

# Farmland scarce in Denmark's isle kingdom

By JOYCE BUPP  
Staff Correspondent

Can you imagine a nation spreading over 400 islands? The Kingdom of Denmark does just that, and includes a peninsula of Northern Europe and the large island of Greenland, off the North American coast.

Denmark's cohabitation with the sea has taught its Viking descendants to appreciate land and carefully cultivate every inch, even to the extent of growing gardens instead of grass in yards. It's a country grown famous for its beautiful chinias and porcelains, the product of an inventive people who lacked raw

mineral wealth but made use of an abundance of clay well suited for the potter's wheel.

The Danish government operates as a fairly well-developed welfare state. When this reporter visited during July 1976, an average industrial worker was earning \$8 hourly, then paying about 60 per cent of his wages back to the government. That whopping deduction funded a variety of social services, excellent and cheap public transportation, old-age benefits, clean streets, and maintained a low rate of crime.

Petroleum at the pump cost \$1.60 per gallon, accounting for the abundance

of small compact cars and "parking lots" filled with bikes at every street corner. Fuel used for farming purposes, however, was sold at about half that cost.

Credit is a relatively new introduction to the Danish consumer, with 1976 mortgage interest rates running 14 to 15 per cent. Travel remained an inexpensive recreation, but some luxuries, including automobiles, were heavily taxed.

Eight per cent of the population of Denmark was engaged in agriculture, and farm products made up a full one-third of the country's exports. Almost half of the



Individually tied in these mini-stalls, Danish Landrace sows are housed much like a herd of cattle.



**IF  
\$ PROFITS \$  
IS YOUR  
GOAL...**

**LET SURE-CROP  
LIQUID PLANT FOOD CO.  
HELP YOU BY GIVING:**

- ★ Complete Soil Test Analysis & Balancing Program
- ★ Crop Recommendations Based On Type Of Crop & Yield Goal Desired

Distributors For Blumhardt  
Liquid Application Equipment

We Also Can Supply You With  
Liquid Nitrogen Solution,  
Liquid Pot Ash & Sulfur

servicing the  
farmer



Contact:

**SURE-CROP**

RD 1, Box 4210, Grantville, PA 17028  
717-469-2864

cropland is planted in barley. Other popular small grains are wheat, oats and rapeseed, from which tiny black seeds, resembling cabbage seeds, are pressed into oils for cooking and fine grade motor use.

Danish farmers were seeking some type of relief from high inheritance taxes on their lands and cheaper loans for agriculture use. Schools showed no real incentives to encourage farming by offering vo-ag courses in high school, but many younger farmers were more educated than their fathers had been. We were told of statistics showing that when a son took over his father's farming operation, there was usually an 80 per cent increase in the unit's production.

Mr. and Mrs. Holger Anderson, the first family visited while "lifeseeing" in Denmark, were dairy farmers. Their very old but beautifully remodeled farmhouse attached at an angle to a haystorage area, which also attached at an angle to the "cowhouse," forming a giant "U" shape

surrounding a cozy cobblestoned courtyard.

A herd of 40 cows filled the stanchion barn, a mixture of the small Red Danish breed and more recently added Black Whites, the smaller-bred European strain of Holstein-Friesians. Sixty additional calves, heifers and a few young bulls were raised on the 55 owned and 25 rented acres of land.

On a feeding program of sugar beets, hay, pasture,

pelleted concentrate and brewers' mash. Anderson was averaging 11,200 pounds per animal. A loose housing addition to the barn was under construction, where brewers' mash would be available free choice to the cows. Milk was picked up daily and farmers were receiving a return of about 95 cents per gallon.

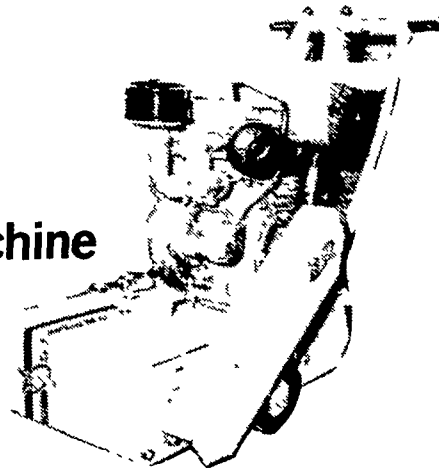
As the world's largest exporter of pork products,

(Turn to Page 60)

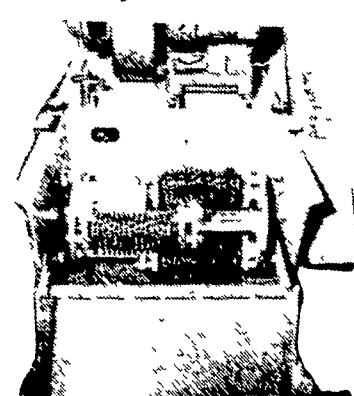
**SMOOTH, WET FLOORS  
Can be dangerous to Animals**

Rent  
Our  
Machine

To:



- Roughen Up Concrete
- Level Uneven Spots
- Remove High Spots



LANCASTER

**AceRents**

720 N. PRINCE ST., LANCASTER, PA.  
PHONE 717-393-1701

LEBANON

**RENTALS  
UNLIMITED**

940 Cornwall Rd Phone 717-272-4658

READING

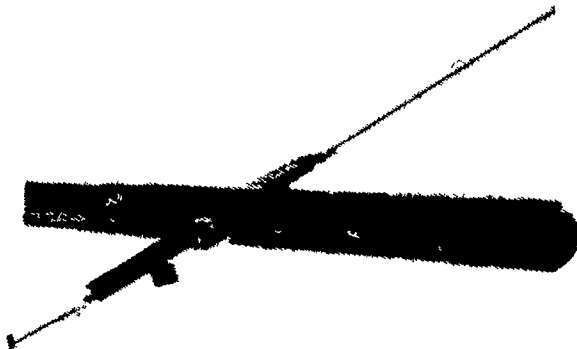
**Reading TOOL and EQUIPMENT  
Rental** 12th & Spring Streets

Phone 215-376-3896

We Rent Most Everything

## MATERIAL HANDLING EQUIPMENT

**ACORN  
MANURE HANDLING  
EQUIPMENT**



**MARK II  
ALLEY SCRAPER**

- Automatic scraping chores in free - stall, farrowing houses or chicken houses.
- Dependable, scrapes up to six times per day with safety cut-off.
- Low-cost cable operated, adaptable to existing installations with no channels to cut - eliminates dangerous gases in slatted floor buildings.

Zero Concord  
SYSTEM



FIDELITY ELECTRIC



TRUE ALTERNATORS



CLEANERS & SANITIZERS

**CONSULTING**

**LAYOUT**

**MODERNIZING**

PROMPT SERVICE  
SERVING LANCASTER, CHESTER AND CECIL COUNTIES

**W & J DAIRY SALES**

R.D. 2, OXFORD, PA. 19363  
CALL BILL GUHL 717-529-2569