

Heifers Journey To Jordan

On January 4th, 50 bred and registered Holstein cows will begin a journey that will take them to the Deir Allah research station in Jordan. The heifers, which were

donated by Lancaster area farmers will help to upgrade the dairy herds in that portion of the world.

The program is sponsored by the efforts of the Lancaster Mennonite Conference Relief and Service Committee, Heifer project Inc., and the Central Committee.

Mr. and Mrs. John Yost, RD2, New Holland will be accompanying the heifers to Jordan and will be staying in that country for six months to insure the animals are properly cared for.

It is hoped that the animals will help build up herds of healthy productive dairy cows and allow the country to increase their dairy products production.

Fire Regulations Planned For State Farm Show

The 59th annual Pennsylvania State Farm Show will be held as scheduled Jan. 6-10 as the Department of Labor and Industry's Industrial Board approved an interim plan to continue operation of the Farm Show complex.

Pennsylvania Agriculture Secretary Jim McHale and Labor and Industry Secretary Paul Smith announced jointly today that a plan to impose extensive fire regulations was approved to permit the Farm Show complex to remain open to the public while major renovations to the buildings are made, expected to take at least two years at a cost of about \$11 million.

The interim and long range renovation plans were presented to the Industrial Board Dec. 17 by Farm Show Director Wellington Smith. The board's approval included continued use of the complex' small arena.

The Farm Show director attributed the Board's approval in part to steps already taken to administer fire and safety regulations.

These include attendance by a number of employees of the complex at the Pennsylvania Fire School; establishment of a fire brigade; acquirement of additional fire fighting equipment such as fog nozzles, hose lines, fire extinguishers, pike poles, fire axes, portable lights and compressed air breathing apparatus; and establishment of a Fire Prevention Committee.

As part of the interim plan, exhibitors leasing the complex are required to submit a floor plan to the committee locating fire prevention equipment and listing hired fire personnel. Decorations must be certified as fire retardant, exits must remain free and precautions taken for materials stored and on display.

The Harrisburg Fire Company will provide assistance at all major shows at the complex.

There will also be a prominent display of no smoking signs, gasoline powered vehicles within the premises will have their battery cables unhooked and gasoline caps tapped closed, displays in the corridors will be metal rather than wood, and exit signs will be prominently displayed.

Use of the small arena will be restricted to 800 seats at any one time. When in use, two city firemen will be on duty and no combustible materials will be permitted to be stored under the seats or in the adjacent maintenance room.

The long range plan will be financed by a \$10.7 million debt authorization recently passed by the Senate and the House.

Among renovations planned are, replacement of the one-story sheet metal horse and beef cattle barn; repairs to the small arena; reconstruction of the milk house; reconstruction of the office and storage area; construction of a second floor ceiling in the administrative area; construction of interior, exterior and overhead doors and exits installation of a new sprinkler system; a new fire alarm system; and revamping existing lighting and adding emergency lighting.

The state Department of Property and Supplies' Bureau of Engineering and Construction in October

issued a report that it would cost nearly \$9 million to renovate and upgrade the Farm Show complex to meet fire, safety and building codes. Estimates were based on material and labor costs in July.

The study was prompted by an order Jan. 31 to close the complex after an inspection by the Department of Labor and Industry and the Harrisburg Fire Company. The order was rescinded when emergency repairs were made.

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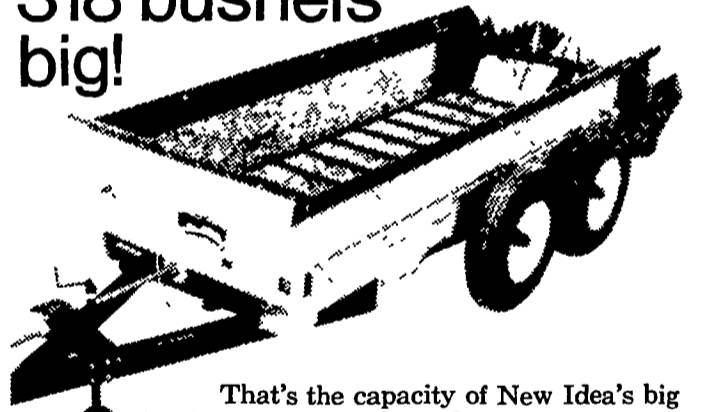
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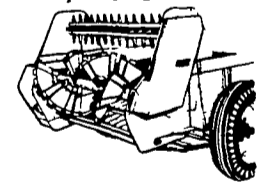
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