

Livestock Key To Agriculture

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Yet farmers have been able to produce abundantly for a population almost 30 per cent greater, and also to provide for an improved national diet.

"Last year about three-fifths of our harvested acreage went into the production of livestock.

A temporary shot-in-the-arm was given by the Korean conflict, but the effect was of short duration. The plain fact is that it was the demands of war and post-war reconstruction which created a market for farm products. With peace and reconstruction, this market disappeared and no comparable replacement market developed.

"Government in Washington cannot make the tens of thousands of decisions necessary to the successful management of producers, processors, distributors, wholesalers, merchandisers, retailers — the private marketing system. . . . We believe in the private marketing system.

"Research has contributed many of the gains affecting

your own special interest — cattle production. Through development of fast-gaining lines of beef cattle, research has made it possible for cattle raisers to put 2½ pounds a day on growing steers. Ten years ago, producers were getting gains of only 2 pounds per year.

Control of Brucellosis

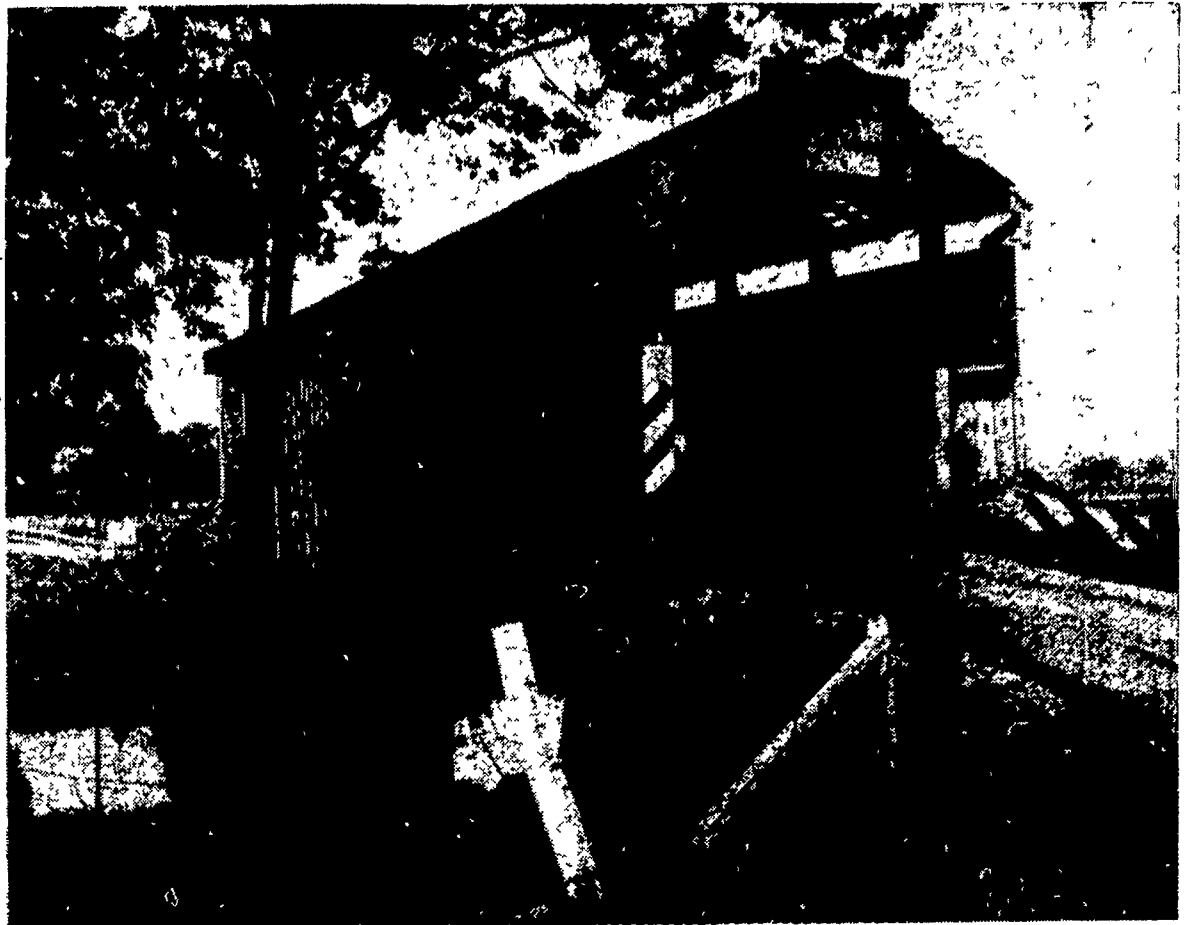
"We are making headway in the control and eradication of brucellosis. Gains are being made steadily, and five states now have designated as modified-certified brucellosis-free. If we could succeed in wiping out brucellosis, this alone would save livestock owners \$50 million a year.

