

## County Agent, Staff Travel 50,000 Miles Yearly; 39,737 at Meetings

It's more than 50,000 miles from border to border of Lancaster County, when you figure on the basis of miles traveled each year by County Agricultural Agent Max M. Smith and his staff.

Looking over his report for the Nov. 1, 1954 to Nov. 1, 1955 fiscal year, Mr. Smith disclosed that he and his assistants made 2,367 farm visits. There were 2,324 office calls, 5,838 telephone calls. Agricultural meetings? They totaled 485 last year, with an attendance of 39,737. Fifteen television shows were given by this office, 256 news items were sent out, and 214 radio broadcasts made.

### Many Calls Are Urban

His staff consists of Victor Plastow, assistant county agent, who handles county youth activities, DHIA and soil testing; Harry Sloat, associate county agent, specializing in poultry, vegetables, flowers, farm management; Miss Ruth Kumble, extension home economist. Yet Mr. Smith is often helping out each one.

Lancaster County is agriculturally Number One in Pennsylvania poultry, tobacco, dairy cattle feeding, hog feeding, corn, tobacco, wheat, and leads the state in value—not number of acres—of hay. Nationally, Lancaster County is first among the non-irrigated counties, ninth among all.

Today, the county agent is more than a farm advisor, for many calls are now urban. "We are responsible for the distribution of information along lines of agriculture, and home economics to people of the city and county," Mr. Smith explained. "We're the link between the land, grant colleges, experiment stations and people," he added.

### Topics In Beef Cattle

Only recently Mr. Smith was named one of the ten top county agents in the nation doing the most outstanding work in beef cattle. Selections were made by a committee from the American Hereford association, and he was a guest of honor in Kansas City during the American Royal.

Livestock judging teams from schools and 4-H clubs in Lancaster County have long held recognition in state and national events, while one of his primary

interests is steer fattening. However, he is realistic in his thinking, and, with others recognized in the field, believes today's margin between feeder cattle and fat cattle prices is too narrow. At the same time he had a word of praise for those who have stayed with the cattle feeding game, for the "inner-and-outer" seldom makes a success of it.

This past season did not smile too favorably on Lancaster County weatherwise, and as a result some of the corn crop here was



M. M. SMITH

cut in half. Many growers reported to the county agent's office that yields of 30 to 40 bu per acre have replaced the 70 to 80 that might have come were it not for drought and storm. The tomato crop this season was not the best, due to weather damage. Potatoes have yielded good, but market prices are low. Tobacco suffered from wildfire in the capricious weather.

But there has been a brighter side too. "Poultry meat consumption has been stepped up by the terrific selling job the broiler industry is doing," he told, and, by freezing, packing and canning plants have been responsible for a great increase in growing and harvesting pumpkin and squash here.

Mr. Smith came to Lancaster County in March 1937 and when F. S. (Dutch) Bucher retired March 1, 1949, Mr. Smith succeeded him.

## Markets

By United States Department of Agriculture

Market News Bureau  
David L. Johnson, Reporter  
Lancaster — (Wednesday To Wednesday Review) Cattle; Three days this week 4,770 week ago 5,623. Compared with last Wednesday

Slaughter steers slow this week, a few sales choice and prime 1100 lbs and lighter about steady, choice and prime steers 1200 lbs and over along with good and low choice shortfeds weak to 50c lower. Heifers scarce, about steady. Cows moderately active, bulls about steady. Stockers and feeders moderately active, mostly steady. Bulk choice fed steers early \$21.75 to \$23.00, load choice and prime 1050 lb yearling steers \$23.85, a few loads and lots 846 lbs to 1366 lbs choice and prime steers \$23.25 to \$23.50. Load 1655 lb prime steers \$21.00. A few loads high commercial and good 1,011 to 1175 lb. Grass steers for slaughter \$18.00 to \$19.50. Good and low choice heifers \$18.00 to \$20.00, commercial and low good grass heifers \$15.50 to \$17.50. Utility and commercial cows \$11.25 to \$13.50; Canners and cutters \$8.25 to \$11.75. Utility and commercial bulls \$14.50 to \$18.00; cutters \$13.00 to \$14.00.

Numerous loads medium and good 600 to 900 lb feeder steers \$17.00 to \$19.50; good and choice largely \$20.00 to \$21.50, a few lots and part loads 625 to 750 lb choice feeder steers to \$27.00. A few loads choice 450 to 500 lbs stock steer calves \$22.50 to \$23.90. Calves, Three Days—942, week ago 1003. Vealers moderate, active, about steady with last Wednesday. Bulk good and choice vealers \$22.50 to \$26.00; high choice and prime largely \$26.50 to \$29.00 a few to \$30.00; utility and commercial \$14.00 to \$21.50.

Hogs—Three days 960, week ago 1,618. Compared with last Wednesday. Barrows and gilts 50c to \$1.00 higher; sows 25 to 50c higher. Bulk barrows and gilts 190 to 250 lbs mixed 1-3, \$14.75 to \$15.50; numerous lots mostly 1 and 2 100 to 220 lbs to local small buyers \$14.75 to \$16.50. Sows 400 lbs. and lighter \$12.50 to \$13.55, over 490 lbs \$11.00 to \$12.25.

