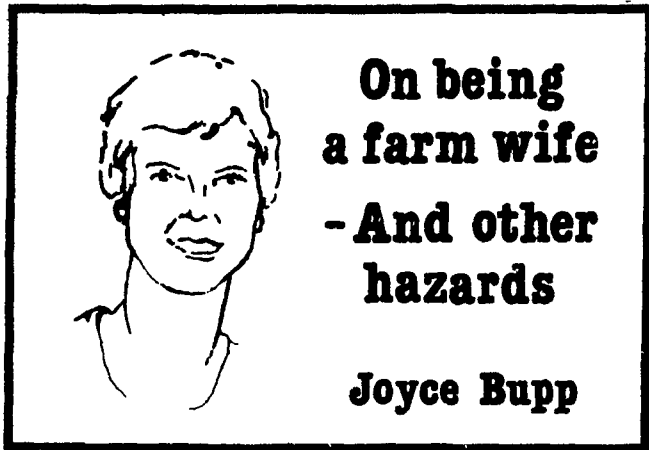


## Reagan auctions donkey



**On being  
a farm wife  
- And other  
hazards**

**Joyce Bupp**

It's often crossed my mind that there are lots of jobs that would make a neat way to spend part of a lifetime: photo-journalist roving around the world (at someone else's expense, naturally); plant specialist, somewhere like my beloved Longwood Gardens; or food critic, sampling the cuisine of the nation and the world (except that the seams on my jeans wouldn't stand the strain).

Note that some of these vocational pipe-dreams involve traveling. Much as I cherish the security and peace of our dairy farm, occasionally traveler's itch gets to bugging my feet and I wonder what's beyond the York County horizon.

But following agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland around part of the state recently during his pre-primary visits, opened my eyes to one travel job that is definitely not up my alley: political campaigning.

No leisurely sight-seeing for those involved in campaigning! A schedule is set, with timed visits to make, sometimes a hundred or more miles apart. No time to stop the car and pause by a whispering brook, investigate a field of blooming, colorful wild flowers or picnic in a grassy meadow.

And regardless of what any candidate says in his speeches, it's not going to please everyone - and possibly not anyone. Every answer is a right and wrong one, thus many speeches end up not really promising anything. Sure, there's some glory and sometimes a great deal of power, that goes with high official positions. Too often it has to be paid with loss of personal privacy, the right to express personal opinions and a case of the hard-won ulcer.

Having seen just a mere taste of this firsthand, I give a standing ovation to those with the courage to seek and serve in public office. After all, that's the bottom line of democracy.

So in spite of the periodic itch of wanderlust, that brief day gave me a nudge of deeper appreciation for the personal freedom to walk, unencumbered by crowds and schedules, among the waving grass, dotted with dainty violets bursting new leaves, and to watch the cows resting beyond in the meadows.

It renewed again my John Denver philosophy about our life: Thank God I'm a country boy - er, girl - and enjoy the freedom and peace to do just that.

NEW HOLLAND — The young miniature donkey that shared the spotlight with GOP candidate Ronald Reagan on Monday at the New Holland Sales Stables is something of a local celebrity in his new home in Eldred, McKean County.

In a whirlwind, last-minute visit to New Holland on the day before the primary election, Reagan shared auctioneering of the small donkey with Abe Diffenbach.

Reagan managed to get the bid up to \$10 before Diffenbach took over and quickly moved the price up to the winning bid of \$130.

Winning bidder was Arthur White, horse dealer from Eldred, Pa.

"I was trying to spice up the bidding a little bit and we'll have a little fun with him," White said.

"Besides, I wanted to show Reagan that we Democrats aren't cheapskates."

Before Reagan started the bidding, he said that he'd pretend "it's an elephant with a short trunk."

Hesitating halfway in his brief stint at the auctioneer's microphone, he commented:

"I'm afraid I'm going to cheat somebody at five dollars."

But the choicest comment of the day concerning the

donkey came after Reagan returned outside to address the crowd.

"I was just inside helping to auction off a donkey," he said.

"But that's what I thought I had been doing for the past two years, trying to get rid of a jackass."

A liberal expression of moans mixed with some laughter from the crowd following his comment.

Reagan quickly qualified his statement, explaining that he didn't mean anything personal by it and was just referring to the symbol of the other party.—DA

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#### GENETIC TRAIT SUMMARY, 1/80

30 Daughters	12 Herds	50% Repeatability
Fore Udder	52	Improves
Rear Udder Height	52	High
Rear Udder Width	51	Improves
Udder Center Support	49	Near Average
Udder Depth	49	Near Average
Teat Placement	49	
Teat Size	52	Small
Stature	48	Medium
Strength and Capacity	48	
Width of Rump	53	Quite Wide
Pelvic Angle	50	Correct
Rear Leg Set	49	
Calving Ease	Insufficient Data	
Other	Five Daughters In Golden Genes Herds	



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