



OPINION

Agencies Must Pay Compensation

The U.S. Supreme Court recently ordered that a state regulatory agency must pay compensation to a private landowner for its "regulatory taking" of his private land. The court ruling means that if land use is regulated for the public good, the public must bear the economic burden of restrictions, not the landowner alone.

This decision reaffirms that property rights are guaranteed by the Constitution. Dean Klechner said the ruling is "a clear-cut victory for all Americans, including America's farmers and ranchers."

This is especially important in the way the restrictive wetlands regulations are administered. In the future, regulators will have to be very careful about what they decide is in the public's interest. If they decide to restrict property rights with regulations, they'll need to figure out how to pay for it.

In the past, farmers have been subjected to government regulations that diminish the land's value and the ability of the farmer to use the land. In some cases, the value of the land has plummeted at the stroke of a regulator's pen, leaving the farmer without the resources necessary to earn a living and without the assets earned over a lifetime.

Owners receive compensation when their property is taken through eminent domain. Now compensation will be mandated when private property is taken through regulatory action. We applaud.

Farm Calendar

Saturday, July 11

Pennsylvania Ayrshire Breeder Field Day, Maulfair Acres, Fredericksburg.

International Floriculture Short Course, Cincinnati Convention Center, Ohio.

Sunday, July 12

Exchange Group from Oklahoma Arrives; Citizenship Washington tours leave Lancaster.

Monday, July 13

Landisville Weed Science Field Day, Southeast Pa. Research Center, Landisville.

Pa. Purebred Dairy Cattle Association Judging Conference, Clinton/Centre counties, thru July 14.

Susquehanna Holstein Club barn meeting, Al Longacres Farm, 8 p.m.

Derry Township Ag Fair, New Derry, thru July 18.

Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Fair, Pocono Downs, thru July 18.

Holstein Club Barn Meeting, Al Longacre's, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, July 14

Animal Housing Expo, Lebanon Area Fairgrounds, thru July 15.

Weed Science Field Day, Rockspring.

Lebanon County Ice Cream Day. Ice Cream at the Park, Bland's Park, Tipton.

Woody Ornamental Plant Identification Course, Lehigh County Ag Center, Allentown, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., repeats July 15, 21, and 22.

Focus On Tree Identification, Farm and Home Center, Lancaster, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Wednesday, July 15

Animal Housing Expo, Lebanon Area Fairgrounds.

Adams County Holstein twilight meeting, Jeff King Farm, York Springs, 7 p.m.

Lehigh Valley Beekeepers' Asso-

ciation, Leser Lake, Jacksonville, 7 p.m.

Dairy Twilight Meeting, Pleasant Acres Farm of King family, York Springs.

Thursday, July 16

Bedford County Holstein Club picnic, Martinsburg Memorial Park, Martinsburg, 7 p.m.

Lycoming Co. Fair, Hughesville, thru July 25.

Summer Nursery Picnic and Educational Program, Acorn Ridge Nursery, Doylestown, 4 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Northumberland County Wool Pool, Furman's Warehouse (Old Freight Station), Northumberland.

Friday, July 17

Pa. Young Farmers Summer Conference and picnic, Blue Mountain H.S., Schuylkill Haven, 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m., banquet at Blue Mountain Banquet Hall, Summit Station and July 18.

NOW IS THE TIME

By **John Schwartz**
Lancaster County Agricultural Agent

To Read "The Covenant of the Wild"

Animal Rights continues to be a growing movement in the United States. Agriculture needs to develop a positive response to this movement.

The book, "The Covenant of the Wild" by Stephen Budiansky, offers a very good essay on how animals became domesticated and how agriculture evolved. The author used archaeological and behavioral research data to develop his thesis that animals chose to be domesticated.

Budiansky takes a look at nature and discusses man's role in nature and how the human-animal bond evolved over time. He was born in Boston and was graduated from Yale. Budiansky is currently a senior writer for U.S. News and World Report.

He became interested in the topic through his experiences as a small sheep flock owner near Frederick, Md.

This book will give you good insight to how agriculture evolved and how man and animals benefit from each other. Any major bookstore will special order this book for you.

To Be Prepared For An Emergency

An emergency may strike at any time. The difference between saving or losing a life could depend on how a phone call for help is made.

By your telephone, keep a list of emergency phone numbers. These numbers should be easy to read and visible. Beside the numbers

1992 Keystone Chapter Soil and Water Conservation Society annual meeting, Penn State University, thru July 18.

Saturday, July 18
Annual Menges Mills Historic

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Farm Forum

Editor:
The description of the new state budget as a Senate-amended House version is misleading. Make no mistake — there were three budgets before the Legislature this year: a House version, a Senate version, and the Governor's proposal. The budget that was signed was written by the Pennsylvania Senate.

The Senate version provided the lowest funding for the Department of Agriculture, while the Governor's proposal would have provided the most.

The Governor reluctantly signed the Senate budget so that the Commonwealth could operate without disruptions. He used his line-item veto power to scratch

out \$73 million in order to insure that essential services could continue and that a balanced budget is maintained during these difficult economic times.