Sheep—440 head, week ago 507. Compared with last Wednesday. Wooled slaughter lambs weak to 50c lower. Bulk good and choice wooled slaughter lambs \$17.00 to \$20.00, a few choice to \$21.00. Utility and low good \$14.00 to \$17.00.

(By USDA)

Philadelphia, Nov. 2.—Poultry Market Unsettled. Supplies of most classes were in excess of the fair but very selective demand. Liberal carried stock, especially hens and caponettes, were forced for sale at or near county costs. Large white rock pullets 28-30c. Large white rock caponettes 25-26c. few lots fancy quality higher carried stocks 23c. Reds 22-26c without clearing silver crosses, straight carriers 22c with bulk unsold. Few lots white rock roasters 20c to clear. Few cross fryers 18c, white rocks 20, vantage reds 21-22c. Red broilers 15c. Turkey demand fair for more than ample supplies. Heavy type young hens 40-42c. Young toms 28-30c.

Receipts Nov. 1 included Maryland 8700 lbs Delaware 12204 lbs.

Wholesale selling prices No. 1 and fancy quality broilers light type under 3 lbs none Broilers or fryers, heavy type under 3 lbs. 15 3-4 lbs 18 1/2-22. Roaster 20. Pullets 4 1/2 lbs and over 28-30 4 1/2 lbs none Hens, heavy type, 17-25 light type, 15-20. Old roasters 12-14. Ducks muscovy 20-27 per lbs 25-30 Turkeys Young hens 40-42 young toms 28-30

### EGGS

Philadelphia Nov. 2.—Market Unsettled. Demand improved for largesizes top quality and was relatively lighter for other grades. Supplies were adequate for current day-to-day buying.

Wholesale selling prices: Min 10 net AA quality, Large 45-50c white 54 1/2-55 1/2, brown 54-55 medium white 35-36 brown 35-36. Extras, Min. 60 net A. Qual large 45-50 white 49-50, brown none standard 40-42 current receipts none, check 22-30.

Receipts Nov. 1—5,041 cases all by truck.

The tiny, man-made "moon" would eventually be slowed by the very thin atmosphere in which it would travel at its altitude of some 200-plus miles. It would spiral toward earth, but would be burned up, much like a meteor, from friction with the dense, lower-level atmosphere before it could land.

## Feeder Calf Sale, Youth Market Events Scheduled at Lancaster

November will prove a busy month for the livestock industry in the trade territory of Lancaster Union Stock Yards. Starting activities tomorrow — Saturday, Nov. 5 — will be the First Annual Feeder Calf Show and Sale. For three days, starting Nov. 8, attention will center on Four-H youth from ten area counties.

Three breeds will be represented in tomorrow's sale of calves, feeder steers and feeding heifers — Angus, Hereford and Shorthorns.

### Pennsylvania Bred and Raised

These entries are Pennsylvania bred and raised. Quite a few are expected to arrive from the western part of the Keystone State, co-sponsored by the Pennsylvania Livestock and Allied Association, Inc., the Stock Yards Company and the Live Stock Exchange.

All entries will be graded and sold for auction, beginning at 1:00 p. m., with both individuals and pen lots going on the auction block. Abe Duffenbach will be the auctioneer. "Members of the various clubs, Garden Spot, the 4-H and FFA might find this sale an excellent place to obtain suitable calves, and," the officials added, "many of the calves will be sold singly for just this purpose." Around 400 head are expected.

### Baby Beef, Lamb Roundup

In the coming week, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, the Southeast District 4-H Baby Beef

and Lamb Club Round-Up and Sale will be staged at Lancaster Union Stock Yards. Counties to be represented in addition to Lancaster County are Adams, Berks, Chester, Cumberland, Dauphin, Lebanon, Northampton, Perry and York.

Judging will occupy all of Wednesday, continuing through Thursday morning. Three hundred steers and 20 pens of fat lambs will be sold, with the auction starting promptly at 1:00 p. m.

## SEPABC May Go Above 100,000 Goal in Year

Increasing nine per cent over last year, the Southeastern Pennsylvania Artificial Breeding Cooperative, Lancaster, expects to reach a record goal of 100,000 services this year.

President Earl L. Groff, Strasburg R1, announced at the cooperative fall meeting that the SPABC record for the first six months of 1955 totaled 52,489, placing the local group second to only the Western Pennsylvania group at Clarion. The record there is 63,792.

Lancaster County goes above the State average of 6.3 per cent increase. During the first half of the year, the state artificial breeding total of dairy cattle was 207,115.

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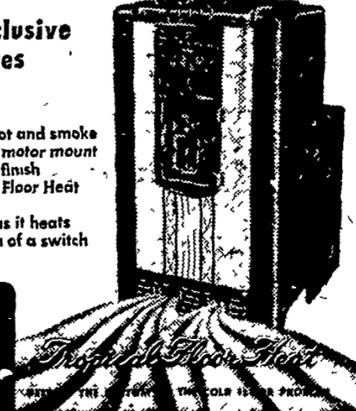
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