

Peace Corps Workers Needed In Jamaica

Opportunities to work with the Peace Corps in Jamaica were announced recently by Dr. Robert E. Swope of the College of Agriculture at The Pennsylvania State University.

Dr. Swope returned recently from meetings with Jamaican officials regarding progress of a program termed FARM (Future Agricultural Resources Manpower). As Assistant Dean of the College of Agriculture, he heads up arrangements whereby Penn State faculty and staff members serve as technical "backstops" for volunteers in the Jamaican project, a cooperative effort begun in February 1974.

A search is underway, he said, to locate U. S. individuals to work with the FARM program in 1975. As of next July, individuals with the following skills and interests are needed, he announced, in the Jamaica Peace Corps:

-Eight agricultural education teachers, preferably with degrees in agricultural education and or horticulture. These people will work in the secondary schools in vegetable and small livestock production—including classroom instruction and field demonstration work.

-Four forestry development officers, with bachelor of science degrees in forest

science and preferably with some work experience. Emphasis of the work in Jamaica will be in Caribbean Pine forest planting, harvesting, and marketing.

-One farm manager who should be experienced in vegetable and livestock production and marketing.

-One Agricultural Extension officer in horticulture. The person will be concerned primarily with vegetable production but will be used by Jamaican farmers in other extension activities.

-Three Agricultural Extension officers with experience in producing peanuts, soybeans, and legumes such as peas and beans.

-Three Agricultural Extension officers in grain production. These people should have a bachelor of science degree or experience in agronomy, with particular interest in corn and rice.

-One Agricultural Extension officer interested in agronomy or horticulture, with specialization in potatoes and other tuberous crops.

-Five Agricultural Extension officers in horticulture, with emphasis on onions, garlic, cucumbers, and other garden vegetables.

-One agronomist in legume research. A degree is desirable but not necessary. The individual must have experience in experimenting with peanuts, soybeans, and other legumes. This person should be interested in research and be able to supervise field workers.

-Two horticulturalists in vegetable research. These people should have bachelor of science degrees with emphasis on vegetables. The research will include variety trials, insecticides, herbicides, and other production practices.

Dr. Swope made on-site visits with 14 agricultural volunteers with the Peace Corps in Jamaica who came from agricultural colleges all over the U.S. Most volunteers indicated the work is satisfying and within the area of their interest and academic training. These people all seem enthusiastic about Jamaica and are encouraged by the professional and cultural advantages afforded them, he said.

While Penn State faculty and staff members are

Farmers Didn't Pocket 1973 Income Increase

The U.S. farmer earned more money than ever in 1973, but he wound up with no more cash than usual in his pocket according to USDA figures.

The agricultural balanced sheet shows that although farming's realized net income almost doubled last year, farmers retained the same amount of cash in 1973 as in 1972, a total of \$2.2 billion.

Also, total liquid assets of farmers - currency holdings, bank deposits, and U.S. savings bonds - generally did not keep up with growth in net income. Liquid assets hit a record \$18.9 billion last year but the gain from 1973 was only \$0.9 billion versus \$1.2 billion during 1972.

One explanation may be the unusually large cash purchases of farm equipment in 1973. Farmers evidently preferred to avoid high interest rates by using more of their own money rather than borrowing.

Sales of used equipment, which don't require as much credit financing as new sales, were exceptionally heavy.

Other high cash outlays may have been brought about by larger than usual downpayments on purchases of farms, and by cash payments for such inputs as fertilizer and fuel.

Figures indicate that the farmers' ownership of U.S. savings bonds was unchanged in 1973. Bond investments have remained at \$4 billion for the past 2 years.

The value of bonds redeemed for cash just about equaled new purchases plus accrued interest.

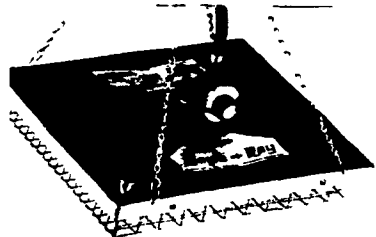
Smoking and Matches

Considering the remarkable gain in net income for farmers in 1973, their bank time deposits did not rise as much as might have been expected. Instead of depositing their savings in banks, some farmers probably switched toward other institutions for their money, like savings and loan associations, U.S. Treasury bills, or corporate stocks.

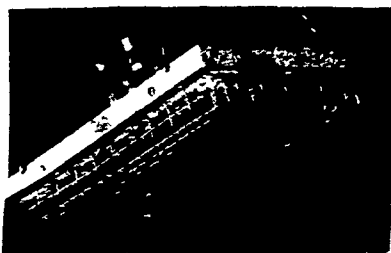
Smoking and matches are top causes of building fires, reports the National Fire Protection Association. Make sure you have plenty of large ashtrays in your house. And don't smoke in bed, cautions the Extension Service Education Safety and Emergency Preparedness Committee, The Pennsylvania State University.

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directly assisting the Peace Corps in identifying potential volunteers for Jamaica, the services of other persons are needed in the Peace Corps throughout the world, Dr. Swope pointed out. Interested persons are invited to discuss a Peace Corps assignment with Dr. Swope in room 217 of the Agricultural Administration Building at University Park. The telephone number is area code 814 865-7521.

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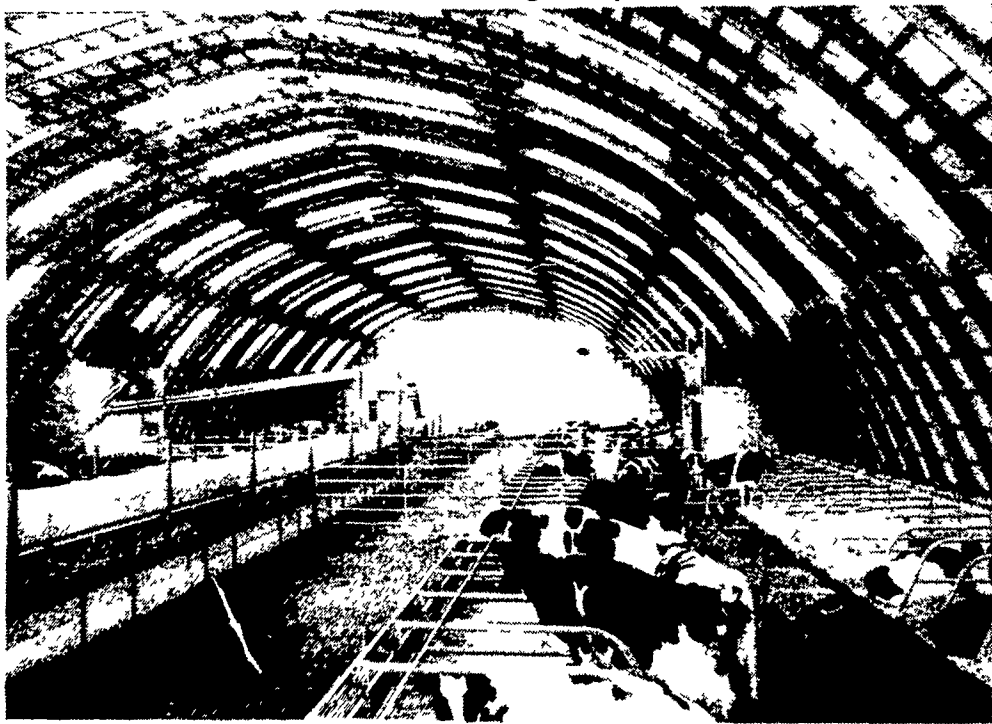
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