

## Sales Dates

### DECEMBER

Dec. 22 — Frank Hurst, Jr., Martindale, on Conestoga Ave. real estate. 2 p. m.

Jan. 9 — William Z. and Paul Z. Martin, Blue Ball, all-day horse, tractor and machinery sale; starting 9 a. m.

Jan. 10 — C. E. Keener, one mile north of Lancaster, at intersection of Manheim and Harrisburg pikes (Rts. 72 and 230), machinery and 50 tractors; 11 a. m.

## Farm Calendar

(If you wish your Coming Events listed in these columns, write a card or letter to LANCASTER FARMING, Quarryville, Pa. Be sure to include name of sender.—Editor.)

### DECEMBER

#### JANUARY, 1957

Jan. 14-18, 1957 — Pennsylvania Farm Show Week, Farm Show Building, Harrisburg, Pa.

Jan. 14-18—Pennsylvania Farm Show, Harrisburg.

Jan. 15, 1957 — Poultry Federation's Annual Farm Show Banquet 6:30 p. m. — Penn Harris Hotel, Harrisburg, Pa.

## Production Drop Not Reflected In Egg Prices

HARRISBURG — A decline in the number of layers has dropped total egg output on Pennsylvania farms during November to about one per cent below the same month last year. About 300 million eggs were produced last month.

The recent declines indicate that the 12 month output for 1956 may be below the all-time record set last year, the state department of agriculture reports. Production the first 11 months totaled 3.28 billion eggs or 1.6 per cent below the 3.37 billion eggs for the same period last year.

The rate of lay per bird this November was up four per cent from a year ago, but the number of layers was down five per cent to 18,970,000.

Farmers received an average price of 44 cents a dozen on Nov. 15, a cent below a month ago and 7 cents below a year earlier. It was the lowest mid-November price since 1941.

Live chickens and broilers were down a cent a pound, the average for chickens, 16.5 cents, and broilers, 17.5 cents, being the lowest in 15 years.

Demand for holiday turkeys held November prices for the birds at the October level, producers averaging 35 cents a pound liveweight.

A one per cent drop in feed costs was insufficient to stop declines in the feed purchasing power of most poultry products.

## Funeral Held for Arnold M. Groff, 46

Funeral services for Arnold M. Groff, 46, well-known Southern Lancaster County Oldsmobile dealer, were Tuesday afternoon from the Reynolds Funeral Home, Quarryville.

Mr. Groff died Thursday, Dec. 13, in his office. His wife and a daughter, Miss Diane, and two sisters survive. Burial was in the Quarryville Cemetery.

## National Yields, Rates Announced For '57 Soil Bank

WASHINGTON — The U. S. Department of Agriculture has announced the national average yield figures and dollars and cents payment rates, an acre which will apply in administration of the 1957 acreage reserve programs for five basic crops.

As announced Nov. 30, there are no plans to include peanuts or extra long staple cotton in the soil bank acreage reserve next year. The average national yield, national base and average rate for the basic crops are as follows:

Wheat, 16.7 bu., \$1.20, \$20.04  
 Cotton, 361 lb., 15¢, \$54.15  
 Corn, 47.4 bu., 90¢, \$42.66  
 Rice, 28.08 cwt., \$2.25, \$63.18  
 Flue-cured tobacco, 1,419 lb., 18¢, \$255.42  
 Burley tobacco, 1,643 lb., 18¢, \$295.74  
 Fire-cured tobacco, 1,330 lb., 13¢, \$172.90  
 Cigar filler (42-44), 1,615 lb., 9¢, \$145.35  
 Cigar binder (51), 1,772 lb., 19¢, \$336.68  
 Cigar binder (52), 1,919 lb., 18¢, \$345.42  
 Cigar binder (54), 1,570 lb., 8¢, \$125.60  
 Cigar binder (55), 1,518 lb., 11¢, \$166.98

For corn, cotton and rice, an average county dollars and cents payment rate will be established for each crop. While the county rates will vary considerably, they will average out to approximately the national rate for the crop.

Relative productivity, distance from markets, and historic local prices will determine the county rate. From these county average payment rates for each of the three crops, individual farm per acre rates will be established by the county ASC committee.

For wheat in 1957, the method of determining farm per-acre rates of payment for both winter and spring wheat will be that announced last Aug. 13 before winter wheat was planted. These rates are based on "normal" crop yield for the land placed in the acreage reserve and the base unit rate applicable for that county.

Because the wheat program is so far advanced, no county per-acre rate will be established for this program in 1957. The individual farm rates, however, will in general average-out to approximately the national rate.

For tobacco, it will not be necessary to establish county per-acre rates. Accurate farm production information is available for most types of tobacco, and payment rates will be determined farm-by-farm. The Soil Bank yield figure which has already been established for the farm will be multiplied by the applicable national unit rate to get the farm per-acre payment rate.

Each type of tobacco is grown in a relatively restricted area, and the payment rates for individual tobacco farms, as a group, will average-out close to the national per-acre rate.

County payment rates for cotton, corn and rice for 1957 will be available soon.

### NO GOOD

My girl is a firecracker drinker — no good after the fourth. — The Jester U.S.N.A.S., Patuxent River, Md.

## Too Much Rain, Poor Hay Drop Milk Production

HARRISBURG — Effects of poor quality hay and ensilage produced on Pennsylvania farms under handicaps of excessive summer rains were reflected in a downtrend in milk production this November, the State Department of Agriculture said today.

Milk production during November dropped below year-ago levels for the second consecutive month, surveys showed. Output at 462 million lbs was one per cent below November of last year. The number of milk cows at 946,000 remained unchanged from a month earlier.

The decline in milk was most pronounced in western counties where rainfall during the harvest season was heaviest and harvesting of crops exceedingly difficult. Production per cow was down about two per cent from October.

"Informed sources expect the drop in output to go lower and to last throughout the winter," the Department declared.

Record milk production in Pennsylvania during the spring and summer may enable producers to set a new record this year in spite of declines during the last three months of 1956. For the first 11 months, total output was 6,071,000,000 pounds or four per cent above the 5,868,000,000 pounds for the same period last year.

With the sharp drop in temperatures during Thanksgiving week practically all Pennsylvania dairy herds were placed on full winter rations. Many farmers experienced a drop in milk production which they at-

## DEBT AT NEW HIGH

Debt totals, both public and private, are soaring to new high in the nation this year. It is estimated that the net total of public and private debt owed by the American people will pass the \$700 billion mark by the end of the year. This will be whopping \$294 billion more than we owed at the end of World War II. The two largest items of private debt are corporate debt which totals \$197 billion and nonfarm mortgage debt, \$109 billion.

tributed to moldy, over-ripe or rain-damaged hay. Frozen corn silage also shared the blame. A few farmers felt that the lush pastures of the past season were low in feeding value and that condition is now affecting milk production.

Corn pickers were active during November and by December 1 the harvest was complete in some localities. Soft corn continues to be a problem and spoilage in cribs is common. Declining production has shifted a greater proportion of milk to bottled sales and caused some rise in average price received by producers.

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