

Local News
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dent of the club, was named Chapter Star Farmer and presented the DeKalb award for general agricultural and scholarship excellence and leadership activities.

Jerry Snader, Ephrata R1 was selected as the Star Greenhand of the chapter and elected vice president of the chapter for the next term.

Other officers elected are Ronald Kline, Denver R2, secretary; William Heiling, Denver R1, treasurer; Clarence Burd, Denver R2, reporter; David Buchter of Stevens R1, sentinel, and

R1, chaplain.

Wayne Rentschler, membership relations representative of Lancaster County Farm Bureau Cooperative, presented a check for \$50.00 to the chapter. Representing first prize in an awards contest by the cooperative, the award was accepted by president Netzley, on behalf of the club.

Objectives of the program according to Rentschler are to give credit to those boys who use cooperative products in their supervised farming programs and to help the boys learn more about the cooperative way of doing business by actual participation.

Price Supports Help Hold Farm Income

National price support programs have held net farm income at least one-fourth higher than it would have been without supports, an economist from Pennsylvania State University said recently.

"Large government expenditures and storage of surplus crops have been needed to achieve this level of farm income," stated George E. Brandow, College of Agriculture economist, during a credit clinic of the Delaware Bankers Association at Newark, Delaware.

Dr. Brandow said price supports have benefited Eastern farmers much less than farmers in wheat areas and the corn belt. The latter farmers are alarmed about what would happen if these programs should be dropped.

"Eastern farmers, gaining less from the programs, have less to lose if they should be dropped," he pointed out.

Farm production must be controlled effectively if the farmer's net income is to be maintained at present levels while reducing national treasury costs and surpluses, the economist advised.

"This would require reduced production of feed grains and wheat without putting land into other crops," Brandow asserted. "Feed grain prices would have to be increased if grain farmers' incomes were to stay at present levels."

"This would mean a

squeeze on dairymen and poultrymen, at least for a time," he added. "Even so, Eastern dairymen would probably be better off than if all programs were dropped."

He declared stability of feed prices is highly desirable for the dairy industry. One unpleasant possibility, he said, is that feed grain prices could go very low, causing expansion of milk production, and then rise enough to put dairymen in a long, hard squeeze.

Brandow listed five general results of national farm programs:

1. The programs have supported prices and diverted supplies from domestic markets—mainly by storage and disposal abroad—of wheat, cotton, feed grains, soybeans several other crops, and some dairy products.

2. Acreage controls have altered the use of cropland without much effecting total crop production. The main result has been to reduce wheat and cotton acreage and to increase grain sorghums and barley. Since much wheat would have gone into livestock feed in the absence of price supports and acreage controls, acreage shifts have not had much effect on total production of concentrate feeds. Diversion of grains to storage and export has kept the tonnage of concentrates fed from being as high as it otherwise would have been, however.

3. Federal marketing orders have given stability to the spread between prices of milk for fluid use and prices

for manufacturing. In some Eastern markets the orders have kept the spread wider than transportation and handling costs from the Midwest would warrant.

4. Federal subsidies have somewhat increased milk consumption through the school milk program.

5. The conservation reserve has taken some of the poorest cropland out of production—28 million acres in 1960. Effects on production and farm income have been small to date.



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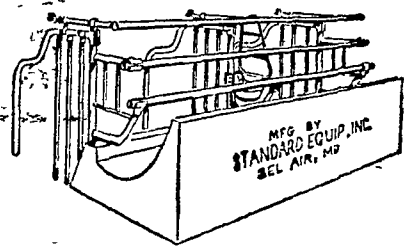
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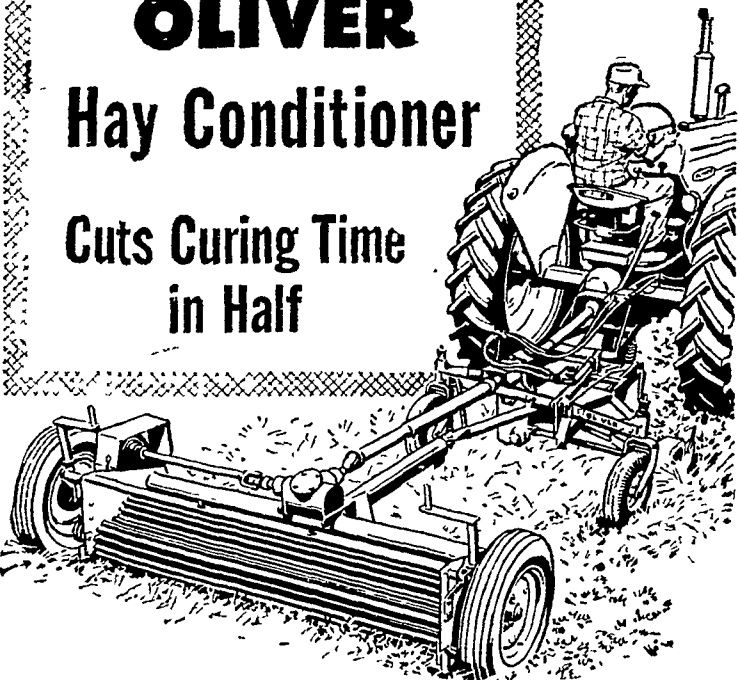
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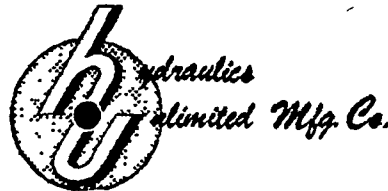
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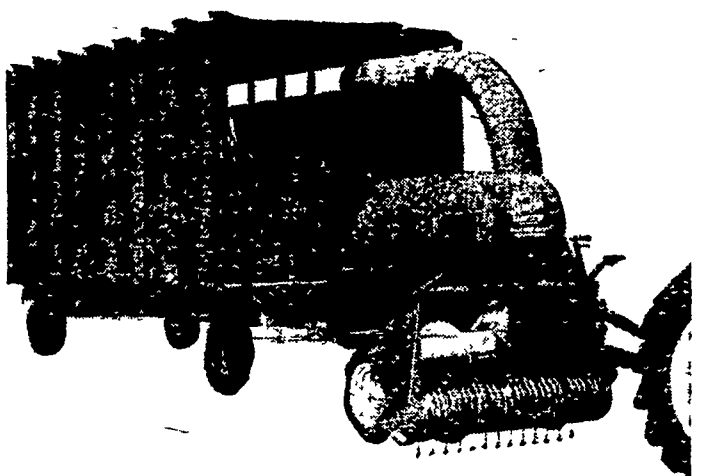
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