

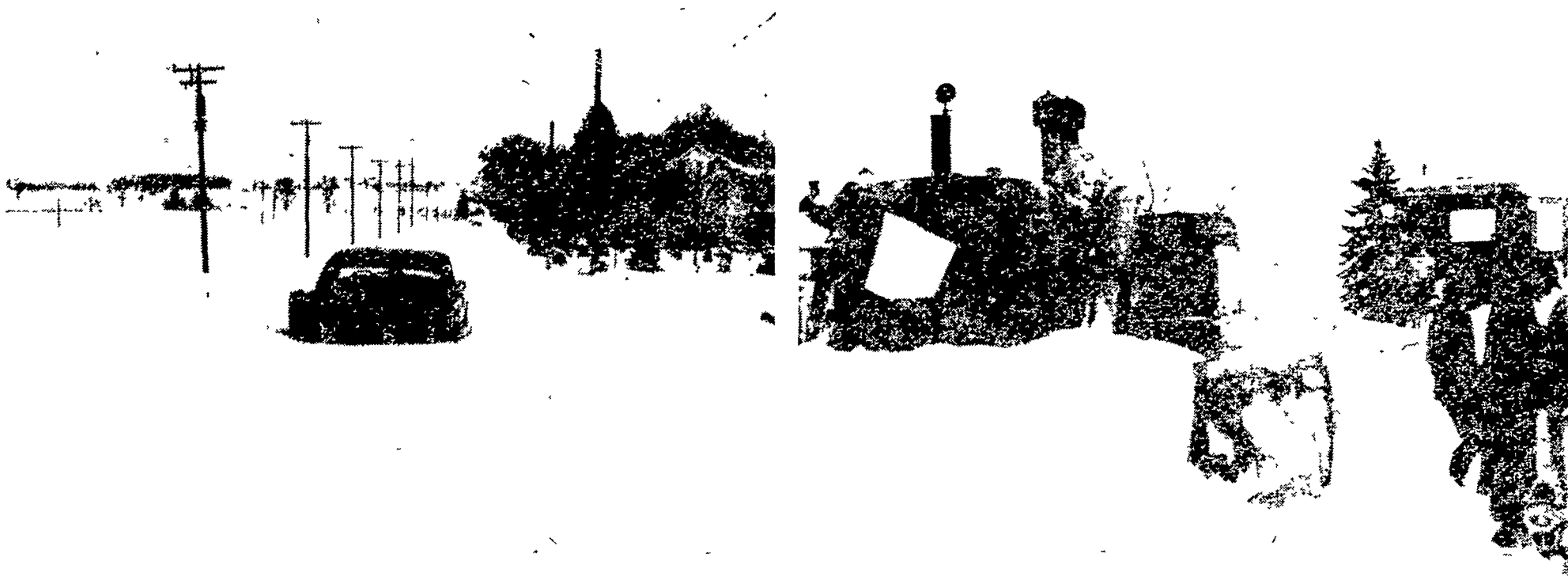
# Lancaster Farming

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Quarryville (Lancaster County) Pa., Friday, Feb. 21, 1958

\$2 Per Year

## County Paralyzed by 18 inch Snowfall



THESE TWO PHOTOS, both taken from approximately the same position at Mylin's Corner, the junction of Routes 222 and 72 south of Lancaster, show the general conditions of roads

throughout the county on Monday. The drifting snow stalled many travelers such as this automobile from Ohio. Heavy equipment was required to push through the drifts. The bull-

dozer shown is usually found in quarrying operations near Quarryville. Route 222 was not opened until Tuesday afternoon. (LF Photos)

### Most Farmers Unable to Move Milk; Helicopter Assigned County

A record breaking snowfall beginning Saturday isolated hundreds of Lancaster County farm families and caused thousands of dollars worth of damage in the County.

The snow, measured as deep as 20 inches at numerous spots, was bad enough in itself, but it was further complicated by high winds blowing up drifts several feet high.

Hardest hit were dairymen who had no way to deliver their milk to city dairies. The advent of use of the bulk tank further complicated the situation by precluding the possibility of delivering milk in cans by use of a tractor and sled or by other conveyance.

