



Here are four of the speakers appearing at the Lancaster County Dairy Day at the Guernsey Sale Pavilion east of Lancaster Wednesday of last week. From left to right they are Joe Nageotte, extension dairy specialist from Pennsylvania State University; A. B. Freeman, chief sanitary engi-

neer, U. S. Public Health Service, New York City; Ivan E. Parkin, extension dairy specialist from Penn State, and John W. Newlin, associate counsel, Inter-State Milk Producers Cooperative. (Lancaster Farming Photo).

Voice Of Lancaster Farms

AND FARM FRIENDS

(Readers are invited to write comments on Lancaster Farming, about current events, or other topics. Letters should be brief, and must be signed. Names will be withheld if requested. — Editor.)

FROM LEGION ADJUTANT

HARRISBURG — Dear Mr. Neill I have been reading copies of your newspaper on my periodic trips back to Lancaster County where I was born and raised, but having taken residence in Harrisburg some six years ago I return to Lancaster quite frequently and have read your newspaper with much interest and especially during the famous

season just past (February 2, 1956)

While I was not able to be in Quarryville for the annual celebration of Ground Hog Day, I am still a member of the Organization and hold it in highest esteem, regardless of what Punxutawney or Allentown may say about our Organization Your write-ups were indeed a credit to the Slumbering Groundhog Lodge of Quarryville and its members and it pleased me to know and to be able to clip from your paper these items and show them to my friends just what our Organization does, the community spirit that its members have and the fact that they continually keep the town of Quarryville in the front so far as Lancaster County is concerned

I hope that you and the owner, Mr. Alspach, who is a personal friend of mine, will be able to increase the size of your paper and the distribution thereof be-

cause I believe that it is one of the best farming papers that I have read in a long time, and I appreciate the items contained therein because they are really done to advise the farmer the things that are in his mind and which confront him from day to day in his operation of his farm. With kindest personal regards, I am, Sincerely, Daniel W. Shaub, Department Adjutant, The American Legion, Department of Pennsylvania.

WISHING SUCCESS

STEVENS, Pa — I wish to thank you for the sample copy of Lancaster Farming which I received this morning. Although I do not live on a farm, I find it quite interesting. Therefore I am enclosing a money order for \$1.00 and ask that you enter my name as a charter subscriber. Wishing you success with your new paper — Mrs. Florence M. Stroup

THANK YOU

PHILADELPHIA — Dear Mr. Neill Thank you very much for the newspaper clippings which you sent me, for which I am very grateful — Very sincerely yours, Vincent A. Carroll, Judge, Court of Common Pleas No. 2.

LIKE IT VERY MUCH

DENVER, R2 — Received several sample copies of Lancaster Farming and like it very much. Enclosed is check for \$1.00 charter subscription — Galen Beager.

NOT TOO LATE

PEACH BOTTOM — Just wonder if I am too late to get Lancaster Farming. We got some copies and liked it very much — Mrs. Amanda Osborne.

LOOKS MIGHTY GOOD

GAP — Having received a free copy of your paper, Lancaster Farming I will say it looks mighty good to me. I'm enclosing \$1.00 for one-year charter subscription. A Reader.

TYPE OF NEWS

MILLERSVILLE — We look forward to getting Lancaster Farming every week as it brings the type of news we don't get much of in the other papers. Thanking you very much. — John Carney.

KEEP IT UP

COLUMBIA — I'm enclosing my buck for one year. It sure is a good paper and I like the way it's put up. Keep up the good work. — A. L. Wertman.

NEWSY LITTLE PAPER

STRASBURG — Enclosed find \$1.00 for subscription to Lancaster Farming. I like the newsy little paper very much. Thanks for the sample copies. — Enos Shaubach.

Price Spread On Beef Now Much Wider

Washington—(USDA) Charges for marketing beef advanced about the same amount the last quarter of 1954 to the last quarter of 1955 as they did in the seven years ending in 1955—about one-fourth in each instance.

The farm value of Choice grade beef averaged over 9 cents per pound lower in the last quarter of 1955 than a year earlier, whereas retail beef prices were down only about 3.5 cents per pound. This means that approximately three-fifths of the drop in farm value was absorbed by higher marketing costs.

Series of Publications

These relationships are brought out in a report "Beef Marketing Margins and Costs," published by the USDA today. The publication is one of a series being issued by the Agricultural Marketing Service in response to a request by the Congress for intensive studies of costs of marketing farm products. A recently issued publication, "Marketing Costs for Food," presented an overall view of recent changes in the spreads in prices between producer and consumer.

The report shows that the farmer got 70 per cent of the consumer's dollar spent for beef in 1949, and only 62 per cent in 1955. The difference between what the farmer gets and the consumer pays—the "marketing margin"—represents the return to marketing agencies for their services, including such costs as labor, supplies, and transportation. Such costs have risen substantially in the last seven years.

Wide Fluctuations

The beef study shows that the difference between what the farmer receives for U.S. Choice grade beef on the hoof and what the consumer pays for the meat has fluctuated widely during the seven years 1949-55.

Retail prices remained relatively stable, for example, during the latter half of 1954 when farm prices of cattle were rising, and during 1955 when farm prices generally declined. Marketing margins therefore narrowed substantially below the long-run average in the latter half of 1954, but widened markedly in 1955. The comparisons are based on the price of a pound of beef at retail and the price of its equivalent weight of 2.16 pounds in the live animal.

Service Awards Given Eight In 4-H

Service awards were given eight Lancaster County 4-H Club leaders in Thursday night ceremonies at the First Presbyterian Church in Lancaster last week.

Victor Plastow, assistant county agent, and Miss Ruth K. Kimble, county home economist, made the presentations. Speaker was Rev. Wallace E. Fisher, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church.

Receiving awards were: Daniel A. Brubaker, R1, Ephrata 20 years as a club leader; Mrs. Samuel Long, Drumore, and Mrs. Frank Bromer, Litz, 15 years; Paul Longenecker, Edgar, Porter, Mrs. Arthur Reist, Raymond Showalter and Glenn Herr, five years.



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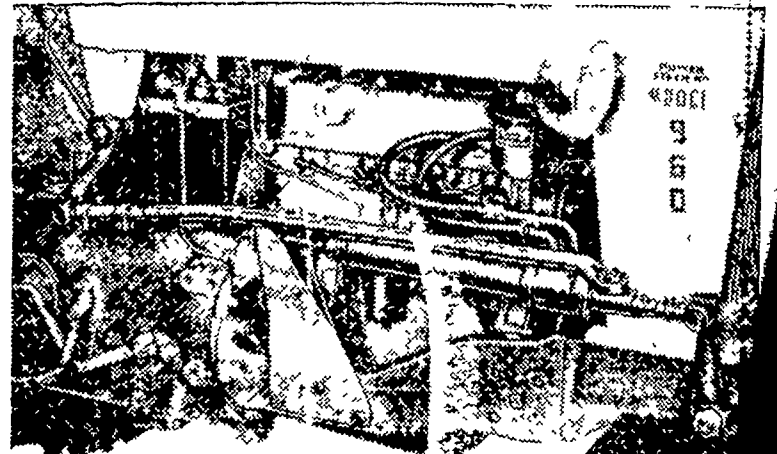
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