

Thornburgh

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chatted with farmers. While the governor-elect admitted that he has little knowledge of agriculture, he demonstrated an interest and willingness to listen. That's important and encouraging.

While Thornburgh included the agricultural community in his campaign, his Democratic opponent Peter Flaherty virtually ignored farmers. He failed to establish contact with agricultural leaders and the farm press. Not once did an announcement arrive about his wanting to meet with either farm paper editors or agricultural leaders of the community. The closest he came to that was a publicity stunt during the Pennsylvania All-American Dairy Show where he took time to try his hand at squeezing milk out of a cow. Apparently, that wasn't enough to convince Pennsylvania farmers and a lot of other people that he would make a good governor.

While no miracles can be expected of the incoming Thornburgh administration, it's good to know that a tough-minded corruption-fighter will be taking the reins of our state government. He has a tough job ahead of him, and a lot of cleaning up to do, thanks to the activities of the outgoing administration.

We wish Governor Thornburgh well as he prepares to lead Pennsylvania to more respectable levels.

If my recollections are correct, the weather during or shortly after the election in 1970 was dreary, cold, and wet. This year, as we all surely have noticed, the weather has been absolutely super. We're experiencing September temperatures and lots of sunshine.



Richard Thornburgh
Elected Governor

As it turned out, the political climate of the Shapp Administration followed the pattern set by the clouds and rain that gathered in early November of 1970.

Now we hope that the pleasant Autumn weather is an indication of the kind of politics that will be coming out of Harrisburg during the next few years, at least.

The man who spearheaded Thornburgh's campaign in Pennsylvania's farmland was Penrose Hollowell of Pennywell Farms, Ottsville. The Bucks Countian is a likely candidate to become the next Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture.

America

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Statue of Liberty, which is, I'm sure, a landmark which every foreign visitor to New York looks for

Just outside the pier, "parked" in severely polluted waters, was the **S.S. United States**, a beautiful ocean liner which was the pride of America. The luxurious and beautiful vessel also symbolized what we, as immigrants, expected of America. She was great, beautiful, luxurious and of course, big.

All that happened 23 years ago today when the Krieg family arrived in America

I mention it in this column because of the significant changes which have come about since then. I can most vividly remember, for example, fingering a dollar bill, a half-dollar, a quarter, and a dime. American money was then the world's strongest and most sought-after currency.

Back then it took four German marks to have one dollar. Today it takes just two marks to have one dollar. What has happened is that neither the American economy or the dollar are as strong as what they used to be.

That's unfortunate.

The farmer isn't to blame, however. Rather, he is to be commended for supporting what's left of this country's greatness - both in economic as well as social terms.

The farmer respects God and works closely with His creations. He upholds moral integrity, whereas these same principles are being attacked by others. We all suffer as a result.

The farmer works hard, whereas many of our labor unions have fought for less labor and more pay. They have had something to do with our sliding values.

The farmer believes in working to earn one's keep, while many government leaders push for welfare programs of all sorts. This has hurt us too.

The farmer has always strived for efficiency, while many workers in other professions have neglected to do the same. The result is that the farmer produces enough to feed not only this country, but much of the rest of the world as well. Meanwhile, however, virtually every other industry has failed to match the farmer's record. Go to any store and sample the merchandise. You'll see labels which say: Made in Japan, Made in Korea, Made in Germany, Made in Taiwan, Made in Mexico, Made in France, etc. etc. American manufacturers are hard-pressed to produce for Americans, let alone for the rest of the world as well.

Government hasn't done much either to hold up this nation's values and pride. Government spending fuels inflation because too few people in Washington know the difference between black and red ink. Many government regulations stifle our abilities to produce.

All things considered, is it any wonder that our values and productivity have declined?

Questions which need to be asked include: Is there any such thing as national pride left in America? Do we have national goals? Will the combined efforts of labor unions and welfare-minded politicians continue to chisel away at American productivity?

Unfortunately, American agriculture is one of the very few areas within our society which upholds all of the values which our forefathers fought for

We can only hope that the farmer's voice and efforts will become stronger and more influential.

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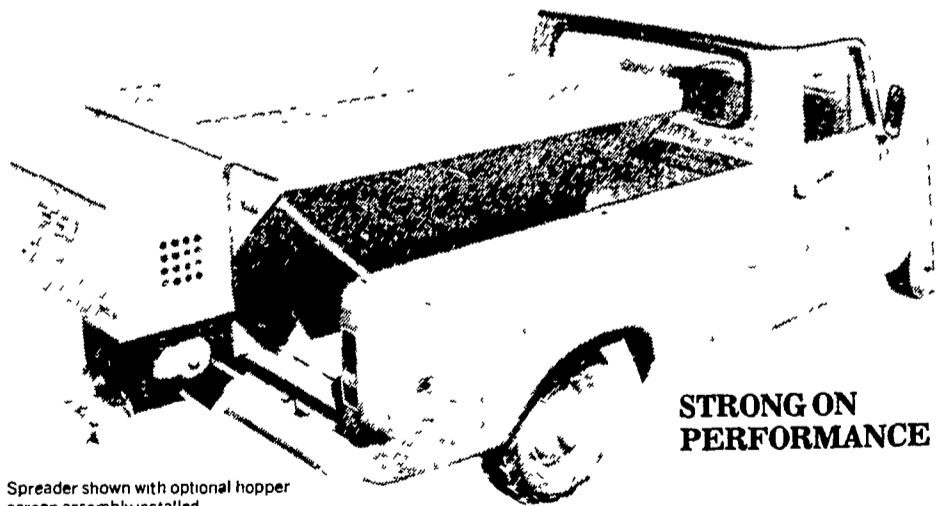
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