There are many outstanding issues left to be resolved, and the Governor is asking the Legislature to immediately begin work on an acceptable supplemental spending bill. The Governor's line vetoes make it possible for the Legislature to correct the spending plan without raising taxes. I urge the members of the House and Senate to enact that supplemental budget when developed.

Sincerely,
BOYD E. WOLFF
Secretary of Agriculture

should be written directions to your home. Include address, landmarks, mileage distances, and road names.

At the time of an emergency, be emotionally prepared to give the following information: 1. Type of emergency. 2. Number of victims involved. 3. Directions to the emergency. 4. Treatment that has already been provided.

Stay on the phone until the dispatcher discounts. Today's communication's equipment, if provided enough time, is able to identify where a call is being made. If the emergency site is isolated, have someone meet the emergency response personnel and direct them to the scene. Make sure your address is easily visible from the road.

When seconds count, your ability to call for help the correct way is crucial.

To Attend Animal Housing Expo

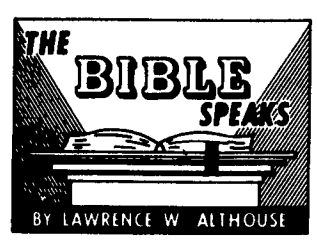
Are you thinking about building, remodeling, or expanding

your animal housing facilities? Do you have questions about storing and handling feed and manure, animal traffic and handling, animal comfort, ventilation, or construction materials? Do you want to know who the providers are of various supplies and services, how to get your plans approved, and how to secure necessary funding?

If so, you will want to attend the Animal Housing Expo, sponsored by Penn State Cooperative Extension and local agricultural industries, on July 14 and 15 at the Lebanon County Fairgrounds. The program will be the same each day.

Speakers will be discussing site selection, remodel or build new, environmental requirements for dairy, swine and poultry, managing manure, regulations affecting animal housing, and what the banker expects. In addition, there will be exhibits and sample buildings to visit. Plan to attend and learn the latest in animal housing.

Feather Prof's Footnote: "It takes months to find a customer... seconds to lose one."



I AND NONE ELSE
July 12, 1992

What God is looking for is true humility, not the arrogance he finds at every level of society. That arrogance finds its ultimate expression in these words: This is the exultant city that dwelt secure, that said to himself, "I am and there is none else" (2:15). You may have to read that a few times to grasp its meaning. It is the ultimate of ego gone rampant. It is simply another way of saying: In this world there is only one who counts — Me.

WHO IS SECURE?

Lots of people today believe that and, to the best of their ability, live it out in their lives. Not only individuals, but groups can exhibit this arrogance. Zephaniah mentions a whole city: "That is the exultant city, that dwelt secure.." (2:15). There will be nothing over which to exult on the Day of the Lord and no one should be so presumptuous as to feel "secure."

God also despises the depreciating remarks that are meant to undermine his reign among people. "I have heard the taunts of Moab and the revilings of the Ammonites, how they have taunted my people and made boasts against their territory" (2:8). Even the people of Judah have made disparaging remarks about God — "those who say in their hearts, "The Lord will not do good, nor will he do ill" (1:12b). These people of Judah think of God as one who either does not care or who is impotent to do anything.

Actually, there are lots of us today who, although nominally Christian, take pretty much the same attitude. We do not deny the reality of God — in fact, we might be scandalized if anyone should do so — but we speak or act as if God were of no consequence in this world, as if sin will forever go unpunished and without consequence. That is truly the ultimate blasphemy. Better to deny God than to underestimate Him — as if "I am and there is none else."

Background Scripture: Zephaniah 1 through 2.

Devotional Reading:
Proverbs 14:26-35.

Unless you are partial to cosmic-size "destruction derbys," the picture that the prophet Zephaniah draws is not a pretty one. The whole book bearing his name is based upon his expectation of the terrible "day of the Lord" which, with the exception of a small remnant, will bring universal destruction: "I will utterly sweep away everything from the face of the earth," says the Lord... "I will cut off mankind from the face of the earth" (1:2,3)

There are lots of doom-laden prophecies in the Old Testament, but none more sweeping and devastating than these by Zephaniah: "In the fire of his jealous wrath, all the earth shall be consumed; for a full, yea sudden end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth" (1:18b).

WORDS OF DOOM

What was behind these words of doom? Zephaniah spells out God's judgment upon the morality of all people in general and the people of Judah in particular. There is a long catalog of private and corporate sin: the adulteration of devotion to God, the adoption of pagan ways, rampant materialism and greed, and galloping moral decay. Whenever people flaunt their evil in the face of God, the potential for the Day of the Lord grows stronger.

At the hear of Zephaniah's condemnation, however, is the underlying arrogance that characterizes many of the people. This is not just a matter of the corrupt things they did, but of the sinful persons they became. The key to all of this is a disastrous pride. Some of these people assume that their financial wealth will exempt them from God's judgment. But God says through Zephaniah: "Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them on the day of the wrath of the Lord" (1:18)

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