

Lancaster Farming

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\$2 Per Year



CONGRATULATING EACH other are Robert Fahnestock and Dean Hoffer with Andrew Hackman in the center. Fahnestock was presented a trophy as the best land judge in the York-Lancaster County FFA

region and Hoffer was given a special citation for his conservation speech. Hackman was given a plaque as the Outstanding Conservation Farmer in Lancaster County. (LF Photo)

New Foods Lunch Feature of Food Council Meeting

HARRISBURG — A "no holds barred" Pennsylvania Food Marketing Advisory Council meeting near here March 26-27 is expected to give the food industry some food for thought.

One of the features of the event has been billed as a "new foods luncheon" at which experimental foods will be tasted and tested.

"We know of the scientific and technological advancements in the food industry as evidenced by strong midwestern competition for markets," John L. Rainey, director of the Bureau of Markets, State Department of Agriculture, said "It is our hope the Pennsylvania food industry will recognize this competition," he added.

Foods will be tasted by impartial observers who will be asked to mark their product preference. Products made from vegetable fats and other scientifically developed substitutes will be judged by tasters and compared with established foods.

Rainey admitted the results of the tasting could prove challenging but said the food industry must know whether consumer preference is for products manufactured from concentrates which in recent years has been the trend in the midwest.

"We want to keep our eyes on the future and establish our promotional patterns for food accordingly," Rainey said.

The luncheon discussion will be centered around the outlook for food technology research.

The meetings will be held at the Holiday West Motor Hotel near the Gettysburg Interchange of the Pennsylvania Turnpike.

Wheel Track Planting of Corn May Work Here in Loose Drained Soils

Have you tried planting corn in the tracks made by tractor wheels? Reports from farmers in Pennsylvania and experiment stations in other states indicate that this method has limited possibilities, Chester County Agent Robert A. Powers, Jr. says.

The agronomists and agricultural engineers at Penn State suggest that farmers in some areas of Pennsylvania may find this method may be satisfactory in loose well drained soils, but should not be encouraged in tight soils where water will puddle and stand for long periods of time.

The current method of seedbed

preparation for planting corn requires several operations which are expensive, Powers explains. It includes plowing, disking and dragging to smooth the surface and then a separate operation for planting. This is the tried and true method but it is expensive and in many areas overworking the soil destroys soil structure and may lead to increased erosion problems.

One or more manufacturers have adapted mounted corn planters to this method of planting and in some instances farmers have modified their own equipment.

3-point Plan to Be Given Chamber

Have any Ideas?

If you have any ideas on how the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce can help improve their relationship with the farm population in Lancaster County and help improve the business of farming in this area, let's hear from you.

On the special group are Lester Brubaker, 350 Strasburg Pike; John E. McGrann, Farmer Supply Co., Lancaster; Walter Dunlap Jr., Union Stock Yards, Lancaster; and Robert Best, Editor, Lancaster Farming, Quarryville. Any of these men will be glad to hear your ideas.

Or you can put them in writing and send them to Lancaster Farming, Box 126, Quarryville, Pa.

banquet proved to be so popular that crowds overflowed the facilities of the hotel and hundreds of people were turned away. However the spectacular suc-

Soil District President Predicts 1958 to Be "Biggest Year Ever"

Pointing out that such events as the National Plowing Matches and Conservation Exposition, Soil Stewardship Week, and that the assistance of additional groups such as the League of Women Voters is being obtained, the president of the Lancaster County Soil Conservation District, Amos H. Funk, R1 Millersville, predicted that this will be the "biggest year we've ever had."

Funk's remarks were made Monday night at the annual meeting of the district held at Hostetter's-Banquet Hall in Mt. Joy.

He also called on the conservation minded farmers attending, some 270 in all, to look at their rations to see that they are in step with the times. He said that present practices of fertilization and new varieties may allow the rotation to be stretched out, thus getting a greater return for the labor, seed and fertilizer saved.

Funk also voiced three proposals for the district to undertake in 1958. A dollar and cents study of the value of conservation practices on the farm is needed, he said. Many farmers ask, "How much will it help me?" first when they are talking about putting in strips or terraces. The answer is that question is needed, he said.

He also called for the construction of 50 new farm ponds. Ten of these ponds should be of the reservoir or run-off filled type. The reason, he said, is that these offer more capacity than the usual stream fed or spring fed type. With such a greater volume, more water would be available for supplemental irrigation or stock water.

And lastly, he said that he would like to see two farms in the northern part of the county dressed out in terraces and diversions. The steeply rolling land there requires such a practice.

Funk was followed by Leeland H. Bull, state deputy-secretary of agriculture. As national chairman of the plowing matches, he outlined some of the highlights

of the events to be held in Hershey next August.

He said that crowds attending the event will overflow Hershey to as far away as Philadelphia. Already, he said Hershey is sold out as far as rooms are concerned.

One large manufacturer of farm equipment has made arrangements to bring in large aircraft to give attending farmers an aerial view of the matches and the surrounding country-side.

Henry Hackman, R2 Manheim, president of the state soil conservation association, Bull pointed out, has one of the best jobs the exposition offers. Hackman is in charge of finding the "Queen of the Furrow." This will be a Pennsylvania farm girl who will reign as national queen. Five hundred dollars worth of new clothes and a trip to New York City go with the title.

Bull noted that the state will be the first major state east of the Mississippi to be brucellosis free. Formal announcement of certification is expected to be made at a meeting of the state brucellosis committee in Harrisburg tonight.

The current flare-up of rabies was noted by Bull. He urged farmers in areas with heavy fox populations to vaccinate against rabies and to exercise caution in handling any animals suspected of rabies. He said that several people in the state are now undergoing the Pasture treatment because of exposure.

Wayne B. Rentschler, secretary-treasurer of the association, reported that 120 new cooperators had been signed in 29 townships during the last year. This placed 8,890 acres in the district.

The district now has 1,604 cooperating members.

He also noted that 1,497 persons attended 22 educational meetings and that 165 farmers came to a series of small watershed meetings held last fall.

He gave reports from some of the cooperating agencies.

The Outstanding Conservation

(Continued on page sixteen)