

# Lancaster Farming

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\$2 Per Year

## Farms Here High In Conveniences And Push Buttons

Pennsylvania farmers have more modern conveniences than ever before and are running close to their city cousins on push-button gadgets, according to surveys announced by the State Department of Agriculture.

Nearly half of the State's 146,887 farms now have television sets, 95 per cent have electricity, 70 per cent have telephones, 86 per cent have running water, 66 per cent have bathrooms and 60 per cent have central heating systems.

### One Auto Per Farm

There is at least one automobile for every farm in Pennsylvania and out of every 100 farms in the State 36 have trucks, 89 have tractors, 53 have gas engines, ten have grain combines, eight have hay balers, 36 have silos and 31 have milking machines, according to information presented in the Pennsylvania Crop and Livestock Report for 1954, compiled by the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service.

The average Pennsylvania farm has 96 acres and the value of all field and fruit crops last year exceeded \$343,000,000, an average of \$2,369 per farm. The value of livestock, chickens, milk, eggs, wool, and honey produced was \$438,024,000, an average of \$2,982 per farm in the State.

### Mushrooms, Tobacco Tops

Pennsylvania in 1954 ranked first among the more than 3,000 counties in the United States in the production of mushrooms and cigar leaf tobacco, second in buckwheat, fourth in peaches and sour red cherries, fifth in apples and grapes.

This State also ranked first in cash income from eggs, first in farm income from chickens except broilers, second in income from all poultry and eggs, also second in number of chickens raised and third in number of eggs produced.

## Farm Women to Hold Christmas Party

Farm Women Society No. 21 will hold their family Christmas party Friday evening Dec 9 at 7:30 in the Quarryville Fire Hall. All members of the family invited to attend. Fifty cent gift exchange for men and women and twenty five cent gifts for children.

### CONSIDERATE THIEVES

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — The robbers who took a safe from a feed store recently were really considerate. They carefully wrapped the checks, inventory books and other papers in the safe so that they were undamaged by weather when the battered safe was found. The \$400 in cash in the safe wasn't there, however.

## Wintertime Feeding



Wintertime means barn feeding in Lancaster farming, and here Sam Wenger tosses hay to some of the prize Guernseys on the farm of Snavely Garber, R1-Willow Street. Both names, Garber and Wenger, are well known in Lancaster

County and area Guernsey circles. The herd is one of the best known, and Mr. Garber is a nephew of Harry Snavely, one of the outstanding pioneers in Lancaster County Guernsey promotion.

## Farm Numbers in County Stable Values Boosted

Lancaster County still holds position as one of the most outstanding agricultural counties in the nation, showing an increase in farm dollar value of 31 per cent against a decline of one in total farm numbers.

This is only part of a detailed four-page report on the Preliminary 1955 Census of Agriculture just released by the Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce.

### One Less Farm

In 1950 there were 7,952 farms in Lancaster County, and in 1954 there were 7,951. The average farm increased slightly in cropland harvested from 62.3 acres to 62.7 acres, but values jumped from \$20,527 for the average farm in 1950 to \$26,713 in 1954, including land and buildings.

Value per acre also increased, from \$324.29 in 1950 to \$425.15 in 1954.

In cropland harvested, however, the number of acres increased. Last year 7,205 farms reported 334,294 acres in croplands, against 7,385 farms in 1950 reporting 323,792 acres in cropland harvested.

### More Acres Farmed

Although industries and housing projects have moved into the County, and have been accused of converting valuable farming lands into commercial or residential sites, more acres are being farmed here than in 1949. There were more farms in the 50-99 acre bracket last year, from 2,497 in 1949 to 2,517 in 1956.

Irrigation showed a tremendous increase in the period compared by the census, with 74 farms in 1949 irrigating 433 acres, against 252 farms reporting 3,342 acres under irrigation in 1954.

Green manure also came into greater importance, with 1,494 Lancaster County farms last year reporting 20,171 acres of cover crops turned under.

