are beginning to ask, though, if "progress" is worth the price of having large areas of the state paved over. They're beginning to ask, "Is more of everything -- more buildings, more roads, more people -- is this always progress?"

We think the answer is no. We think open space is one of our most valuable -- and most abused -- resources. There are many

acres of parks and state forests in the state which will always remain open. But the biggest portion by far of all the open space is owned privately by farmers. If farmers can be encouraged to keep farming their fields, everyone will benefit. If farmers feel compelled to sell their lands to developers and speculators, then everyone will lose.

Many farms in Lancaster County keep going up in value because of their proximity to commercial and residential areas. Tax increases must ultimately follow increases in market values. Those tax increases can be so crippling they virtually force farmers to sell their land for the simple reason that they can long afford to farm it.

This threat can be forestalled, though, if voters approve a constitutional amendment on the ballot in the May 15 primary.

The amendment would permit agricultural land to be taxed on the basis of its use and to be set aside as reserves for the enjoyment of generations yet to come. Like the environmental protection amendment which the voters overwhelmingly approved two years ago, it is not self-enforcing. The General Assembly would have to implement it with legislation - and legislation carefully drawn to avoid the mistakes made elsewhere, notably in New Jersey.

But the amendment can lay the groundwork for saving what is left of the beauty of Penn's Woods. We join former Republican Gov. William Scranton, former Democratic Gov. George Leader, environmental and sports and agricultural organizations in urging Pennsylvanians to vote yes.

## Goodwill Week

Today marks the last day of National Goodwill Week, May 6 - 12. Many people are familiar with Goodwill Industries. They associate Goodwill with the collection box in the parking lot of their neighborhood shopping center. They may have shopped for bargains among the antiques and curios found in Goodwill retail outlet stores. However, there are many steps from "collection box" to the Goodwill store that people may not be familiar with.

The items available in Goodwill stores have been refurbished by disadvantaged and handicapped people. The collection box in the parking lot was probably painted by a handicapped worker in the Goodwill paint shop. Yes, Goodwill does more than collect and resell. Goodwill serves people of every age, ability and walk of life -- in-

dividuals whose handicaps might prevent them from working and from living full, happy and productive lives.

Because of Goodwill Industries' devotion to "Helping the Handicapped Help Themselves", an able person with a disability can do more than endure and only survive. That individual is guided to discover a new capacity, learn a new skill, find a way to give his gift and apply his talents. Consequently, he is often able to provide for himself and his family and become a contributing member of the community.

Remember - the collection box and the outlet store are visible aspects of Goodwill. The important factor in Goodwill is the human element - the handicapped and disabled citizens who are trained and encouraged to become useful individuals.

## Letters to the Editor

Editor:

The Pennsylvania AAA Federation and the 40 AAA clubs in Pennsylvania are strongly opposed to House Bill 740 which would increase maximum lengths of tractor trailer combinations to 65 feet and provide for the hauling of tandem trailers

The trucking industry claims that these truck-trains are needed for economic reasons and will accrue a benefit of nearly \$22 million to Pennsylvania. We feel this is a hollow claim when weighed against the threat to highway safety that these big rigs will bring. We have challenged the trucking industry to show specifically where these truck-trains will create savings for the individual consumer who would be threatened on the highways by their size. We have received NO answer.

Furthermore, anyone who thinks the trucking firms will be

satisfied with 65 feet is being fooled. Presently such rigs have grown to 100 feet in Kansas and triple trailer combinations have been tested in Wyoming and New York.

In time they will also push for heavier hauling capacities as well. In December 1967, American Trucking Association Managing Director William Bresnahan told the Washington Post that liberalization of state laws against extra trailers would do the industry little good unless the Federal gross weight limit is also raised. "There's no point in longer combinations unless we can load them up," is the way he put it.

Among the other reasons for our opposition to HB-740 are as follows

Pennsylvania's terrain is not conducive to the safe driving of such rigs. weather increases the threat of serious jackknifing accidents

involving such truck-trains.

... It requires a sight distance of 2,190 feet for a car traveling at 60 mph to pass a 65 foot rig traveling at 50 mph; a distance which is extremely perilous when a car encounters spray from the wheels of the truck-train; especially on the two-lane highways where such trucks will be permitted.

...The added size of the proposed tractor-tandem-trailer combination creates a greater wind impact hazard to cars.

...It is illogical to increase tractor trailer combination sizes at a time when cars are getting smaller and less powerful.

We believe that Pennsylvania is the state where the stand must finally be made against the trucking industry's state-by-state encroachment on motorists' safety.

John J. Donovan  
Executive Vice President  
Pennsylvania AAA Federation

NOW IS  
THE TIME . . .

