



Brief answers  
to short questions

## Sheila's Shorts

By Sheila Miller

### KILE Comments

A number of Lancaster Farming readers have asked who they should contact to voice their feelings about the recent Keystone International Livestock Exposition.

The person to write or talk to would be Dr. Everett E. Denlinger, the president of the Pennsylvania Livestock Association. The Pa. Livestock Association sponsors the event each year, along with the Pa. Department of Agriculture and Penn State.

Letters can be sent to Dr. Denlinger at his home address of R2 Box 370, Ronks, PA 17572.

At a recent meeting with Lancaster Farming's editor Curt Harler, Denlinger said he is eager to receive suggestions on managing and running the show.

### Dry Subject

Drying food, as a way of preserving it for winter, has become a popular alternative to canning and freezing garden and orchard surplus.

Mrs. Curtis Derstine, 799 Old Route 63, Harleysville, PA 19438 recently inquired on where she might get instructions for the Styrofoam Food Cooler for Drying Food along with the paper, Drying Vegetables. These two items were mentioned in our September 13 issue along with a photograph of the cooler.

As outlined in the caption, the instructions for the food dryer are published in a Penn State circular written by Betty Walters of the Forest County Extension office and Josephine Kotch of the Luzerne County Extension office.

The food dryer features an inexpensive Styrofoam chest with a lightbulb as the heat source.

The chest is lined with aluminum foil to reflect the heat, and a screen is inserted in the top of the chest with the food placed on top. A board is wedged crosswise to

support the screen. The chest is perforated with inch round holes at approximately six places, and the lid is placed over the chest.

Copies of the circular can be obtained from your local Extension office or by writing Josephine Kotch, Luzerne County Agriculture Association, Luzerne County Courthouse Annex, 5 Water Street, Wilkes Barre, PA 18711; telephone 717/825-1701.

### Who Next?

Early this Spring, I wrote a series of articles that appeared in Lancaster Farming on estate planning. This is a topic that is of vital concern to most farm families and one that is not easily solved.

In the first place, where do farm families find attorneys who are well versed in handling farm estates where one small omission could spell disaster?

That is the question of Mrs. Mildred Shelly, R5 Box 65, Dillsburg, PA 17019.

She writes:

Do you know how hard it is to find an attorney who is sufficiently schooled on planning estates?

My husband and I have several farms. Our two sons wish to continue farming. My husband and sons have attended seminars conducted by Penn State people and have figured how they want to pass on the property. We have two daughters also.

We just received a letter from an attorney who has been working on our estate plan for at least six months.

He said that because it is so complicated he will not find time to complete it and referred us to another attorney.

We need someone who knows what to do. We have talked to other people in the same situation. Where do we find attorneys with the knowledge who do not have to spend so much time and cost us so much money to do

something which is portrayed as being so simple?

There are a number of agencies who provide legal services to farmers on estate planning.

If you are a member of the Pennsylvania Farmers' Association, you may want to look into their Legal Service

For a \$5 annual fee PFA's Legal Service is available to assist you in a number of areas, including wills, trusts, estate planning, federal and state inheritance taxes, partnerships, corporations, and many others.

The Legal Service attorneys and staff are prepared to provide continuing legal service along with arranging for competent legal assistance in your own county or neighborhood if that would be your preference, according to PFA. They point out that you would receive a thorough explanation of the work to be done and the costs for the work before you decide to go ahead.

To enroll, you must be a current PFA member. Then an Enrollment Agreement

must be completed and sent to PFA Legal Service, Box 736, Camp Hill, PA 17011, along with a \$5 check. For more information, contact them by writing or by phone 717/761-2740.

Another possibility is to employ the expertise of your local bank. Their trust department can advise you on estate planning and can generally refer you to several attorneys who are competent in the farm planning field.

There are also a number of specialists in the area of farm estate planning. One specialist in York County is R. Darrell Ford of Estate Archetypes, Inc., Imperial Drive, York, PA 17403; telephone 717/741-1169.

His firm offers seminars at various times throughout the year in York, Carlisle, Annville, Lancaster, and Boston, Massachusetts. Their fee for the seminar includes a consultation period afterwards.

A quick call to your local Extension Service might help you to discover the attorneys in your county who are qualified in farm estate

planning. They have probably been asked to speak on the subject at various Extension meetings.

You might also contact other farm families in your area and ask them who handles their estate planning and whether or not they have received satisfactory service. There may be a local attorney who is doing a good

job for the farmers in your area.

Don't be afraid to ask any attorney what his or her experience has been in the farm estate planning area. By hiring the services of an inexperienced legal counsel, you will be paying for the attorney's education and you don't want to go through that experience twice.

## Local FmHA offices to close for two weeks

LANCASTER — The Farmers Home Administration county office serving Lancaster and Chester counties will be closed the first two weeks of November.

This is necessary to complete the administrative work needed to set up our new county office in West Chester. We apologize for any inconveniences this may cause in advance.

Starting November 17, FmHA will be serving all of Chester County from their new office in the Old Library in West Chester. FmHA will

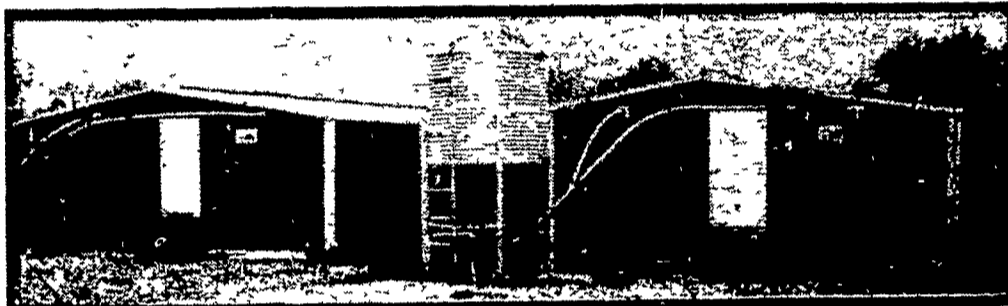
continue to serve Lancaster County from its present office in the Farm and Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, according to Patrick K. Freeman, county supervisor.

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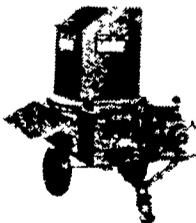
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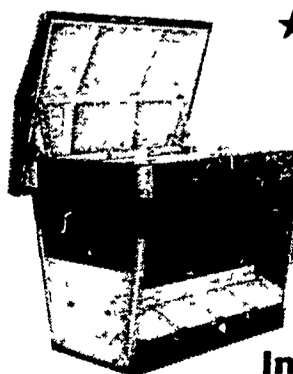
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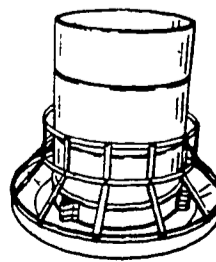
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