EDITORIAL COMMENTS

BY DIETER KRIEG, EDITOR

10—Lancaster Farming, Saturday, March 12, 1977

Sustained effort essential to keep garbage off farm

When 58 acres of prime farmland are being seriously considered as the site for a garbage dump, it's time to do something about it. That's just what an estimated 300 people did on Wednesday when they rallied in support of John and Abram Barley and some of their neighbors who had land condemned by the Lancaster Area Refuse Authority (LARA). The challenge before the land owners directly involved, and anyone looking on in dismay, is to have LARA reverse its decision. The point is: LARA already owns the condemned land by virture of eminent domain. It's up to the public in general to mount up a vigorous enough campaign which will make LARA turn the land back to its rightful owners.

It's not an easy battle and it's not one which has a guarantee of victory attached to it. But it is a worthwhile effort and one which merits the full support of anyone who has an interest in agriculture. That's all of us since there isn't a person anywhere on the planet who does not have to depend on food.

LARA's bullheadedness, shortsightedness, and callousness on the matter is deplorable. For the sake of prolonging the life of their garbage dump for five years, they're willing to take 58 acres of prime farmland out of production. Although other ways of disposal are open to them, they haven't directed themselves to those possible solutions. LARA has cried that taking the garbage to other sites,

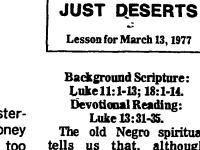
such as the one on the Chester-Lancaster county line near Honey Brook, would raise their costs too much. The mileage difference is only about six miles one way. That's going to increase costs all that much.

Suspicion is being voiced as to what LARA might have to hide, or what the members of the authority might have to gain personally by insisting on acquisition of the Barley farm and adjacent properties. LARA says other alternatives are too expensive and leaves the issue at that. More details are being asked for. Studies are being suggested. Meanwhile LARA members remain stubborn.

In order to save the Barley farm and the smaller tracts of land owned by several others, public pressure must continue. The rally on Wednesday wasn't the climax to this problem. It was hopefully the beginning of a fight for victory on behalf of wise land use.

It was suggested on Wednesday that concerned citizens tell the County Commissioners how they feel. That suggestion is seconded here. The address of the County Commissioners is 50 North Duke Street, Lancaster, Pa. 17604. Readers could also contact LARA at 1291 (Rear) Old Harrisburg Pike, Lancaster.

Let's not let this opportunity to save good farmland go to waste. It's not just a case involving the Barleys and their neighbors, it could be applicable in many other localities.



The old Negro spiritual tells us that, although everybody "talks" about Heaven, it doesn't mean everybody's "goin' there." So, also, lots of people "talk" about prayer, but that doesn't mean their experience of it has been very satisfactory. Perhaps there is no discipline in the Christian Church more highly touted, nor poorly than prayer. taught, Described glowingly as one of the most vital resources in the spiritual life, it is more often observed, as Harry Emerson Fosdick once remarked, as "a pious form rather than a vital transaction."

BUBILE

The persistent petitioner

One of the reasons for this failure is to be seen in the erroneous suppostions which many people harbor when it comes to praying. They approach it as if the key in prayer were to be found in their efforts to persuade a reluctant or institentive God to rouse Himself to do their will. Their efforts are focused on praying in the right way, using the right techniques, saying the right words that will cause God to act on their behalf.

Jesus knew well this popular misconception concerning prayer and he told some parables to try to change these unfruitful attitudes. One of these parables (Luke 18:1-8) tells an interesting story about a persistent widow who finally gets the local judge to defend her rights by hounding him continually. The brief personality sketch of the judge is illustrative of the kind of public official that was recognizable to his listeners: he "neither feared God nor regarded

The point of the parable, ofcourse, is this: if an unjust judge will be moved to do justice if he is persistently petitioned, how much more will a loving God do if we bring him our petitions! The contrast could not be more vivid: the judge respects no one, thinks only of his own needs, cares nothing about the plight of others, and wouldn't help anyone unless it served his own interests; God, on the other hand, loves men, cares about them, is concerned about their needs, is sensitive to their cries, and responds to persistance. But persistance is required not because God needs to be be goaded or reminded, but because man must persist in his receptivity! Our persistance enables God to do the good for us that he already wants to do.

Not like other men The second parable (Luke 18: 9-14) also centers on two readily identifiable personalities. First, there is the self - righteous Pharisee who has all the "right" religious creden-



TO INCORPORATE MANURE WITH SOIL

This is the time of the year when the aroma of this part of the rural area of Pennsylvania reminds us of the presence of livestock and poultry farms. This waste is a part of agriculture and is very useful in providing plant food and maintaining organic matter in the soil. Some folks may object to the odor at times, but as yet, this odor has not been declared Producers are urged to spread this material on seems to be worse on cloudy. practiced.

