



A PLENTIFUL SUPPLY of water for the dairy cow herd is no problem for Hackman. The pond has a surface of about three-fourths of an acre. The pond is fenced and a water trough with continuous



flow is located below the dam. Hackman said that he had not been swimming for many years until the pond was built. (LF Photo)

A DAY THAT IS TOO wet for field work is ideal for cutting pasture and roadsides. Here Hackman and Flash, an eight year old Collie, prepare to take care of some of these odd jobs Monday. Hackman has been chosen as Conservation Farmer of the Year by the Lancaster County Soil Conservation District. (LF Photo)

## A. H. Hackman Conservation Farmer of Year

Outstanding Conservation Farmer in Lancaster County this year is Andrew H. Hackman, R2 Manheim. He was named to this honor by the board of directors of the Lancaster County Soil Conservation District.

Hackman was visited by Lancaster Farming Monday afternoon. On the way to his farm, one of the most outstanding features in the fields of many farms were deep, raw, ragged new gullies cut by the heavy rainstorm the preceeding night.

But at the Hackman farm there were none of these signs of poor soil stewardship. He said that the rain Sunday was the most in the shortest time since he had moved to the farm in 1940.

But the only washes found on the entire farm were in a strip of tobacco on a rather steep hill side. And even this displaced soil was caught by the strip of hay sod below it. There were no washouts from the sodded ground.

Believing that conservation farming and grassland farming go hand in hand, he has given up the practice of growing corn and says that he soon intends to give up tobacco.

The early spring grass goes into two silos.

"My cows are on full winter feed right now," Hackman said. "The grass in the pasture dried up during the hot weather, so I put them on full winter feed."

The early silage is a rye and alfalfa-grass mixture. This is expected to be fed out in time to fill both silos with a sorghum-soybean mixture.

Hackman carries a milking herd of 20 to 21 Holsteins and Ayrshires on the 68 acre farm. The pasture land makes up the bulk of the crops — 18 acres. This year there are seven acres of barley, about three and a half acres of wheat, 10 acres of soybeans and sorghum, eight acres of grass for silage, five and a half acres of tobacco and the remaining 16 acres are in grass for hay or silage.

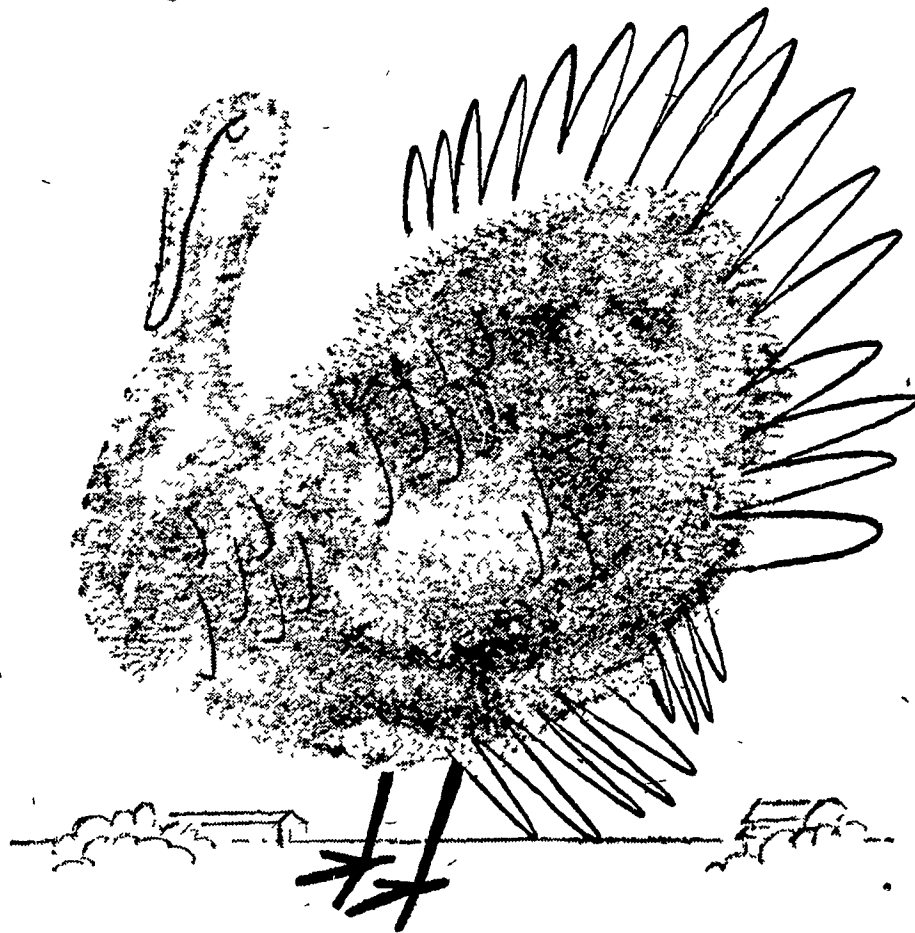
Strip cropping was put into practice when Hackman first bought the farm. This place was really in bad shape when I got it," he said. "The first year the wheat made only about 10 bushels to the acre."

"But we have really poured the manure, including the liquid manure, on it."

The farm is now in the process of being changed to contour strips. A new pond with a surface

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