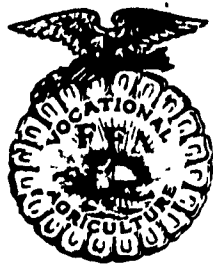


From Local Ag Teachers:



Thoughts in Passing



FFA - What is it?
by: Robert M. Weaver
Student Teacher of
Agriculture
Penn Manor
High School

My name is Bob Weaver, a student at Penn State University. I studied for 3 1/2 years to be an Ag teacher

and now am seeing what it's like while student teaching at Penn Manor High School.

For those of you who don't know, you must be in Ag in high school before you can become an FFA member. It is not a requirement to join the FFA at some schools if you are in Ag but if you do

and work hard there is much you can get from it. These gifts from the organization are leadership ability, training in raising animals and crops, experience in odd jobs and a chance to earn money.

Leadership ability is developed through responsibilities given to you as a member. There are offices to be held and committees to be on. Much work is done as an organization. Recently the Penn Manor Chapter elected new officers for 1975. These students, though only 9, 10 and 11th graders, are given the job of running the organization and planning the activities of the chapter.

Each member is required to have a project. This can be an animal, a crop or even work experience. Accurate records must be kept during the year in order to find profit or in some cases lately, loss. As for work experience the student gets to work in an ag related job and keep records on it. He keeps track of his hours and wages along with any improvements he makes around his home.

The money making part is of interest too. Each year contests are held in which the members may enter. These are county, area and even state or national. Money or awards are given out to the students best in each contest. These awards are given in appreciation of the hard work put in by the contestant.

The FFA has all this to give and maybe more. It builds character and makes a student more aware of the life outside of his or her high school. This organization is a great thing for the students. If you don't think so, just ask any member in your area.

Farm Expenditures Will Be Surveyed

"Beginning in March, a cross-section of American farmers, including many in Pennsylvania, will be asked about their expenditures for fuel, fertilizer, feed, seed, livestock, interest, taxes, cash wages and repairs," reported W. J. Fluke, statistician in Charge of the Pennsylvania Crop and Livestock Reporting Service.

Today, farmers buy considerably more fuel, fertilizer, machinery and chemicals than several years ago. In 1974 the nation's agricultural producers spent nearly \$75 billion to grow crops and livestock - that was 16 percent more than in 1973.

Several Bradford, Lebanon and Northumberland County farmers have been selected for interviews in the national survey and will be asked about their expenditures for goods and services to raise crops and livestock.

Fluke added, "Survey results are vital to farm planners, trade and producer groups, and other agricultural specialists in understanding where farmers stand in the nation's rapidly changing economic picture." He emphasized that all survey information

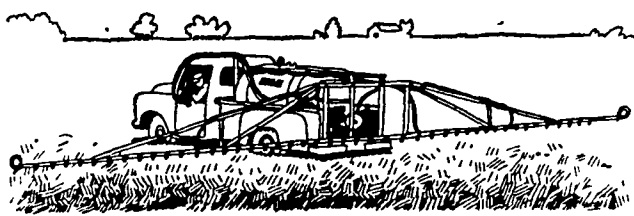
collected during the personal interviews will be kept confidential and only state and national summaries will be released.

LOST WAGES

Las Vegas has everything One guy pulled into a parking space put a dime in the meter—and lost his car! That town is getting really crowded Nobody has enough money for the trip home And then there's the Martian who landed in Las Vegas demanding to be taken to the cleaners

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