TO PREPARE FOR

EARLY SEEDINGS Some crops need to be seeded into the ground just as soon as possible in the Spring; I'm referring to Spring cats and to strait seedings of alfalfa. Both of Area 6 Grange meeting these crops do better if they can get well developed before dry, hot weather arrives. This is especially true of Spring oats in this part of the country. New pasture areas that are to be seeded this Spring should also be done just as soon as the ground is dry enough. All materials and machinery should be prepared so that the job can be done quickly when weather permits.

TO FERTILIZE **PASTURES**

Permanent pastures will respond to Spring fertilizer treatments and give additional forage. The starting place is a complete soil test and lime if necessary. Following the lime treatment, a complete fertilizer such as 10-10-10 can be used where there is a mixture of grasses and clovers. With straight grasses only nitrogen may be needed. Where very early grazing is wanted, then only a part of the area (4-acre per animal) can be treated early to give several weeks earlier grazing. Just because an area has to be in permanent pasture does not mean that it cannot be productive. Permanent pasture grasses

tials...except for two. He lacks humility and he despises others whom he feels don't live up to his pious standards. The message in this parable is clear: don't expect effective prayer if you are proud and disdainful of others. The problem is not that God will not answer such a person, but that the person himself is blocking the channel through which God's grace would flow. Pride and hostility on the part of the prayer slam shut the doors through which the blessings would come.

NOW IS THE TIME...

Max Smith County Agr. Agent Telephone 394-6851

such as bluegrass will yield well both in Spring and Fall. when well limed and fertilized. Extra early grazing may reduce the feed and hay

TO TOPDRESS WHEAT WITH **FERTILIZER**

The growing season is here; we already note the change of color in Winter wheat and barley fields. This means that wheat stands may need some nitrogen as a definite health hazard. fertilizer yet this month in order to get a good crop. Many wheat fields are a bit windy and sunny days so that slow this Spring and need the odor is not as strong; it some help. An application of from 25 to 50 pounds of actual muggy days. Also, there will nitrogen per acre is be far less complaints if the suggested. The lower rates manure is injected or in- should go on fertiled ground, corporated into the soil or on wheat fields that have quickly after spreading; this been seeded down to alfalfa can be done by soil injection or red clover. Fields with the equipment with liquid goal of maximum yields of manure, or by plowing or wheat should get the heavier discing the area soon after nitrogen applications. Be spreading. Good public careful with nitrogen on relations with ones neigh- barley fields due to the bors may be maintained if danger of causing more some of these items are severe lodging of the plants.

Farm

Today, March 12

Valley Grange Hall, Lewisberry, 7:30 p.m. Deadline is today for signing up for the Lancaster County Holstein Club's tour to Centre County. If interested, contact Ken Rutt at 717-786-3591

Monday, March 14 Tractor safety course for youth taught at Oxford High School, vo-ag room, 6 p.m. Contact the Chester County Extension Service for details - 215-696-3500.

Presticide applicator training session, 8 p.m. at the Hunterdon County, N.J. Extension Center. Cumberland County 4-H Dairy Club banquet, 7 o.m. South Middleton Firehouse.

Today and tomorrow, 7 to 10 p.m., form meetings on Agri - Soil Conditioner, Treadway Inn, Lancaster.

Adams County dairymen hold "urgent meeting" to discuss the dairy situation and present problems. West Street Branch of Gettysburg Bank, Gettysburg, 8 p.m. Central 4-H Dairy Club of

York County holds meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the Bair 4-H Center. Tuesday, March 15

Willow Street Fire Company holds benefit barbecue for new firehouse. Farmers Market Meeting, 8

p.m. at the Hunterdon County, N.J. Extension Center.

Tordon - multiflora rose control meeting, 7:30 p.m. at Big Spring High School vo-ag room, Newville.

Ephrata Young Farmers meet, 7:45 p.m. at the high school. "Corn and alfalfa update." |Continued on Page 39|

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Killer bees a real threat

Dear Editor: On Sunday, Feb. 20, there was a program on TV called "In Search of Killer Bees." The program explained that 26 hives of African bees (which are very tempermental and vicious due to their harsh environment) were imported to Brazil several years ago for experiments in cross - breeding the African strain (which are excellent honey - producers) with a gentle European strain of honeybee.

By accident, the African bees were allowed to swarm: and from there on they multiplied at an astonishing rate. They seem to attack anything that moves, is dark in color, or makes any vibrations near their hives. The African bees have killed livestock and humans in South America while causing many other people to be treated for stings. The African bees also kill the gentle honeybees and take over their hives.

These bees are moving north at a rate of 200 miles per year and are scheduled to reach the U.S by 1990

However, they could arrive at any time from "stowing away" on board ships or other cargo carriers.

If the African bee is introduced into this country, [Continued on Page 43]

RURAL ROUTE

By Tom Armstrong

