

EDITORIALS

Last week was Farm Show week!

And, the situation was typical bad weather, crowds, congestion, parking problems and irritated teni-

Yet, that's not the entire story.

Those who braved the weather, dared to jostle with the crowds, were patient with the congestion, were willing to walk or to struggle with the parking and were even-tempered enough to put up with the situation had a wonderful visit to the Farm Show.

In Pennsylvania — at least in our part of the Commonwealth — the big winter attraction is "an institution" and if there were nothing else to see or do, having a baked potato would be worth the trip.

However, the Farm Show as "an institution" is in trouble!

## If You Would Write --

Would you like to write to your state or federal representatives in Harrisburg or Washington? Here are their addresses:

#### FEDERAL

Sen. Hugh D. Scott, Room 260, Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C.

Sen. Richard S. Schweiker, Room 4317, Senate Office Building, Washington

Rep. Edwin D. Eshleman, 416 Cannon House Office Bldg., Washington, D. C 20515...

#### STATE

Senator Richard A. Snyder, Box 21, State Senate, Harrisburg, Pa. 17120. Sen. Clarence F. Manbeck, Freder-

icksburg R1, Pa. 17026. Rep. Harry H. Gring, Reinholds, Pa.

Rep. Sherman L. Hill, 201 Manor Av.,

Millersville 17551. Rep. Jack B. Horner , 23-A S. Market

St., Elizabethtown 17022. Rep. Marvin E. Miller, 501 Valley Rd.,

Lancaster 17601. Rep. Harvey C. Ni'rauer, 125 South

Street, Myerstown, Pa., 17067. Rep. John C. Pittenger, N. West End Ave., Lancaster 17603.

### Or, Call the Mayor -

MAYOR Henry R. Zerphey Call 653-2289

This is not an editor's armchair opinion. This is a fact which most people realize and a fact which Commonwealth officials already are trying to solve.

From a public relations standpoint, the show is beginning to have a negative rather than a positive

Just mention "Farm Show" and someone in the crowd or two or more someones will say, in effect, "Not for me. It's too crowded. Too much traf-

One young man who as a child enjoyed the show every year said to us last week, 'Not for me. I've probably gone to the Farm Show my last time."

The major problem revolves around the location of the Farm Show and the fact that there must be parking areas and that the entire show is under one roof.

Already there has been serious talk of relocating the building complex, perhaps somewhere in the general vicinity of the present site.

That, we believe, would be a mistake.

A more reasonable approach would be to restyle the show completely, thinking big and looking toward an even larger kind of Farm Show.

For instance if the annual event could be held in early September, it could be something of a fair—a semioutdoor style sort of show.

Permanent type pavilion buildings could be erected much cheaper than winter construction buildings which presently house the show. They could be set at a distance from each other providing space for tents, exhibitor stands and many many other kinds of outdoor attractions-including an entertainment midway.

If, as has already been proposed, the show is relocated, it would be another horrible mistake to pick a site within an already congested area.

A large tract, maybe 500 acres needs to be set aside for buildings, exhibits etc. and, for future growth.

This tract should be very carefully selected with the finest possible arrangements on adequate highways for handling of thousands of autos with maximum effeciency, including parking in many many lots throughout the grounds. (One of the present problem is that all parking must be north of the buildings.)

A "fairweather" time of the year would, in itself, eliminate many of

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The Mount Joy

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# Others are saying ---

FARM SHOW TIGHT ROPE mended by the firm is for

tute tight rope walking by burg State Hospital. It bor-Lee Bull, the Pennsylvania ders Interstate Highway 81 secretary of agriculture, to now under construction, makkeep Farm Show planning ing the proposed site highly out of the political arena., accessible.

after hearing a report by of the city desirable. the consulting firm of Porr, Loddengaard and Parsons.

The problems facing Bull neighboring which must find a new use hotels. for the Farm Show buildings What about costs to taxleans toward retaining the tent argument of all.

and exhibitors, consultants ing around crowds and some conclude, the state must ex- 70 shows each year if the pand building space from present site is retained. 650,000 to 1,500,000 square feet and paved parking lican stronghold. And confrom 1.2 to 10 million square trol of Capitol Hill is up for feet. The present 125-acre grabs next year. That's why site just can't handle such the decision of Farm Show an enlarged complex.

choice - reach across a ter . . . rather than strictly busy four - lane high- on the pros and cons. way for additional land or relocate the whole complex. winter for Lee Bull. Complicating planning is a proposed "Lifeline Highway" for the city of Harrisburg that would slice another 35 to 40 acres off the present

The 293-acre site recom-

the most part undeveloped It's going to take some as- land owned by the Harris-

At stake could be the very The consultants noted that future of Farm Show itself. the Farm Show complex is There's no doube how the an exhibition rather than a Farm Show Committee feels. convention center. Thus the The 180-man advisory group need to truck such "bulk went on record earlier this items" as animals, farm month in favor of relocating equipment, and mobile homes the Farm Show complex, in and out of the complex lock, stock and exhibit hall, makes location at the edge

Biggest nay vote comes The new site would be one from the city of Harrisburg mile northeast of the present which fears the loss of the Farm Show complex to Susquehanna is how to sell the idea to township will mean less rev-General State Authority enue for its restaurants and

at McClay and Cameron if payers - remodeling and they are abandoned, as well expanding the present comas convincing State Secre- plex versus erecting new tary of Community Affairs buildings on a larger site? Joseph W. Barr, Jr., who This could be the most po-

Actually it's about the Arguments for moving the same, it was noted at the complex are convincing en committee meeting. This is ough. To hold present shows due to the problem of work-

But Harrisburg is a Repubmight depend on the mood Thus the state has the of the politicians this win-

> It could be a long, —Pennsylvania Farmer

> > BY PAT BOONE

Singer and Entertainer As I look back over (Turn to page 3)

The inquires of

# COMEDY CORNER



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