

Farm Taxes Jump 159% In 20 Years

High Levies Add To Farmer's Problem Of Barren Soil

By F. A. PITKIN
Director, State Planning Board
(Special to The Post)

The recent report of the State Planning Board on "Problem Areas in Pennsylvania" shows that in the last hundred years the State has lost about half of her top soil through the process of washing away known as soil erosion.

Erosion is usually worst where the slope is steepest, but even on fairly level ground the soil loses its fertility if the same crops are grown and harvested on it year after year. Good farmers keep their soil fertile by adding lime or fertilizer regularly and by "rotation" of crops. In cultivating hilly land, they grade it into terraces or leave strips of grass and rows of trees to keep the good soil from washing down hill into the rivers and valleys.

Many farmers, however, are still trying to cultivate land which has become so poor that fertilizing and crop rotation will not help it. Thousands of Pennsylvania farms have been abandoned by owners who can no longer make a living on them. This is chiefly because the soil has become too barren to grow good crops. When a farmer can produce only small quantities of inferior crops for which there is little market in competition with higher grade products, his cash income soon becomes too small to pay his taxes and his living expenses.

Not only this but between 1910 and 1930 the taxes on farm land increased 159 per cent, while prices of farm products increased only 77 per cent. It is not surprising, with taxes so high, that many farmers cannot pay them. When many farms are abandoned it becomes very difficult for owners of the remaining farms in the neighborhood to keep up the highways and support the public schools, and in many sections they have had to ask the State for financial help.

It is estimated that at least a million acres of cleared land are lying idle in the State although many of the formerly deserted farmhouses have been rented during the last few years by families who have been driven from the cities by unemployment. Much of this abandoned and unprofitable land might be bought by the State, the counties or the Federal government and turned into forests or public recreation areas for such outdoor sports as camping, fishing, swimming, hiking, and hunting. Not for a great many years will all the State's worn-out land be needed again for farming purposes, but if it is changed into forests and parks it will be filling a real public need.

FARM CALENDAR

Prove Dairy Sires

There is real need for a breeding program which will keep more dairy sires in service until proved, say Penn State dairy specialists. The real worth of a dairy bull lies in the milk-producing ability of his daughters and this cannot be determined until the bull is four years old or more.

Improve Old Pastures

Most pastures produce only a fraction of their possibilities with proper treatment and management. Circular 154, "Pastures, Old and New," and Leaflet 23, "Pasture Improvement," contain valuable information on recommended practices. They may be obtained from your county agent or from the Agricultural Mailing Room, State College, Pa.

Lettuce To Grow

Three kinds of lettuce can be grown. The loose leaf varieties are Grand Rapids and Black Seeded Simpson. The crisp head choice is New York No. 12 or 515. Butterhead varieties are White Boston and Crisp as Ice (brownish).



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Artist Captures Jamboree Spirit



THIS happy Scout portrayed on Norman Rockwell's painting for the official poster of the National Scout Jamboree typifies the spirit of friendship and adventure which will be the lot of 25,000 American boys who will camp with Scouts of other lands on 350 acres at Washington, D. C., loaned them by Congress for their Jamboree from June 30 to July 9. In the shadow of the Washington Monument a tented city will be the scene of the greatest demonstration of Scouting ever held in the new world. The national grand review and President Roosevelt's welcome will attract large throngs to the nation's capital. Other principal events include a Convocation at the Washington Monument on the evening of July 4 and a world brotherhood pageant to be held in connection with the closing campfire.

Mares Need Exercise

Idleness is the bane of horse breeding. Working mares are more certain than idle ones to produce living foals, but judgment must be used in working them, declare Penn State horse specialists. Too heavy pulling, over-exertion, and backing heavy loads must be avoided.

Fertilize Sweet Corn

Early market sweet corn, especially on light loam soils, needs a larger applica-

tion of fertilizer than the cannery crop or later maturing varieties, which usually are planted on heavier types of soil, according to Penn State vegetable gardeners.

Use Strip-Cropping

One method of strip-cropping is to sow clover or alfalfa and timothy on alternate strips of a sloping field going into oats or in a stalk-ground wheat, Penn State agronomists point out.

Closing Date Of Boys Town Contest Extended To April 30!

This newspaper is pleased to announce that, through the permission of Father Flanagan, founder and director of the nationally famous Boys Town, Nebraska — Home Of The Nation's Homeless Boys — the closing date of the Build Boys Town Contest, running in this paper will be extended until midnight, April 30.

First prize in the contest is \$1,000—for a ten word slogan. There are 38 cash prizes—\$2,100 in all. See the rules of the contest inside.

Crime is costing America 16 billion dollars a year. That's what Crime is costing you! 16 Billion dollars a year or \$1.50 a day for every wage earner in this country, every single day of their lives!

J. Edgar Hoover, head of the Nation's G-Men has called Boys Town "an outstanding check on Crime in the country today". "It Boys Town were just financially able to care for all the boys that need its help, Crime would be dealt one of the most effective and crushing blows I can imagine", Hoover said. The Build Boys Town Contest has his endorsement.

Why not help check the terrible waste of Crime by taking part in this fascinating, easy, simple contest. Enter your slogan today! Mail or bring it to the office of this newspaper.

Noxen Motorists Injured In Crash

Operator Of Car Got Driver's License On Day Before Accident

Five persons, all residents of Noxen, were injured Saturday night when their automobile overturned beside the highway, near Noxen. Lester Sites, 16, driver of the car and who suffered a fractured skull, had received his driver's license that afternoon.

Sites was taken to Nesbitt Memorial Hospital, as was Wayne Hubbell, 26, who received deep lacerations. Three others were treated by Dr. C. L. Boston of Noxen. They are: Mrs. Wayne Hubbell, 24, lacerations; Cecil Hubbell, 21, lacerations; Verna Traver, 14, fractured arm and lacerations.

Urges Farmers To Treat Oats

Can Save 20 To 50 Per Cent By Method, Says County Farm Agent

Farmers can save twenty to fifty per cent of their oats crop by controlling the disease known as Oats Smut, says J. D. Hutchison. The cost of the treatment is very little and the returns are great. The method of treatment is as follows:

Mix one pint of commercial formaldehyde with one pint of water. Spread seed oats on clean barn floor; apply mixture uniformly with small hand sprayer or a watering can with small holes, at the rate of one quart of the mixture to fifty bushels of seed, as the seed is being shoveled from one pile to another. The seed oats should then be covered with canvas, blankets or sacks for a period of at least five hours. After this, the seed may be planted.

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KUNKLE

MRS MINNIE KUNKLE
CORRESPONDENT

W. H. Herdman is ill at his home on Beaumont Road.

Eleanor Kunkle spent Sunday night with Ann Matukitis of East Dallas.

Mrs. Fred Goodrich is a patient at General Hospital and is seriously ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Smith and family spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Edward Dendler of Berwick.

James Place has moved his family from Meshoppen and has opened the garage formerly operated by Z. E. Garinger.

Fred Dodson of Maklinburg and Miss Dorothy Elston spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Herman Schnure of Montgomery.

Mrs. F. P. Smith entertained at dinner on her birthday anniversary on Monday, her daughter, Mrs. William Nulton and Mrs. Olin Kunkle, and at supper Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Moss and children of Loyallville.

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There are no skyscrapers in Dallas. Our windows look on smiling fields, neat homes, wide stretches of blue sky. But here, nine miles from the nearest skyscraper, a structure of ideals is winning an amazing response.

Increasing numbers of important accounts are learning to rely on this organization for advice on questions involving creative and commercial printing and publishing.

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