

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Farm labor law spreading

Dear Editor:
To the Pennsylvania "family farmer" who thinks

Farm Calendar

(Continued from Page 10)

District meeting of the Maryland Cooperative Milk Producers, Centre Presbyterian Church, New Park, York County, Pa. 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 27

Monthly board of directors meeting of the Berks County Conservation District, 2 p.m. at the Ag Center in Leesport.

Personnel Management Workshop, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Lancaster County Farm and Home Center.

Hunterdon County, N.J. baby beef sale, at the Coliseum, Trenton Fairgrounds

Eastern National Livestock Show begins at the Timonium Fairgrounds, Timonium, Maryland.

New Holland Sales Stables annual dairy show and sale. Show cows must be in the barn by 6 p.m., Tuesday. Judging 10 a.m. today, sale at noon.

Thursday, Oct. 28

Lancaster County 4-H Dairy Banquet, 6:45 at the Farm and Home Center.

Lancaster County Poultry Association banquet

Policy development committee of the Pennsylvania Farmers' Association, meets at the Crossgate Inn, Mechanicsburg, today and tomorrow.

Friday, Oct. 29

Pennsylvania Poultry Queen Pageant, 6:30 p.m. social hour, dinner an hour later, at the Sheraton Harrisburg Inn, at the intersection of I-83 and the Pennsylvania Turnpike.

you are putting far too much emphasis on Proposition 14 on the ballot in California, please assure him that California "family farmers" are taking the brunt of this pro-labor bias that is trying to get itself locked into a statewide election so that change, even for the insertion of a comma, will be possible only through another statewide election.

Harry Kubo, president of Citizens for a Fair Farm Labor Law, is leading the fight of California farmers to stop the legalization of harassment, coercion, intimidation and threats to family farmers there before it has a chance to spread to the East.

"The rights of not only the farmer, but also the farm workers, are being violated," charged Kubo speaking of existing and proposed edicts laid down in the state's farm labor act.

In addition to being disturbed over "violations of right," Kubo is angered by the Proposition 14 proposal which allows union organizers an almost endless right to come onto farm property and disrupt normal operations.

"You kick an organizer off the farm for being disruptive and all you can do is file some kind of an unfair labor charge with that biased, pro-labor Agricultural Labor Relations Board. And the next day the guy is back on your farm and you have to let him enter and he can disrupt things all over again."

Kubo, who with his brother farms 210 acres in Parlier, philosophized recently about Proposition 14 saying, "You have to recognize not only your rights but the right of others. And this includes the right of the workers. Under '14' the worker would just about lose his right to work

or not work under a union contract. The union could bring such pressure on him under '14' he'd have to join even if he didn't want to."

The New York State Apple Growers Association just a few days ago notified its members that Cesar Chavez's union has opened an office in Middletown, N.Y., which will become their Northeast headquarters. They say Orange County was chosen for their central office because of its migrant labor camps. Ulster County, immediately north, is apple country using many professional pickers, too. Then Chavez expects to open an office in Wayne County.

Those close to Chavez have stated that the first target out of California besides Florida will be New York State. That's getting awfully close to Pennsylvania for us to turn our backs on the problems of other "family farmers."

If the right of union organizers to enter private property becomes law, it will set a dangerous precedent. There isn't much difference between a union official coming on to a ranch or farm without being invited by the owner, and an uninvited guest coming into their homes or yards without permission. Property rights are basic Constitutional rights. If Proposition '14' violates them for one segment of agriculture and business, which will be next?

Sincerely,
Gail McPherson
New Park, Pa.



xxx
Raking leaves is a traditional fall chore in this country, but in the west African nation of Chad, the leaves of the acacia albida trees are purposely left to decompose and fertilize the ground. CARE, the international aid and development agency, supports this vital food-for-work project by providing acacia albida tree seedlings and supervising their planting in drought-damaged areas.

In 30 years the original CARE package—a parcel of food—has grown into a wide variety of food-for-work and other self-help programs. Today CARE provides everything from food to textiles, tools, construction equipment and technical know-how for building clinics, farm-to-market roads, water systems or schools. And MEDICO upgrades health care by training local medical personnel.

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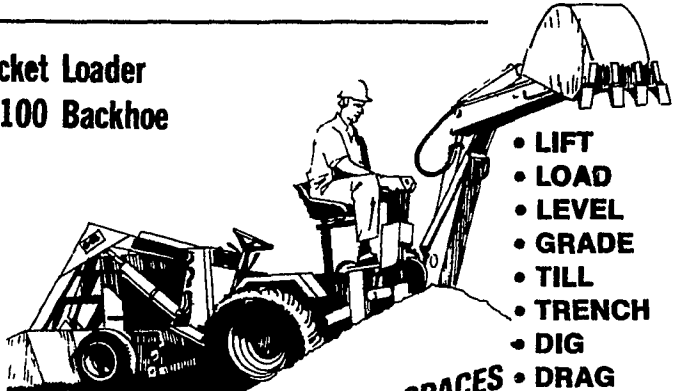
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