

## Tobacco Price Steady From Last Week

PARADISE (Lancaster Co.) —

Tobacco prices in the county remained basically unchanged on Monday and Wednesday during the second week of the auction season at the Paradise Tobacco Auction.

Top price was \$1.25, for a \$1.19 average on Monday. Only 13,000

pounds were sold. Top price paid at the beginning of the auction last week was \$1.25.

Farmers are "holding strong," according to an auction spokesperson, and remain reluctant to sell until the price improves.

At the start of the sale Wednesday, 500,000 pounds still remained on the floor. Top price from buyers remained at \$1.25 per pound. The warehouse bought some for \$1.27 and \$1.30 per pound. A total of 52,000 pounds were sold Wednesday.

on. As long as the price of food is cheap and our bellies are full, why should we worry about the disappearance of farmland?

If we are truly concerned about the preservation of the agricultural base we must abandon an age-old paradigm. In its place we must substitute a paradigm of regional planning rather than local planning. There are areas in each county which are not very well suited to modern agriculture. One such in Lancaster County is located in the eastern portion along Route 10 near Compass. While there are more, I'm using this as a case in point. As is the case in nearly all undeveloped areas, the transportation facilities are very poor or nearly nonexistent. As a result industry will not locate there and developers will not build as the area is undesirable.

This could easily be remedied by spending highway construction dollars to improve roadways or construct new roadways to make these areas more accessible and more desirable, while withholding construction of highways which will only encourage further development in areas desired for agricultural use.

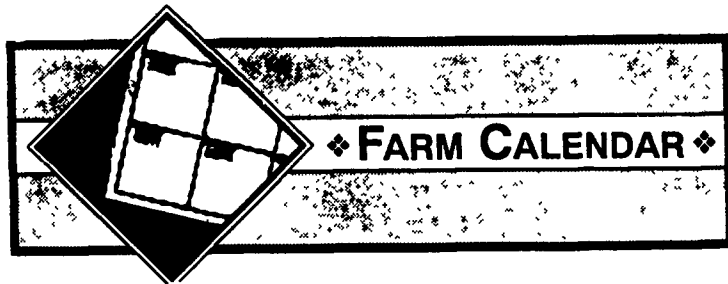
A case in point. Thirty years ago I was employed as an excavating foreman on the Route 30 bypass at Centerville. This highway bisected a valley of the most beautiful agricultural soil I have ever seen, absolutely the finest. Today that land adjacent has been nearly fully developed, what a shame! Lack of planning. Locating that roadway just a quarter mile or so north, in places it would have traversed a rocky ridge and preserved the fertile valley.

Yes, the old paradigm must be abandoned. This nation developed around the farmland. Towns sprang up to support agriculture. As the population grew, so did the towns, along came industry and towns became cities, but it all evolved around agriculture and like the comic "Topsy" of my youth, it wasn't born (planned) it just "grewed."

No longer can we afford the luxury of just letting it grow. The time has come for some serious central planning. There is more than sufficient land area whereby we can have both development and agriculture and make wise use of the land. If you doubt me, hop on a plane and fly over this vast land of ours. There is absolutely no reason to concentrate the population on our coasts. Modern transportation can service all areas of our country.

Come now, what are we most concerned about, our personal financial situation or preserving something of much higher value for posterity?

Harold R. Stoudt  
Hamburg



(Continued from Page A10)

Reproduction of the Future, Solanco High School.

Computerized Farm Financial Records Workshops, Centre County Extension, Bellefonte, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., also Jan. 4, 9, and 11.

Wednesday, January 3

Berks County Dairy Day, extension office, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Dairy Managing For Success Program, Hoss's Steak and Sea House, Gettysburg, also Jan. 17.

Thursday, January 4

Northeast Regional Tomato meeting, Thompson's Dairy Bar, Newton.

Chester County Dairy Day, Oxford Fire Hall, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Dairy Managing For Success Program, Olde Country Buffet, Rt. 30, York, also Jan. 18.

Friday, January 5

Bucks/Montgomery County Dairy Day, Family Heritage Restaurant, Franconia, 9:45 a.m.-2:45 p.m.

Farm Records Made Easy Workshops, beginning Jan. 5, York extension office, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., also Jan. 24 or 26, Jan. 31 or Feb. 2, and Feb. 7 or Feb. 9.

Saturday, January 6

Pennsylvania State Farm Show, Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg, thru Jan. 11.

Potter County Holstein annual meeting, Community Building, Ulysses, 8 p.m.

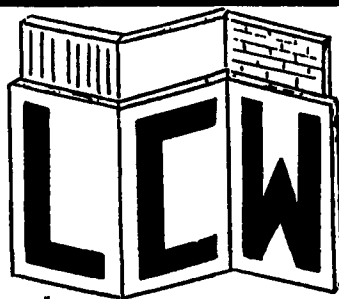
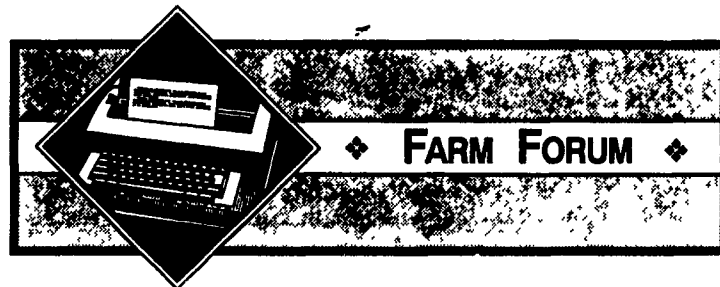
Sunday, January 7

### Editor:

The meeting recently on "Farmer Preservation" obviously solved nothing. There appears to have been much dialog, no concrete solutions.

As is usually the case, the foremost consideration of all individuals is, "How will it affect my personal financial situation?" The

farmer is concerned about his equity, the developer is concerned about changes because he is established in the area and his business would be affected. The lender could lose a potential source of business. The township supervisor is concerned because it would mean a curtailment of the expansion of the tax base, and on and



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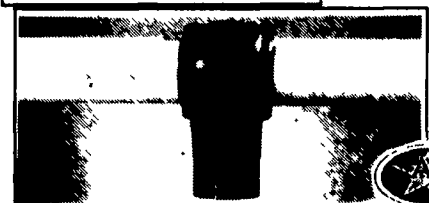
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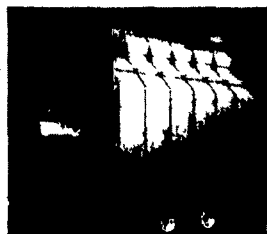
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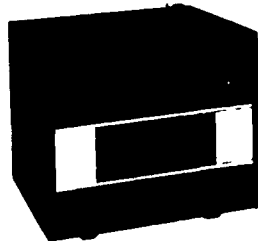
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