

Life on the Farm

by Dieter Krieg, Editor

The sound of an engine running at full throttle and tires squealing as though they're under torture is outrageous.

I filled up with instant anger each time I heard the explosive sound. Had a gun been within easy reach, I might well have been tempted to fire a few shots in the direction of the thieves.

As it was, all I could do was stare helplessly into the dark night and brood over what might be done to prevent another bust at the gas pump. Frustrated, it was hard to go back to sleep during the middle of the night.

That was nearly 20 years ago, when gasoline was priced at less than 30 cents a gallon and nobody would even have dreamed of a gasoline shortage. But to some, gasoline was cheaper and easier to get if the lock was broken off the pump at the farm. The prime time for it was long after the farmer and his family had gone to sleep. Our rented farm in southern Lancaster County was an easy target because the pump was located right along the roadside.

And that being the case, the

thieves helped themselves to our gasoline pretty near at will. They worked silently, under the cover of darkness. But once they had what they wanted, they weren't at all shy about announcing their departure in as loud a manner as they possibly could. It was, as far as I was concerned, adding insult to injury.

Something had to be done. I didn't want to just prevent further burglaries. I wanted to try catching them, or at least get even.

I had a simple plan that just might be the answer.

The following day I gathered up a few boards and lots of nails. With hammer in hand, I vented my anger and frustration on the heads of those nails, driving each of them through the boards. Turned around they should do a nice job of flattening tires, I thought to myself.

That night, and on many nights thereafter, I placed those boards at right angles to the pump in as careful a manner as I could. The driver would have to be awfully alert and in fact downright lucky to see the protruding nails.

I could hardly wait to snare the

culprits now that the trap had been sprung.

Dad was in on it too. I did my job after dark. He was to do his when he went out to do the morning milking.

Night after night went by without a trace of the thieves. I placed the boards each night, carefully camouflaging them. And Dad picked them up and hid them early each morning.

And then one morning the nails did their job. Four flat tires!

But we weren't celebrating, and we didn't catch any thieves.

Instead, we had one very surprised hired man. He was flabbergasted

when he looked at the four very flat tires on his car. Dad had forgotten to put the boards away that morning, and the place by the pump was Roy's usual parking spot.

I guess I was probably more disappointed than anyone, because I really wanted to score four flat tires with the hoodlums. But Dad vetoed any such plans after the experience with the hired man's car.

So we got ourselves a good German Shepherd.

As it turned out, he was very effective in keeping strangers away from the gasoline pump and we all slept a lot easier at night.

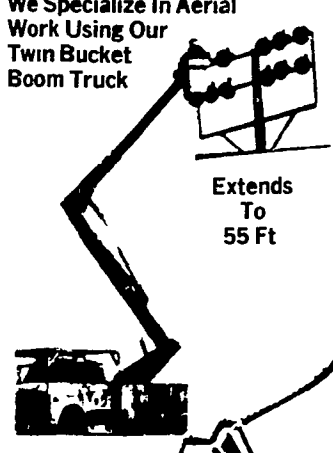
There are numerous ways to cook rice. Some prefer to wash rice free of starch prior to cooking; others

rinse it in cold water after boiling. Some boil it in small amounts of water and others in large quantities. Some

cooks cover the pot and others who boil the rice rapidly uncovered or steam it to perfection.

th

We Specialize In Aerial Work Using Our Twin Bucket Boom Truck



Extends To 55 Ft

We Have Poles In Stock . . . 25', 30', 35' & 45'

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING

Specializing In **AGRICULTURAL WIRING**

Also Residential, Industrial And Commercial Work.

Free Estimates.

C. M. HIGH CO.

Box 175 RD 2
Myerstown, PA 17067
Phone: 717-866-7544

1. Free Hot Water
2. HiPerForm Cooling
3. Mueller-Matic Washing

... only from **MUELLER!**




... Why settle for less!

USED TANKS
300 Gal. & Up

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

MARTIN'S REFRIGERATION SERVICE

Route No. 1, Box 482 Fayetteville, PA 17222
Phone: (717) 352-2783
SALES & SERVICE

th

TERRE HILL SILO CO. INC.
TERRE HILL, PA. 17581

AUTHORIZED DEALER

PATZ

MATERIAL HANDLING EQUIPMENT

- Silo Unloaders
- Cattle Feeder & Conveyors
- Overhead Cattle Feeders
- Circular Feeders
- Material Movers & Conveyors
- Manure Spreaders
- Manure Stackers
- Slurry Manure Pump
- Gutter Cleaners

get the PATZ facts first

SEE US FOR FIBERGLASS CALF HUTCHES & FIBERGLASS FEED BINS

Manufacturers and Erectors of Terre Hill **TRI-RIB STAVE SILO**



FOR OLD FASHIONED PRIDE OF WORKMANSHIP

★ SEE AND COMPARE THE PROVEN INTERIOR SILO FINISHES.

Serving The Farm Community For Over One-half Century.

CALL - TERRE HILL (215) 445-6736 or SALESMAN - JAMES EBSHSHADE - 717-464-2090