

Lancaster Farming

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Quarryville (Lancaster County) Pa., Friday, Dec. 28, 1956

\$2 Per Year

County Crops In 1955 Pass \$95 Million

Farm products in Lancaster County during 1955 had a value of \$95,268,637, or 31 per cent of Pennsylvania's entire farm produce of \$311,915,000 last year.

Drouth, heat, hurricanes, government controls—none had any great effect on the productivity of Lancaster County's fertile farmland, yards and lots.

First in rank, eggs declined slightly from 1954, but had a total value of \$18,218,000 last year. The 1954 total value was \$19,088,100. The decline in egg prices accounted for part of the total County decline, some \$2,500,000 from the \$98,590,317 in 1954.

Milk values on Lancaster County farm increased, from \$15,887,400 in 1954 to \$18,145,800 last year.

For the Keystone State as a whole, total value increased in the farm field, from \$290,525,000 in 1954 to \$311,915,000 in 1955.

Here are Lancaster County's first five farm crops by rank and value: 1, eggs \$18,218,000; 2, Milk \$18,145,800; 3, all poultry, \$14,815,507; 4, beef cattle \$12,012,750; 5, tobacco, \$10,310,700.

Tobacco declined from \$10,952,000 in 1954, corn from \$9,625,700 two years ago to \$7,661,500 last year.

Although numbers of beef cattle on Garden Spot farms increased in 1955, lower market prices reduced the total gross, from \$13,585,000 on some 80,000 head in 1954 to \$12,012,750 on 97,800 head last year.

County Crops

All Lancaster County crop figures follow:

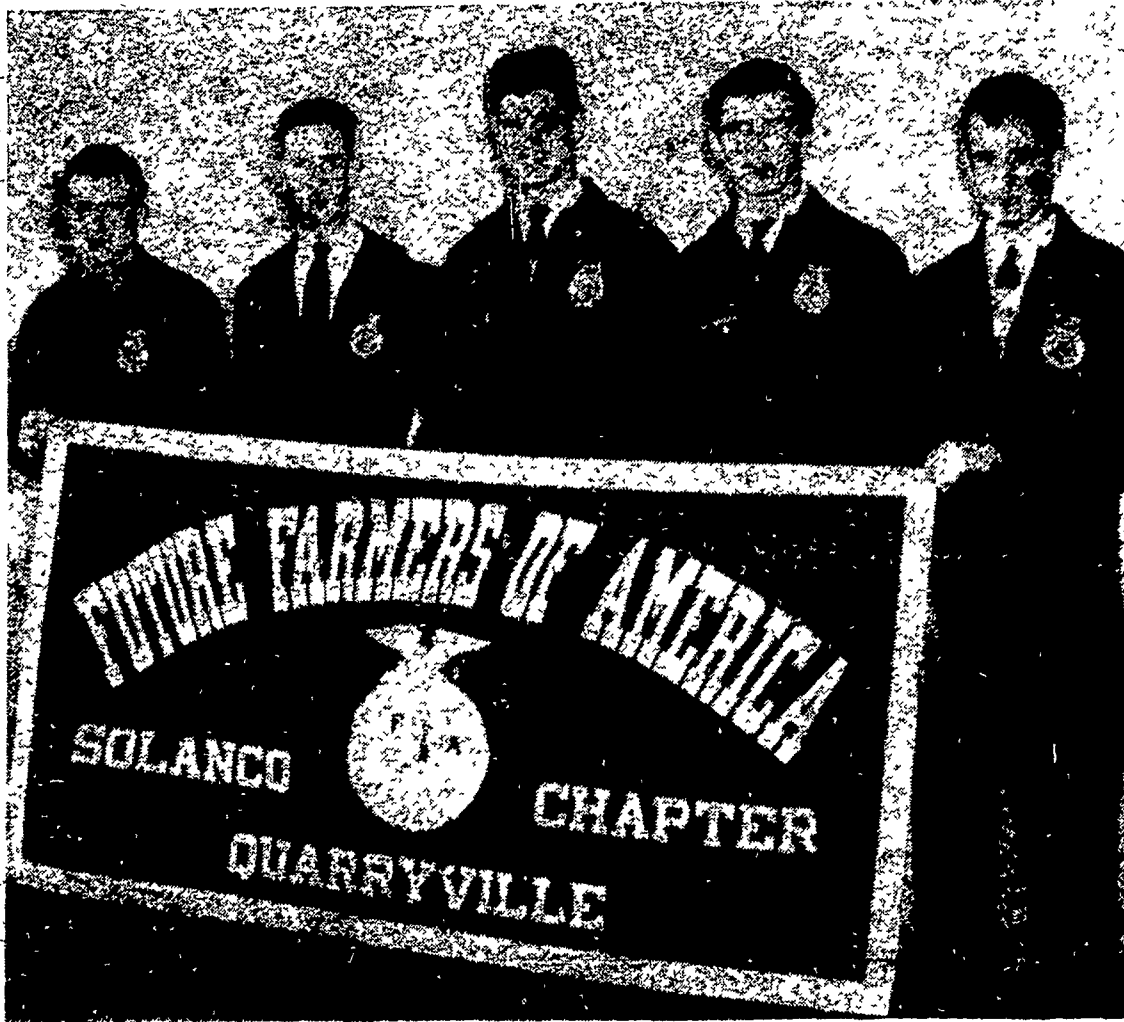
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|-------------|--------------|
| Eggs | \$18,218,000 |
| Milk | 18,145,800 |
| All Poultry | 14,815,507 |
| Beef Cattle | 12,012,750 |
| Tobacco | 10,310,700 |
| Corn | 7,661,550 |
| Hay | 4,683,500 |
| Wheat | 3,343,900 |
| Truck Crops | 1,430,850 |
| Potatoes | 1,348,500 |
| Barley | 944,000 |
| Swine | 863,800 |
| Oats | 547,100 |
| Apples | 325,000 |
| Peaches | 291,490 |
| Sheep | 181,400 |
| Cherries | 40,990 |
| Rye | 38,700 |
| Wool | 26,100 |
| Honey | 26,100 |
| Grapes | 3,600 |
| Buckwheat | 200 |

