

Brief answers
to short questions

Sheila's Shorts

By Sheila Miller



Have that address?

It's always good to get some positive feedback on stories I write. And I was especially glad to hear the article I recently wrote on Richard Croyle and his biometrics business was of interest to some readers.

I received a short note from H. James Neely of Gettysburg, however, that pointed out something of importance was missed—the address.

So, here is the address (and telephone number to boot) of Biometrics for those farmers and readers interested in having their forage, soil, and/or water analyzed.

Biometrics
Box 107 Lancaster Pike
Quarryville, PA 17566
717/284-2765

A case for BBB?

With all the ads and articles advertising new merchandise, from combines to comic books, that are printed in Lancaster Farming every week, it would take a full-time private investigator to check out all the claims made for products in order to make sure everything that's said is true.

However, we do not knowingly publish information which is fraudulent or misleading.

Consumers across the U.S. have come to find, unfortunately, that not all the claims of companies are true. For this reason, there is an agency called the Better Business Bureau working to protect the citizens of this country from deceit in business.

I never had reason to contact this agency before this week, but a

letter from a Lancaster Farming subscriber prompted my call.

George Platt of Happiness Hills Farms, R3 Addison, New York 14801 was not happy with his experience in ordering a book he read about in our newspaper. He writes:

I am enclosing a write up you had about your Farm Estate in which you had mentioned the price of the book was \$17.95 plus a dollar postage. And you gave the address that it should be sent to.

I have sent them the money, to the listed address, and have never received the material. I wrote them again on September 4 asking for it and again on December 17, and again on February 10. To date I have received no response.

Perhaps you might be able to check on this as perhaps it has also affected some of the other people who might have written.

Mr. Miller, I was upset to learn you had not received any satisfaction on ordering the book, Your Farm Estate by James N. Wilson, after reading about it in our paper.

I'd like to point out, however, the book has no affiliation with our paper—we merely received a news release announcing it could be purchased from Creative Financial Planning, Suite 234, 8060 Knue Road, Indianapolis, IN 46250.

After I read your letter, I decided to contact the company and ask them about the book. On telephoning directory assistance to ask the number of Creative

Financial Planning, I was told by an Indiana 317 Area Code Operator there was no such listing under that name in Indianapolis.

This left a question mark floating before my eyes, so I decided to check with the Better Business Bureau office in Lancaster. The voice on the other end of the telephone connection informed me she had no record of Creative Financial Planning in her files and referred me to the Indianapolis office of BBB.

After several attempts of breaking through a busy signal, I finally heard the welcomed ring indicating my call was going through. Unfortunately, the person that answered was a machine telling me all the lines were busy—try again later.

Just when I was about ready to give up, I finally got past the recording to a welcomed human voice announcing I had reached the Better Business Bureau office in Indianapolis.

Hurray—I almost hugged the receiver (tunny how little delays can bring so much anticipation). Quickly gaining my composure, I

asked the BBB person if she had any record of the company in question.

Then the inevitable—I was asked if I could hold on. With pencil rapping an impatient cadence on my desk top covered with notes of telephone numbers, I bit my lip and waited—ready for the run-around scam.

But, to my surprise, the BBB spokesperson said she did have record of Creative Financial Planning—but their address had changed.

She informed me the company's new address is 3352 E. 82nd Street, Suite A, Indianapolis, IN 46250.

You might try writing that address, Mr. Platt, and see if you get any satisfaction. If you remain unsuccessful in either getting your book or your money back, report this to the Better Business Bureau in Indianapolis by calling 317/923-1593.

If you still have no luck, report the incident to your local postmaster since this may constitute mail fraud—a federal offense.

Please let me know how you make out.

Farmland survey

(Continued from Page D17)

YES: 29 percent NO 54.6 percent. DON'T KNOW: 15.7 percent.

POPULATION CONTROL

In just 20 years, world population is likely to jump from 4.4 billion to more than 6 billion. Many leaders maintain that, until population growth is curbed, other environmental problems will continue to worsen. However, opponents contend no matter what the problem-limiting population growth is not a proper concern for the federal government. What is your opinion?

GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE

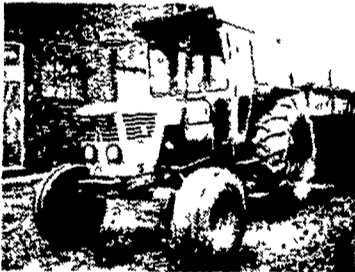
INVOLVED 58.9 percent SHOULD NOT: 30.3 percent DON'T KNOW: 9.8 percent.

LAND TRANSFERS

President Reagan seems to be sympathetic to the "Sagebrush Rebellion," which calls for a transfer of large blocks of federal land to the states. Critics argue that the federal government should manage the present public domain for the benefit of all Americans. Do you favor the federal government transferring millions of acres of land to the states?

YES: 17.3 percent NO: 68.5 percent. DON'T KNOW: 13.4 percent.

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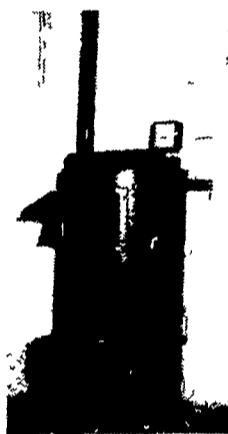
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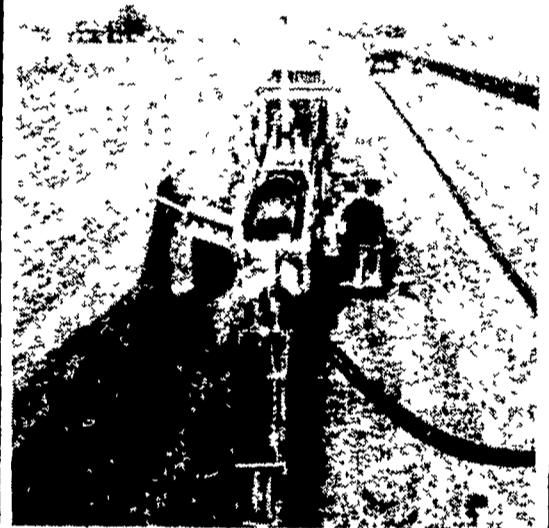
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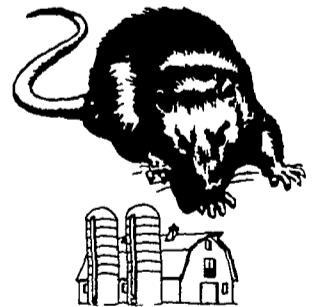
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