Max Smith,  
County Agr. Agent  
Telephone 394-6851



### To Stop Using Stilbesterol

As of several weeks ago, it is illegal to use the hormone, stilbesterol, in cattle and sheep feeding operations. For the past year it was not to be included in the feed and more recently the Food and Drug Administration outlawed its use as an implant. This means that stilbesterol pellets should not be implanted in the ear of either cattle or sheep. The reason seems to be of the possible danger of causing cancer in human beings. Therefore, producers should comply with this regulation at once. However, there are some other implants that continue to be approved and will give additional daily gains and added efficiency. Feeders may contact their local feed dealers to get this information.

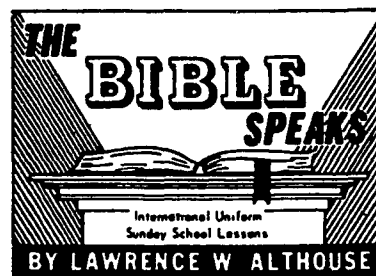
### To Inspect Alfalfa Fields

Our insect Extension Specialists at Penn State remind us of the possibility of serious damage to the first crop of alfalfa this spring from alfalfa weevil. Fairly high numbers of adult weevils were swept from alfalfa fields recently in southern Pennsylvania. Some plants are already showing feeding damage. The mild winter weather has permitted a larger percentage of the adults to

survive. Growers are urged to keep a close check on their fields. When 60 - 70 percent of the plants show feeding damage, then the plants should be sprayed or harvested; if not in the bud to early blossom stage, the cutting should be delayed for several weeks after the spray application, depending upon the material used. The 1973 Agronomy Guide gives materials that may be used.

### To Be Careful With Moldy Grain

We continue to hear of breeding problems with livestock that have been getting grain not perfectly sound. Some breeders have been trying to work the unsound grain into a mixture with good grains; this could give good results with fattening hogs or cattle but is the wrong thing to do with breeding animals. The mold may or may not cause toxins that are poisonous; it is too risky to take the chance. Breeding problems, abortions, or sterility may result from feeding moldy grains, if they have the toxic type of mold. Questionable grain should be fed to fattening animals in limited amounts; there is a commercial laboratory in the state of Tennessee that will make the test for poisonous toxins in the grain.



### BEYOND DIFFERENCES

Lesson for May 13, 1973

Background Scripture: Acts 11:4-18; Ephesians 2:11-22; Galatians 3:23-29; 1 John 4:7-12.  
Devotional Reading: Matthew 12:46-50.

In Lloyd Douglas' novel, *The Big Fisherman*, Voldi, one of the characters, writes of the voice of Jesus: "It's a unifying voice that converts a great crowd of mutually distrustful strangers into a tight little group of blood relatives."



Whether because of his voice, as Voldi asserts, or his whole personality, this is the way Jesus often affected groups of "mutually distrustful strangers." He helped them overcome their differences and find a oneness in him that was more compelling than any other kind of mutuality.

### There are differences

Too often we have attempted to establish fellowship on a false basis that has attempted to ignore our very real differences. About seven years ago, my wife and I were two members of a team of American churchmen who were visiting Protestant parishes in the various areas of Bavaria, Germany. One Sunday morning we worshipped in the parish church of Peissenburg, a small mining town in Upper Bavaria. The Pastor of the church and a layman

spoke words of greeting to us. I was asked to reply for the Americans.

I was tempted to begin with that old cliché that asserts that "Christians are the same the world over," but I knew that, regardless of how often it is said or implied, it is simply not so. A week spent in this parish had amply demonstrated that fact. So, instead I began with the tacit admission that "we are not all alike."

I observed that Bavarian Protestants, that Peissenburg churchmen were not like the church people of Munich, just as Pennsylvanians are not like North Carolinians, and people of the inner city are not like people in the rural parishes. "Yet," I said, "though we are not 'all alike,' because of our mutual love of Jesus Christ, we are enabled to go beyond our real and considerable differences and find our oneness in him."

### Creating the "new man"

We are one in Jesus Christ, not because our differences are few and inconsequential, but because we are enabled to overcome these differences through him. The differences are real and often great, but the power of Christ to unify men is even more real and much greater. In him the greatest differences can be conquered--no wall is too formidable for him to breach.

In the Jerusalem temple there was a Court of the Gentiles marked by a "dividing wall" on which there were inscriptions warning Gentiles that if they went into the Temple past this point they were liable to be killed instantly. Now, says the writer of Ephesians, this wall and all other barriers between men, have been broken down by the unifying power of Christ. Our differences may be great, but the unifying power of God enables us to go beyond those differences to know the oneness for which we were created.

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