"Research is not a substitute for experience in cattle raising. . . . But research can supplement experience, can shorten the trial-and-error period and give cattle producers the support they need to go forward with confidence.

"Today the successful farmer is essentially a businessman. Like the businessman, he uses capital in the form of land, machinery, livestock and buildings. On the average, farmers use more capital per worker than is invested in most industries.

"If agriculture is to depend upon efficient production and quality products aggressively merchandized and promoted in expanding market, then all producers must become better

Martindale Covered Bridge



Although not in as good repair as many of the two-score covered bridges in Lancaster County, the Martindale covered

bridge still serves well. (Lancaster Farming Staff Photo)

farmers — better cattlemen — better in the broadest sense — aware of the economic climate and economic conditions under which they operate.

Adjust Quickly to Change

"They must be capable of quickly adjusting to economic change — changes in food habits — market relationships — production methods — marketing practices — sales techniques. The U. S. Department of Agriculture — this Administration — is bending every effort to halt the further accumulation of commodity stocks. . . . to broaden the domestic market. . . . to encourage the production of those qualities of food and fiber which are most in market demand.

"We are pursuing a liberal foreign trade policy to make

foreign countries better customers for our products. Market expansion is our objective — not market restriction.

"There is difficulty in agriculture, that's true, but there is general economic health. . . . Farm asserts are near their all-time high. Agricultural land values are sound. Farm prices have not collapsed even in the face of the greatest pile of surplus farm commodities ever accumulated.

"The basic need for agriculture has been for a program to help all farmers adjust their production to the realities of present-day markets while strengthening their incomes.

Soil Bank Explained

"The Soil Bank is a device to cut back output while curtailing surpluses and bring about a bet-

ter balance between supply and demand. You and I know that we can't repeal the law of economics. Volume times price minus expense equals income. Anytime we try to shrink output through artificially restricting production, we in effect deny producers the opportunity to use effectively on their acres the knowledge of research and the tools of production. That is a program of self-defeat.

"What kind of agriculture is in the best interest of farmers and ranchers themselves and of all America? Wherein is the real and permanent interest of agriculture? Do we seek an agriculture that is largely Government managed and dependent upon its political influence for its level of income, or do we want an agriculture with the power of decision in the hands of producers themselves and the private marketing system which, through the mechanism of price, measures consumer desires and producer opportunities?

"On the decisions you and I make, together with those of all our citizens in every corner of this great land, will be determined whether American agriculture is to live successfully with abundance, or whether we are to deny the traditions and principles that have made America great. It is for us to choose."

World Barley Lines In Penn State Plot

Nearly a thousand varieties and strains of barley from every part of the world appeared side by side in plots at the Pennsylvania State University as part of a study for improving barley adapted to growing conditions here. The unusual test, in charge of Dr. Clarence Bryner, Penn State agronomist, had 991 different kinds.

Many of those from warmer climates failed to survive the winter, but nearly a hundred have been selected out of the newer introductions for distribution among cooperating cereal breeders of the Northeast. These will be further tested and perhaps used in breeding newer varieties, Dr. Bryner said.

All of the plantings have been studied and harvested, in the hopes of developing a shorter, stiffer-strawed variety resistant to mildew and scald, he explained. All of the lines in this test had never before been studied for use in this part of the world.

Air service to Moscow is being pushed by Pan American.

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- * Irrigation Equipment
- * DeKalb Chix & Started Pullets

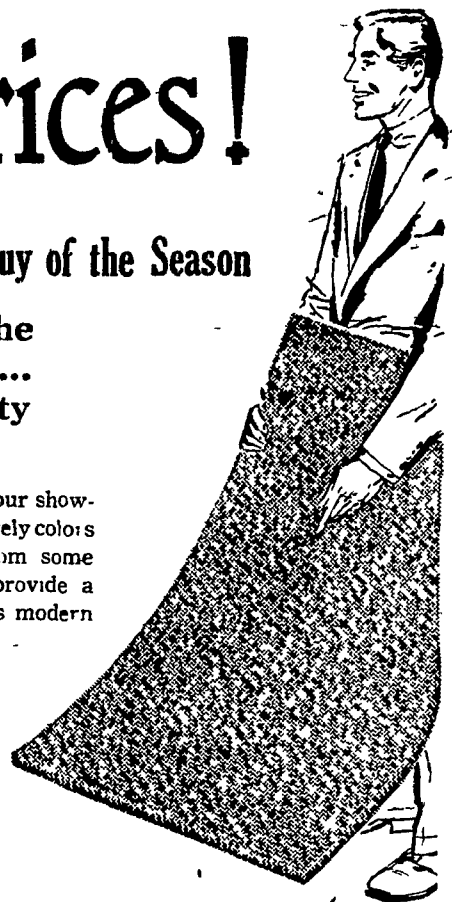
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