Farm size showed one major development, with three farms reported in Lancaster County in 1950 over 1,000 acres each, while last year the number dropped to two. Again here the majority fell between 70 and 99 acres, although this category declined from 1,480 in 1950 to 1,432 in 1954. Farms under 10 acres in 1954 totaled 1,371 compared to 1,249 in 1950. Farms between 100 and 499 acres showed minor in-

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## B. Snavely Garber Named Producers Co-Op Director

B. Snavely Garber, R1 Willow Street, Tuesday night was named a new director on the board of the Producers Cooperative Exchange at the annual meeting attended by about 540 in the Guernsey Sales Pavilion east of Lancaster.

Others named to serve again at Mark Hess, R6 Lancaster; Raymond Miller, R1 Lancaster.

Although business in the past year was up, dollar volume was down due to lower market prices. Sales increased \$130,061.56 to \$1,310,080.94, and expenses went up from \$175,374.33 to \$1,227,025.98. Poultry increased 40 per cent to \$4,909,091.17 and increased 29.6 per cent in weight handled to 14,861,113 lbs. Although egg volume was up 41 per cent, cash paid was off 4.8 per cent. There were 11,504,856 dozen eggs processed with a value of \$4,919,553.59.

However, "fancies" increased to 35.8 per cent, compared to 28.5 per cent in 1954.

A total of \$29,200 of net savings was distributed to members in revolving fund certificates.

Speakers included H. W. Adams, assistant general manager; Wyn Gerhan, manager of Northeast Poultry Cooperatives Association; President John Mel-

## 13 Students Cited By Sears-Roebuck

One sophomore and 12 freshmen enrolled in the College of Agriculture at the Pennsylvania State University have been named to receive scholarships established by the Sears, Roebuck Foundation. C. Gene Haugh, Spring Mills RD 2, a sophomore in agricultural engineering who won a freshman award last year, also won a \$125 scholarship this year.

Freshman winners, receiving \$100 each, are: Sam W. Allison, Tarentum RD 3; John W. Atcherson, Clarksville; James C. Barron, Slippery Rock; Richard A. Booth, Ivyland; Jay E. Coble, Hershey RD 2; Paul Gabriel, Ulster RD 1; Thomas Hancock, Johnstown; Erwin D. Maxson, Little Getsee, N. Y.; John H. Miller, Claron RD 1; Harold W. Myers, Jr., Chambersburg RD 2; Robert D. Reinsel, Fairmount City RD 1; Glenn A. Shirk, Quarryville RD 1; Daniel C. Speace, Elkton, Md.; William A. Tait, Jr., Mercersburg RD 4; and Clair W. Zerby, Spring Mills.

horn, Mount Joy; K. M. Souders, general manager; John J. Herholdt, poultry manager, and Harold L. Dettlerline, locker plant manager.

Entertainment was provided by the Coatesville Chorals under direction of Robert H. McFalls, Jr.

### REAL CHECKER LOVER

MANGUM, Okla. — W. E. Weaver loves to play checkers but wasn't able to find many opponents. Finally he became desperate enough to buy a grocery store here, and installed a table and a couple of extra chairs to attract some players. Among his customers, he manages to snare a few to keep the checkerboard busy.

## Hogs Slump to 14-Year Low in Chicago Trade

Hogs this week continued skidding into lower price levels at most of the major markets, with Chicago Wednesday reporting 14-year lows on both the \$11.75 top and the estimated \$10.25 average for barrows and gilts.

At National Stock Yards, 111 (St. Louis), the top was \$11.75 also, with a few No. 1s and No. 3s bringing \$11.00 to \$11.65, with a few at \$12.00. In Chicago, for the first time in many years, some heavies went way below the \$10 mark, selling at \$9.00 cwt.

Lancaster, however, scored a \$13.50 top Wednesday. Receipts at St. Louis reached 13,500; Chicago estimated 20,000, and Indianapolis received 10,000.

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