

016192 1299 *
PERIODICALS DIVISION
W209 PATTEE LIBRARY
PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY PARK PA 16802-1802

RECEIVED
MAY 18 83
PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Lancaster Farming

VOL 33 No. 27 Four Sections Lancaster Farming, Saturday, May 14, 1988 50¢ Per Copy \$10.00 Per Year



When you find condominiums stacked behind a beautiful farmstead, and the dairy cows out front grazing on the unfinished four-lane road bed called the goat path in Lancaster County, you stop to think, "Can the peaceful rural life on the farm still really survive?" Survive the tidal wave of greenbacks that get higher and higher until farm after farm succumbs and drowns in another wave of housing developments, shopping centers, industrial parks, and super highway right-of-ways.

Oh, it was quiet and peaceful enough on Thursday morning when Lancaster Farming Editor Everett Newswanger stopped along Willow Road, pointed the camera south and filled the 70-230mm telephoto lens with this scene. The sun was shining and the invigorating cool morning with clear blue sky gave no hint of the destruction of any pastoral scene. But almost everyone knows farmers who have already refused monet-

ary offers that make your head swim. Refused because their great-grandfathers worked a lifetime to pay off the original farm debt, and some died before they saw their dreams. Will because with one stroke of a pen that early toil for the family could be wiped away without a trace under the blade of a bulldozer.

Of course, in more objective moments, you can't blame farm families who cash in on the bonanza development pressures have placed on the land. But as you put your camera back in the case, you can't help feel a nostalgic hurt -- a deep wish to again be part of a time when growth in the garden spot of the world had something to do with tall corn, green alfalfa, and prize livestock, rather than quickly-built houses appearing on divided lots.

Sulfamethazine Residues In Milk: An Emerging Problem

BY KARL BERGER
Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON, DC — The nation's pork producers aren't the only ones with a sulfamethazine residue problem. Dairy industry officials also have become concerned about farmers' use of this

common drug in the wake of a recent Food and Drug Administration study that found traces of sulfamethazine — which is suspected of being a carcinogen — in the nation's milk supply.

The National Milk Producers Federation, a trade group repre-

senting most of the nation's milk cooperatives, has responded to the study, which was reported in a number of newspapers, with a recommendation that dairymen not use any medicine containing sulfamethazine until more is known about the problem. The

federation also suggested that member cooperatives that sell supplies to farmers suspend sales of the drug. And it has begun work with a number of industry and government groups to develop guidelines and tests for safe use.

Several local organizations,

such as Atlantic Dairy Cooperative, are passing on the federation's recommendations to their members. Cooperative Extension Service veterinarians in Maryland and Pennsylvania say a temporary suspension makes a lot of sense.

(Turn to Page A22)

Lancaster County's Unofficial Tally For Referendum Is Close

BY LISA RISSER

LANCASTER — By a slim margin, Lancaster County voters casting a "no" ballot outnumbered "yes" voters on passing the beef referendum in an unofficial poll taken by "Lancaster Farming". Out of the more than 350 farmers who cast their vote on Tuesday, "LF" talked to 112 of which 60 said they voted no and 52 reported voting yes.

Of those voters polled, most were beef producers with slightly more voting no.

The official results of the referendum vote will be released May 24 after tallying votes from around the nation.

The voting got off to a busy start in Lancaster with 95 voters in the first hour, many of these were Amish and old order Mennonite farmers. A slow, but steady stream of farmers trickled in throughout the day with a van of FFA students arriving during the lunch hour. More than 275 ballots were

mailed in, however only 213 could be counted as the others either had no signature, came in late, or both. Signatures were needed on the ballot envelope so that the farmer's

(Turn to Page A19)

County Ag Land Preservation Director Resigns

LANCASTER — Alan R. Musselman, the nationally-known director of the Lancaster County Agriculture Preserve Board, resigned early this week after two of the three county commissioners here questioned a stipend he received from the Friends of Ag Land Preservation. The money was given to Musselman for extra work done above and beyond his work for the County Preserve Board. The resignation came after Commissioners Robert Breneman

(Turn to Page A30)



The Joe Hess Jr. family, from left, wife Linda, children Laura, 3; Katie, 6; Hess, and Aaron, 11. Another daughter Heather, 13, was at softball when picture

Family Enthusiastic About

Dairy Farming

BY BOB WILLIAMS
RCMA Writer

MOUNT JOY (Lancaster) — Lancaster County farmer Joseph Hess Sr. made a good living with hogs, steers, tobacco and tomatoes for 30 years before he put together his first dairy herd in 1973.

Joseph Hess Jr. bought his first cow at the age of 20.

Today Joe Sr. and Joe Jr., and one full-time hired man, milk 140 cows and ship 2.3 million pounds of milk annually to Johanna Farms of Flemington, N.J. That's 770,000 pounds shipped per man and 16,400 pounds per cow. Not bad for a couple of newcomers.

Producing milk is a demanding business for these Pennsylvanians. But it is the marketing of their milk that has caused the heartburn, and the reason why they are so enthusiastic about the Regional Cooperative Marketing Agency. "It's a good concept...it's neces-