

Farmers challenge

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and highways. The bill was never passed but has emerged again within the new legislature. The Barley case will undoubtedly have an impact on the results of this year's voting on the bill.

In reviewing their case with Lancaster Farming, the Barleys indicated that they had at one time seriously considered selling the entire farm to LARA. "We thought we had no other option," Mrs. John Barley said. LARA didn't take the offer the Barleys made. More recently the Barleys have taken the position that maybe they can fight eminent domain after all. That's what's happening now, with the majority of Lancaster Countians standing firmly behind them.

Abram and John Barley have been on this farm for 15 years. As one of the largest dairy farms in the County, they produce 16,000 pounds of milk per day. The landfill annexation would take a portion of their cropland which runs adjacent to their 380-stall dairy barn. In years to come, the LARA people may choose to take that too, especially if they're successful in taking the acreage they're after now. "We'll never be able to replace what we have here," said Mrs. Barley.

LARA officials say that if they don't get the 58-acre tract of land, their present landfill will be exhausted by 1981. With the 58 acres added on, they may be able to continue for another five years. Officials for the Refuse Authority also say they

have no alternatives without raising the costs of trash collection considerably.

But that hasn't disturbed the general public too much, if at all. Of all the sentiments expressed to the Barleys and area newspapers, public concern is strong over losing more good farmland. Nobody is alarmed over having to pay more to have their trash hauled away.

LARA does have alternatives open to it, insist opponents to the landfill idea. A landfill on the Chester County line, near Honey Brook, is taking in 50 tons per day. It has a capacity to take 3000 tons daily. That 525 acre landfill site is said to be one of the largest on the East Coast. According to John Barley, his farm is 18 miles from Lancaster, the Honey Brook landfill is 24 miles away. He's doubtful that the slightly greater distance will make much difference since the roads in that direction are so much better. Barley, who recently visited the Lancaster Landfill, said that site is huge and very well planned. The site adjacent to his farm has craters and mounds all over it which are visible from far away. Trash often blows out of the deep scars in the soil, said Abram Barley, as he pointed his finger at debris caught in nearby trees and bushes. The Barleys are concerned over having that debris and large amounts of dust blow into their dairy if and when the landfill moves right next to the barn.

Manor Township supervisors will meet Monday night to discuss the issue in greater detail. A special meeting has been set for March 23 as well. The latter meeting is expected to draw a crowd, as is the event on Wednesday which gets underway at about 10 a.m.

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And his disciples came to him, and awoke him, saying, Lord, save us we perish

And he saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm

St. Matthew 8: 24-26



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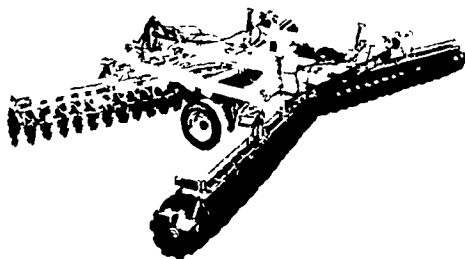
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