

Two Holstein Bulls Contributed For Russian Use by Heifer Project

Two promising young registered Holstein bulls have joined the ranks of American good will ambassadors behind the iron curtain. The animals were contributed by prominent Holstein breeders George M. Keenen of Hagerstown, Md., and Orville Hamer of Waterloo, Iowa.

Both bulls sailed from Houston as a part of a "good will" shipment of 41 grade and registered Holsteins made to Soviet Russia by Heifer Project, Inc., — the famed interfaith relief and rehabilitation organization.

The shipment was made possible by contribution of cash or cattle from donors in seven states and the District of Columbia. Transportation was financed by the Russian government.

Russian scientists who have visited this country have expressed

a keen interest in utilizing the superior production inheritance developed by American Holstein breeders in the improvement of Soviet dairy cattle.

It is expected that the two "ambassador bulls" — now heading the Heifer Project herd at a government farm — will eventually constitute a major step in that direction.

Meanwhile, the transplanted Holstein herd is supplying an abundance of fluid milk to nearby schools and hospitals with surplus funneled into regular market channels.

Holsteins led all breeds last year in the good will shipping program of Heifer Project. Of 800 beef and dairy cattle shipped to 16 different countries last year, 477 were registered or grade Holsteins.

First Lactation Important Event In Cow's Life

The first lactation is one of the most important periods in a dairy cow's life, says G. A. Williams, Purdue University extension dairyman.

A study of DHIA records indicates that the first calf heifer should not be expected to yield more than 70 per cent of her production as a mature cow. However, many produce more milk and butterfat the first lactation than any other in their lifetime.

Williams points out this may result in part from improper feeding before freshening.

Many heifers are allowed to become too fat. After weaning the daily grain allowance should not be permitted to exceed 50 per cent by weight of the daily hay consumption.

From the time she is a yearling, if plenty of good hay, silage and pasture are available, grain feeding should be discontinued until shortly before the heifer is due to drop her first calf.

Williams listed these two common management errors:

"... there is a tendency to step up the grain consumption since the heifer's capacity to consume roughage may be limited. This forces a very heavy strain on the udder.

"... the heifer may be bred back too soon and then allowed to milk almost up to freshening."

Results have shown that the dry period following the first lactation should be about 50 per cent longer than is required following subsequent lactations.

DO THEY?

A canine's delight is in chasing a cat.
Or at least that's the popular notion.
Do dogfish, I wonder, put catfish to rout,
When they meet in the depths of the ocean?

Three Full Lactations Necessary For Cow to Repay Care When Calf

It takes almost three full lactations from a good cow to pay for the feed and care given her as a calf, leaving only one full lactation as initial profit, said Harvey Sheaffer, extension dairy specialist from the Pennsylvania State University.

Sheaffer spoke to approximately 250 Lancaster County dairy men at the annual district meeting of the Southeastern Artificial Breeding Cooperative Tuesday night at East Hempfield Elementary School in Landisville.

Sheaffer pointed out that with a short period of profit making available per cow, good management of the dairy herd is usually the margin of profit or loss.

This was pointed out in a survey made recently in Fayette County, he said. There the average dairyman in a sample group realized only 51 cents an hour for his labor. However, the top 10 farms returned an average of \$1.75 an hour while the operators of the bottom 10 farms actually lost 42 cents an hour for their work.

The average cow remains in a herd only six and one half years and actually produces milk less than half of this time, he said. However, her profit-making life in the herd can be extended, he said. For example, the best age for a heifer to freshen is 24 months. The state average is 28 months. This means a loss of about a dollar a day or a total of \$120 to the dairyman.

A cow is most efficient if she calves each 12 months, but here again the state average is greater—14 months.

This represents an annual loss of from \$30 to \$50 a month per cow.

To overcome these losses, Sheaffer recommends a management program to raise calves and heifers economically, raise a high proportion of replacement heifers, gear his program to bring in

these heifers at 24 months and care for young cattle so that they are sound when production begins.

Earl L. Groff, R1 Strasburg was re-elected as district director at the business meeting. District delegates elected are Isaac Brubaker, Lititz, Warren Denlinger, Paradise, Paul B. Hess, Lititz; John Kreider, Lancaster, Elias Musser, Mt. Joy, Steven K. Stoltzfus, Christiana, Ellis Denlinger, Gordonville, J. Robert Hess, Strasburg, Ezra M. Martin, Ephrata; Ivan H. Stoltzfus, Ellersson and John Thomas, Millersville.

Sire reporting committeemen are Ayrshire, Leon Kreider, Quarryville, Guernsey, Hayes Hastings, Kirkwood, Holstein, J. Mowery Frey, Lancaster; Jersey, Stanley E. Kreider, Drumore.

Francis Enciso to Be State Angus Fieldman

Francis Enciso, Charlottesville, Va., has been named fieldman-secretary of the Pennsylvania Angus Assn., according to Charles J. Dannemann, association president. Enciso will replace Scott L. French, Harrisburg, who leaves March 1 to become general manager of M and M Ranch at Loxahatchee, Fla.