In some instances where the farmer still had milk cans, the dairies were accepting milk. One Lancaster dairy even loaned 20 cans to one farmer who was making delivery by using a tractor and sled.

The boroughs of Lititz and Quarryville were isolated from Sunday until Tuesday. And in these towns there was, ironically, a shortage of milk.

Poultry and broiler raisers also were caught in the pinch of the storm. Feed supplies were running short and there are very few county roads open to allow feed trucks to get through.

The state highways department was hampered in snow removal on the highways of the county by the drifting and by constant breakdowns of equipment. The state equipment simply is not designed to handle snow the depth of that which had fallen.

And unlike last December, there was no possibility of borrowing heavy equipment from northern or western divisions. Conditions there were just as bad or worse than in this area.

The United States Air Force

came to the rescue of Lancaster Countians by putting a helicopter at the disposal of the State Police Barracks at Lancaster. The 'copter the first day brought two expectant mothers to the city hospitals and brought in one young boy from near Quarryville who was suffering from appendicitis.

Four deaths, all of them from overexertion or exposure, have been reported.

Heavy equipment from private owners or contractors has been used extensively by the state and townships to remove drifts from roads. The Safe Harbor Power Co. made a bulldozer available to open the road from that area to allow food and oil trucks to come in.

Another mammoth dozer, normally used in quarrying operations at Quarryville, was used to open Route 222 from Quarryville to Mylin's Corner.

Farmers themselves, using blade equipped farm tractors, have cleared many portions of county roads as well as their own farm lands. But the going is rough for this equipment. It, too, simply isn't big enough to handle the job.

Coupled with the deep snow have been temperatures near zero. But fortunately there have been no icing conditions and telephone communication and electric power have been virtually unaffected by the storm.

### Melting Snow May Cause Trouble Later

By BOB BEST

The snow on the ground causes trouble now in trying to get from place to place. But later it may cause even more and lasting trouble.

Snow in winter is usually hailed as a blessing for winter wheat and other small grain crops. An in most cases it is, protecting the crop from heaving and freezing and providing more moisture for the soil.

But this snow fell on frozen ground. And if the snow is melted by rains, serious and extensive flooding could well be the result.

Another item is the possibility that if the snow stays on long enough, the crops underneath may be damaged by smothering. Growing plants, the same as humans, have to breathe. If the snow becomes packed and stays on the ground for any great length of time, the plant may not be able to get the necessary oxygen for it to live.

Very little of the water from this snow will go into the ground because of the frozen soil beneath. It will run off — slowly, we hope. If the rate of run-off is excessive, sheet erosion or gutters may develop that will damage the soil permanently. This is true especially on land that was allowed to go into winter with no cover.

And there are many such fields in the county this year as planting dates were pushed too far into the fall by the dry weather.

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### January Milk Production Set Record, Keystone State Survey Reveals

Pennsylvania milk production in January set a new record for that month, the State Department of Agriculture said today.

But the 54 million pounds of milk from Pennsylvania farms increased the proportion of milk used for manufacturing purpose and occasioned an average decline of 2 cents a hundred pounds to farmers, a Federal-State survey showed.

The larger milk output for January resulted from a higher

feeding rate per cow than a year ago when production was below normal due to low quality hay from the 1956 rainy season.

Due to the 1957 drought in southeastern and central counties, roughage and home grown grains now are in short supply and purchases of hay and concentrates are unusually high, the Department said. Much hay has been purchased in drought areas from farmers in northern counties and in New York state.

January milk production was eight per cent more than the same month a year ago and 10 million pounds above last December's output. The previous high for January was in 1956 with 524 million pounds of milk produced in the state. Cow numbers this January at 940,000 were down 2,000 from a year earlier.

Milk production per cow in January increased to an average of 574 pounds in comparison with 563 pounds for December 1957 and 530 pounds in January 1957.

### LF May Be Late Because of Snow, P. O. Holiday

If you received your Lancaster Farming later than usual this week, there are two reasons. One is the storm which delayed publication. The other is that no mail deliveries were made Saturday, Feb. 22, which is George Washington's Birthday.