

EPA says no to using farmland as landfills

WASHINGTON, D.C. - According to Lancaster County Congressman Bob Walker, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) indicated to him that action will soon be initiated precluding the use of prime farmland for the purposes of solid waste disposal.

Walker, who is the Ranking Minority Member on the House Environment and Atmosphere Subcommittee, was informed of the pending action in testimony by top EPA officials who were responding to his questioning on a related matter.

"I have stated many times that farmland is one of our most precious natural resources and that we must begin now to initiate programs and policies that will adequately preserve it.

"This pending EPA action is cause to be optimistic that prime agricultural land will no longer be available for us as municipal landfills," Walker said.

Seventeen months ago during the controversy surrounding the possible use of the Lancaster County, Pennsylvania farm of John Barley as a municipal landfill, Walker requested that EPA undertake a study to determine alternatives to using prime farmland for this purpose.

"Recently I received the results of that study from EPA and after reviewing it felt that it had not been properly executed," Walker said.

Yesterday when EPA Assistant Administrator Dr. Steven Gage came before Walker's subcommittee for oversight hearings he was



Robert Walker

questioned about the scope and substance of the study.

"Under my questioning, Dr. Gage blamed a bureaucratic failure to communicate for the un-

satisfactory results of the study.

"However, he then indicated that EPA is taking the issue of farmland preservation quite seriously and that within a month details of a program precluding the use of prime farmland for solid waste disposal will be communicated to the subcommittee," Walker said.

He also noted that during yesterday's testimony EPA officials pledged full cooperation in working with him on this issue. He said they acknowledged that the need to develop solid waste disposal alternatives is particularly pressing in the more densely populated areas of the nation such as the northeast.

"I intend to insure that EPA moves ahead properly and expeditiously in this

area because I firmly believe that our nation's future is directly related to the maintenance of our current food growing capacity.

"We must act now so 'Barley Farm situations' remain isolated incidents and do not become commonplace occurrences," Walker concluded.

Pennsylvania egg production up

HARRISBURG - Pennsylvania egg production during August 1978 totaled 273 million, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service. The August production was 12 per cent above the 244 million eggs produced in August 1977. The August average of 12.8 million layers was four per cent higher than in August 1977. Egg production per 100 layers during August 1978

was 2129 compared with 1975 in August 1977.

The nation's laying flocks produced 5.5 billion eggs during August, three per cent more than last year. The number of layers during August averaged 272.4 million, compared with 270.6 million a year earlier. Egg production per 100 layers during the month was 2011 compared with 1978 a year ago.