Enciso was reared on a livestock farm near Norwalk, O., and attended Ohio State University. In 1952, he became an assistant county agent in Fauquier County, Va. He was active in 4-H Club work there and coached the 4-H livestock judging team. He joined the Virginia Aberdeen Angus Assn. in February, 1955 where he served in the same capacity as he will be serving here.

"Assisted by Mr. Enciso," said Dannemann, "the Pennsylvania Angus Assn. will be able to carry on its program of livestock improvement and promotion without interruption."

Off-Farm Jobs Are Major Portion Of Income to 30% of Farmers

WASHINGTON — Nearly 30% of the farmers reporting for the first farm census said they got the larger portion of their incomes from off-the-farm jobs and sources other than farming, such as pensions, business connections, than they did from farm operations, according to figures compiled by the Census Bureau.

These figures show that farming is the leading income producer on about 70% of what are classified as farms across the nation.

According to the census figures, in 1954 about 46% of all farmers reported that they held off-farm jobs at least part of the time during the year.

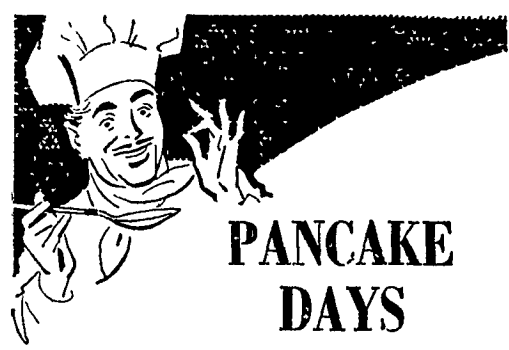
Another fact brought out by the Census Bureau report is that fewer young farmers are farming today than in the past. The report shows that 15% of all farm owners in 1920 were men

under 35 years of age. The 1954 census showed this age group owned and operated less than 9% of the nation's farms. It also points out that in 1920 approximately one third of our farms were owned by farmers who were 55 years old or older, and that by 1954 this age group owned better than 47% of the farms.

A similar trend was shown with tenant farmers. In 1920 the record shows about 43% of tenant farmers were in the under 35 age bracket, while in 1954 only 33% were in that age group while tenant farmers over 35 increased from 12 to 18% of the total number of tenant farmers.

This age bracket change was thought to be due to two facts. The average American's life span is longer today than 30 years ago. Due to farming costs, it has been more difficult for younger men to get started in farming.

FARMALL CUB TO BE GIVEN FREE IN HOOBER'S SPRING SALES PROMOTION



PANCAKE DAYS

FEB. 27-28

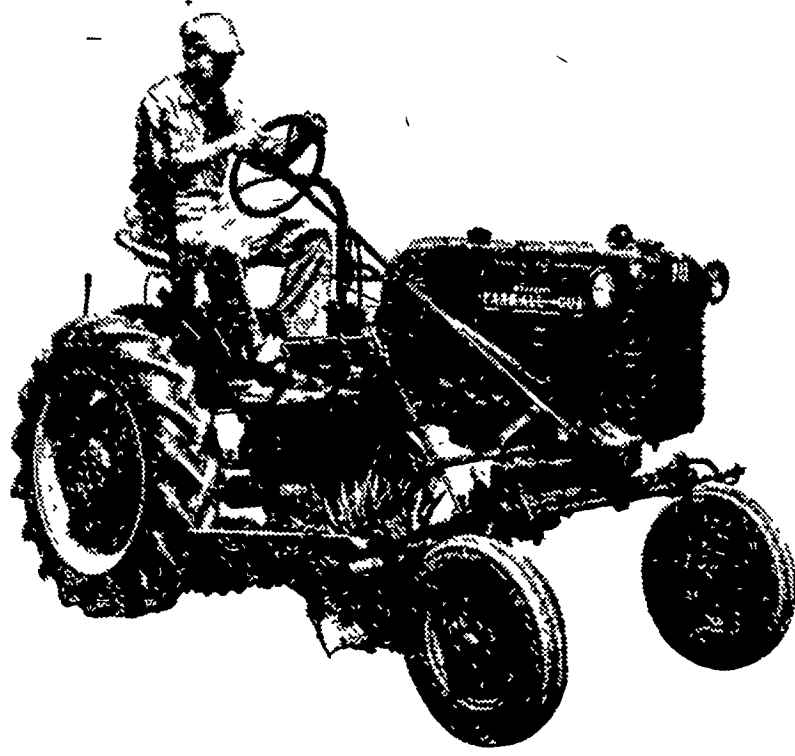
Afternoon & Evening

\$200. Worth of Door* Prizes to be Given Away!

ENTERTAINMENT and REFRESHMENTS

for the WHOLE FAMILY

Come Early — Stay Late!



REMEMBER — New & a Large Selection of Used Tractors — all purchases count towards jackpot prize drawing!

Farmall Cub To Be Given Away In Our Jackpot Prize Drawing On March 30th

SEE US FOR TICKETS TOWARDS OUR JACKPOT PRIZE DRAWING!

Start getting your tickets today!



CHARLES B. HOOBER

INTERCOURSE, PA.

Ph. Southfield 8-3501