Population July 1 In U.S. 168 Million

Total population of the United States last July 1 was 168,091,000—made up of 149,823,000 whites and 18,268,000 nonwhites.

The median age of the population has declined slightly from 30.2 years to 29.9 years in mid-1956, due to the recent high birth rate level. This is the first decline in the median age since 1800, the Census Bureau reported.

Solanco Keystone Farmers



FIVE FUTURE FARMERS of America from Solanco High School will be awarded Keystone Farmer degrees this year during the Farm Show at Harrisburg. The degrees will be conferred at 1:30 p. m. Wednesday, Jan. 16 at the Education Building. Receiving the honor are, left to right: Glenn Aument and Calvin Keene, who are in their fifth year of FFA work; and Robert Bucher, Marion Findley and Clair Carter, who are completing their fourth year in FFA. The Keystone Farmer degree is awarded at the state level. The number of persons receiving the degree cannot exceed 2 per cent of

the state FFA membership, or about 220 boys. Keystone farmers are chosen on the basis of a boy's supervised farming program (he must earn over \$500 from his agricultural projects); leadership in and outside of FFA; participation in FFA and community activities and high school scholastic achievement. Above, the Keystone Farmers display the new chapter banner received Thursday, Dec. 20. The club has changed the chapter name from "Groundhog" to "Solanco." (Lancaster Farming Staff Photo).

Farm Show Will Blaze Trail for Future Farming

HARRISBURG — Featuring rural youth activities tied in with the theme "Pennsylvania Agriculture Builds for Tomorrow," the 40th Anniversary Pennsylvania Farm Show here Jan. 14-18 should excel all others, State Agriculture Secretary William L. Henning declared today.

Compared with 1917, when the first Farm Show was held, the 1957 exposition will be far beyond the highest hopes of its farmer founders, he said.

Trends in every phase of the Commonwealth's modernized agriculture will be reflected in the record number of farm products and commercial exhibits, and 125 scheduled events during Farm Show week, including educational meetings for 34 statewide farm organizations.

Pennsylvania 40 years ago had

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Hattie, Hawaiian Hen, Sets Record

HONOLULU — Hattie, a hen of a new Hawaiian breed, has set what her owners believe to be an unofficial world's record for eggs. Hattie, owned by Kazuo Onitsuka, of Waipahu, Oahu, laid 403 eggs in the last 12 months. Onitsuka attributes his hen's

success to new breeding techniques that have led to a new registered breed, called the Hawaiian Reds.

State Flying Farmers Meet January 16-17

Plans for meetings of the Pennsylvania State Flying Farmers Association during the Pennsylvania Farm Show at Harrisburg next month have been announced by officers, with sessions Jan 16 and 17.

Opening at 10:30 Wednesday morning will be greetings from John Gehman, state president, followed by remarks by John McFarlane, state director of aeronautics. Meetings Wednesday will be at the Harrisburg State Airport near New Cumberland.

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Robert Best Named Editor; Neill to New York

Robert E. Best, formerly of Farmington, Mo., will become editor of Lancaster Farming, Jan. 1, replacing Ernest J. Neill who has accepted a position with a major New York City advertising agency.

Mr. Best, 25, is a native Missourian, born at Jefferson City and raised on Missouri dairy farms. Prior to the death of his father, Ellis John Best, he helped operate a dairy farm that carried some 35 head of Guernseys. As a Four-H Club member, Mr. Best was at one time selected as the outstanding 4-H Clubber in St. Francois County, working at that time on a dairy project.

He attending the University of Missouri following graduation from the Farmington, Mo., High School. In 1953 he was awarded a bachelor of science degree in agriculture.

Serving three years in the Navy, with assignments in the Pacific, he joined the staff of the Columbia Daily Missourian as farm reporter. Married, he will bring his wife to Lancaster County soon to establish a home.

Mr. Neill, who came to Lancaster County in August 1955 and helped launch Lancaster County's own and only weekly farm newspaper, will join the veterinary and agricultural promotion staff of the William Douglas McAdams agency, a leader in the pharmaceutical advertising field, in midtown Manhattan. He will reside in Rowayton, Conn.

Coming to Lancaster County after serving with the Corn Belt Farm Dairies in the middlewest from 1946 to 1955, Mr. Neill has become well known in agricultural circles. He has been a member of the Quarryville Memorial Church and the church choir, a member of the Lancaster Chorus, and served on the building committee of Post 603, Quarryville American Legion.

New, Former Editor



ROBERT E. BEST



ERNEST J. NEILL

NAMED EDITOR OF LANCASTER FARMING Jan. 1 is Robert E. Best (left), from the Corn Belt, who replaces Ernest J. Neill (right), editor since Lancaster Farming came into being. Mr. Neill, who resided in Quarryville, is joining the agricultural department of a New York City advertising agency.