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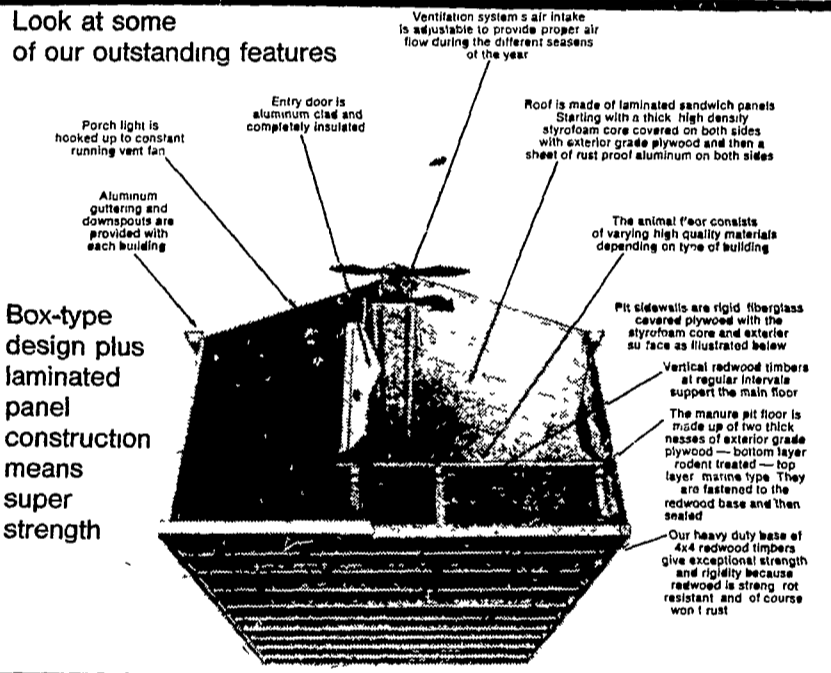
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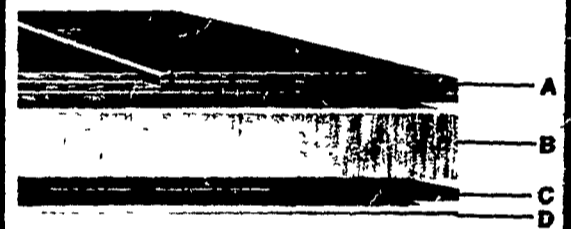
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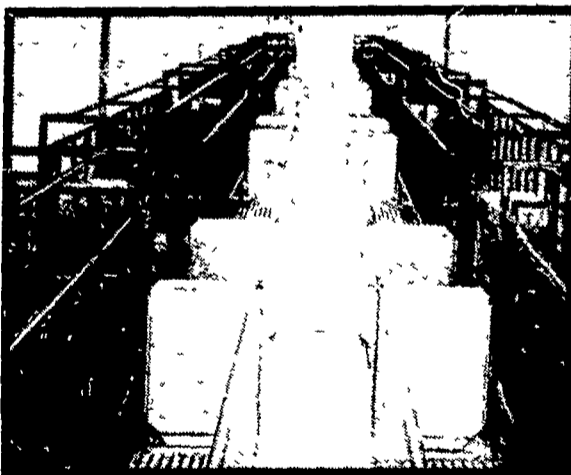
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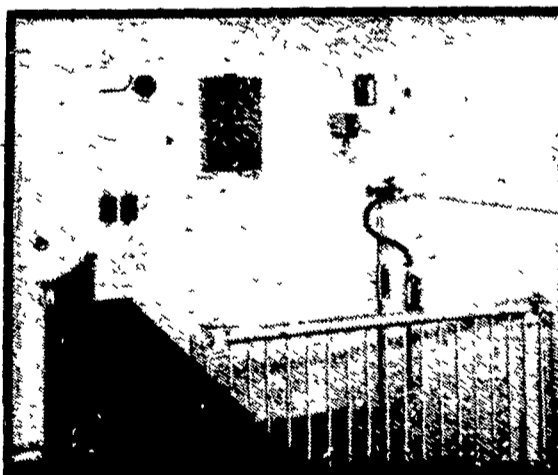
Laminated Wall Panel Design



- A The outer wall surfaces are handsome, rough sawn red exterior 5/8" plywood. Surfaces can be painted another color later if desired by owner to match existing buildings
- B The exterior wall is permanently laminated to a full 1 1/2 inch thick core of styrofoam insulation, the finest heat and cold barrier we know of for this purpose
- C A sheet of 3/16" exterior grade plywood is laminated to the styrofoam core for extra strength and rigidity
- D Then, a sheet of rigid fiberglass is laminated to the plywood to form the interior wall surface - a surface that cleans easily and can't harbor bacteria. All interior walls are of this fiberglass material. The lamination process produces a sandwich panel that is far stronger than the total strengths of all the individual components in the panel



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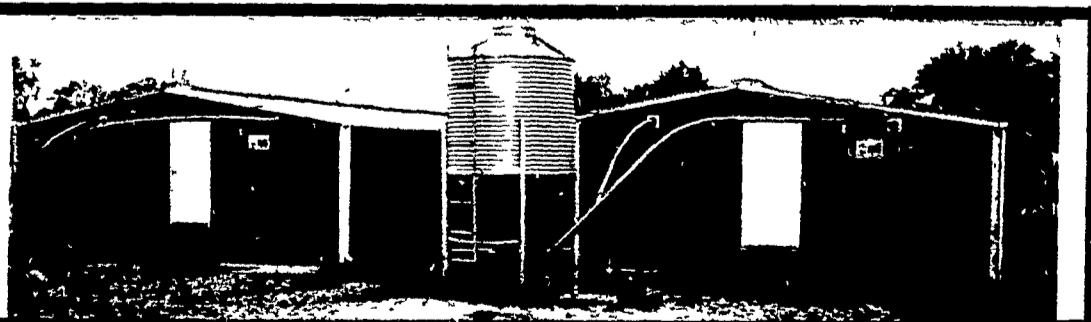


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