



POTTED PETUNIAS are inspected by Mark Nolt, Landisville, (left) and B-F. Barr, Marietta Avenue, Lancaster, at a meeting of the Lancaster Florist's Assn. May 16. Barr is a charter member of the association and Nolt is president. (LF Photo)

County Florists See Program On European Flower Industry

A slide and lecture presentation on European greenhouse practices and flower breeding programs was given the Lancaster County Florists Assn at their regular meeting May 16 at the Farm Bureau Cooperative in Lancaster. Giving the presentation was Charles Crownover, 405 West Rosedale St, West Chester. According to Crownover, the European taste in flowers, especially chrysanthemums, varies greatly from that in the United States. There, reds and bronzes are highly popular, while here

Ten Named To Be Honored As 4-H Friends

Ten persons making outstanding contributions to the nationwide development of the 4-H Club program have been named as "Friends of 4H" to be honored here during the 27th National 4-H Conference from June 15 to 21.

Selections announced by the Subcommittee on 4-H Club Work of the Cooperative Extension Service include: E. R. Eastman editor of the American Agriculturist; Mrs. Enid A. Haupt editor of Seventeen magazine, Norman C. Mindrum, executive director of the National 4-H Club Foundation; Miss Mary Omen, head of the Consumer Services Department of the J. C. Penney Co.; J. Homer Rensburg, president of the Maryland-Virginia Milk Producers' Assn.; Charles B. Shuman, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation; Dr. George Taylor, director of agricultural development for the United States Rubber Co.; Howard F. Todd, farm department manager of the American Oil Co.; Mrs. Ella Hale Weyant, research and educational program director of the Kerr Glass Manufacturing Corp.; and Louis H. Wilson, secretary of the National Plant Food Institute.

Engraved plaques will be presented in a citation ceremony during the afternoon conference assembly on June 19. Emphasis will be placed upon each recipient's long and valued service to agriculture, and to the progress of 4-H Clubs whose membership now totals about 2,200,000

whites and yellows are in greater demand in most markets on a year round basis.

Another European practice that drew comment from the florists was that of retailing through "green grocers," comparable to a produce stand in this country. The cut flowers sold in this manner are not arranged, but are of high quality. Regular retail flower shops in England and other European countries retail special pieces, displays and arrangements.

A true shell pink variety developed by English breeders drew looks of envy from the viewers. Crownover said that arrangements are being made to introduce this variety into the United States. At present, he said, there is no true pink variety available here.

This was also potted plant night for the flower growers.

On display were potted plants, mostly petunias, grown by Girvin's Flowers, Leola.

The next meeting of the association will be held with the Funeral Directors Association in Lancaster.

Poultry Auction Sale Observed By Visitors

Four representatives of the Chester Delaware County Poultry Assn. attended the State Poultry Federation board meeting last week at the Lancaster Poultry Center.

After the board meeting the group observed the sale of broilers at the Lancaster Poultry Exchange. They also had opportunity to visit the first random sample laying test.

Plans were discussed for the annual meeting of the Pennsylvania State Poultry Federation to be held at Penn State University June 11-13. Chester County poultrymen are urged to attend this meeting.

A report was given by "Sol" Shearer on the publicity for the coming Chicken Barbecue season. Many barbecues are planned for the summer throughout the state.

The Chester Delaware County Poultry Assn main event is to be held June 18 at the New Bolton Center after which all are invited to Longwood Gardens for a colored fountain display.

Those attending the state meeting from Chester County were Walter Carlin, Coatesville; Harold Thomforde, Victor Leto, and L. L. Logan, from Kennett Square.

Connecticut Tobacco Growers Using Irrigation Extensively

By ERNEST J. NEILL

HAZARDVILLE, Conn.—Acres and acres of northern Connecticut land are covered with cheesecloth supported by poles as the 1957 crop of shade-grown tobacco enters the seeding stages. This is the higher-priced wrapper variety.

It has been a dry season here near the Massachusetts border, and a weekend tour of the territory from Hartford east, north to Scioto and west into Hazardville shows irrigation is coming into its own rapidly.

Implement dealers now carry stacks and stacks of irrigation pipes and pumps in addition to their lines of farm machinery. Despite weekend showers—more minor drizzles, perhaps—irrigation equipment was pouring tons of water on dairy pasturelands at many places in the rustic countryside.

Villages in this section have grown tremendously the past few years to help house the ever expanding rolls of industrial workers in such towns as Springfield, Mass., and Hartford, Conn. At the same time, water supply problems have been added to overcrowded school conditions to worsen matters.

In one former village—now grown to a city of 5,000—only a tiny trickle of water flowed from household faucets until the lines were connected to an abundant supply of water from a well dug by the builder of a housing project, and sold to the village for \$30,000.

Although Connecticut has not been troubled with forest fires, many areas were closed several weeks as the northern drought expanded, until showers dampened woodlands. Gun Powder Hol-

low in Hazardville, now a city park, was reopened last week.

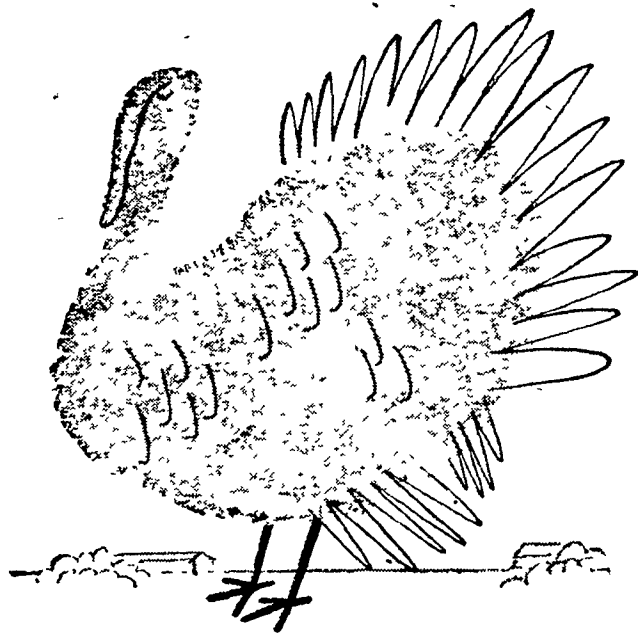
Contractors in one community have been asked to cooperate in solving the overcrowding of schools. Many pupils now can attend on only a half-day basis. It has been suggested, and favorably received, that when a development is completed one or two houses will be left vacant temporarily, with partitions unfinished, to provide a classroom next September when even a larger enrollment is anticipated. Communities in the Nutmeg State rely heavily on the old township arrangement and school construction on a township basis—especially where heavily populated—encounters many a political and sentimental snag.

Ground has been freshly plowed in the shade-grown tobacco areas, poles erected to stand about six feet above the ground, and cheesecloth stretched to provide a finer, more mellow "Shade-grown" leaf. Atop Mount Holyoke in Massachusetts' Bennett State Park, scores of these covered fields may be seen along the fertile banks and bottomlands of the Connecticut River Valley as the wide stream wanders between mountains and bends around the landmark known as Oxbow.

Today it's possible to drive a car to the top of Mount Holyoke for a birds-eye view of the noted Connecticut River Valley. But signs are still evident of the grand era when guests of the mountaintop inn on Holyoke came half-way up the mountain by carriage, then completed their trip by cablecar. Terminals stand yet at each end, but the trackways and shelters covering the tracks are rapidly rotting.

The crop season has started, but in northern Connecticut more rain would be welcome.

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