

Lancaster Farming

Serving The Central and Southeastern Pennsylvania Areas

Vol. 21 No. 15

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, Feb. 28, 1976

\$3.00 Per Year

Southeast Pa. Corn Clinic held

Grain sales to Russia expected

By DIETER KRIEG
JEFFERSONVILLE — Penn State extension ag economist Louis Moore was telling farmers here on Wednesday that the possibility for more grain sales to Russia was very real — and sure enough, on Thursday the government announced that more grain

sales to the Soviet Union had become a reality. According to USDA, it was Soviet agricultural officers who contacted the U.S. for more sales — not vice-versa. Moore had said in his talk on Wednesday that the Russians were extremely short of grain and definitely embarrassed by their crop

which came up to only about two-thirds of expectations. On top of that, Moore said the Russians were flabbergasted that USDA's estimate of the Soviet crop had actually been much more accurate than their own.

Rumors in commodity markets on Thursday in-

dicated that a 3.5 million metric ton sale had already been concluded, but the reports could not be confirmed.

Details on the newly initiated grain sales to the Soviet Union — which have President Ford's approval —

[Continued on Page 12]

Farmers face amended laws

By MELISSA PIPER
LANCASTER — Within two weeks the final revisions for manure and sewage disposal under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972 will be announced and for farmers all over the country its recommendations will probably have widespread effect.

Termed as the most

"comprehensive environmental control law" ever written, "90-500" will have provisions for many more small farmers than it did before amendment.

The federal law was spawned from consumer and legislative interest for the concern of keeping all waters in the United States clean and free from pollution. In its original

state, the law was somewhat lenient towards the farmer and their means of manure disposal or storage; however, following suggestions by a number of consumer groups, the small farmer has come under its tenacious inspection.

Gerald Bodman, extension engineer for Penn State, discussed both the federal law and the Pa. Clean

Streams Law in conjunction with his address on manure utilization at a swine management meeting held here on Tuesday.

Bodman cautioned that the new laws now coming into effect, would probably be more stringent concerning the handling, storing and utilization of manure. "Good

[Continued on Page 17]

Ag program unique in area

By MELISSA PIPER
MANHEIM - Within two generations education has spanned the gulf from the one-room school to a school with no walls at all. And while education has employed many unique methods of teaching, the vocational agriculture education has remained conservatively structured — that is until now.

At the Central High School here, the ag classroom has expanded far beyond the physical limits and for 14 senior students, is currently bounded only their imagination and the Manheim area.

Somewhat comparable to the work experience program for students in other curriculums, Manheim's ag cooperative

education program has allowed seniors to spend four — one half days per week working, not only in ag business but on the family farm or in similar production work situations. The venture is totally novel in the area and in the state as it provides the student with an opportunity to learn the occupation of their choice while becoming involved

with community concerns.

The students must spend five one-half days in academic work but the afternoons are for the students to spend at their jobs which range from swine production to truck driving.

Teacher develops program
For Jess Erway, ag instructor and coop coordinator, the exchange

[Continued on Page 13]

At National Peach Convention

Governmental bureaucracy hit

By DIETER KRIEG
HERSHEY — The National Peach Convention, returning to Pennsylvania after a 20-year absence, met here this week to discuss policies and problems. Pennsylvania, which ranks third in national peach production, also furnished the NPC with its president

for 1976. He is Paul McPherson from New Park, York County.

One of the major topics of discussion at the convention was the crop outlook for 1976. Most states reported losses due to exceptionally cold weather, and at least one state — Georgia — expressed concern over premature

warm weather. The Pennsylvania crop, according to McPherson and several other growers from the state who were present for the convention, is expected to be about 75 to 80 percent of production potential. It was noted that some frost kill always takes place and the figures aren't really

unusual. "One of the things about this business," a moderator exclaimed, "is that one grower's loss is someone else's gain."

The peach crop in Maryland is rated at 70 percent. New Jersey reports a 66 percent crop and New York reported that there will

Arsonist setting fires regularly

Authorities issue fire alert

MECHANICSBURG — State Police and local police in and around this Cumberland County community have issued an alert warning residents — especially farmers — about an arsonist being in the area who has caused nearly \$500,000 worth of damage during the past two weeks.

State Police have set up a command post for — the

purpose of thwarting any more attempts at arson and have supplied the media with the following telephone numbers:

717-697-2441

717-249-2121

717-243-4121

Anyone seeing anything suspicious is asked to contact any of the above numbers. "We are considering these fires to be a

major crime and need the cooperation of citizens," a police officer said.

The fires occurring in the area to date, with the exception of one on Wednesday night, have been set every third night since Feb. 14. It has caused residents to load their shot guns and police patrols to roam the area in greater numbers. Most of the fires have been occurring in

and around Silver Spring Township and that locality is now being patrolled by 14 police cars.

Since all of the fires set so far have involved barns in which cattle, equipment, feed, and antique cars went up in smoke, farmers in the area are spending much of the night inside their barns

[Continued on Page 12]

In this issue

Farm Calendar	10
Editorials	10
Spring hog sale	14
Classifieds	25
Homestead Notes	42
Country Corner	42
Women's Calendar	48
Home on the Range	50
'Red Fever' tour	54
Crop report	58
School dispute	61, 74
York DHIA	64
Lancaster DHIA	78
Food Outlook	86
Public Sales Register	89
State Reports	103

Let us never forget that the cultivation of the earth is the most important labor of man.

DANIEL WEBSTER