

American Farmer
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years ago when the two men decided they could economize on labor if they pooled their machinery and rented more land. They now farm between 375 and 400 acres on nine farms in the Lampeter and Mylin's Corner area.

The partnership between the two farmers does not extend to the livestock. "Mel

has his dairy and I have my steers and swine program" Book said this week.

His swine program consists of 35 sows at the present time, but he would like to double that this winter. For several years, Book fed out the pigs, but he has sold all the shoats to feeders during the past year because he does not have his swine buildings completed.

Last winter about 70 head of steers were fed out, but that number will probably be somewhat less this year if the sow herd is increased.

The American Farmer degree is awarded to only one FFA member in each 1000 membership in the state

Participation in the activities in the FFA and other community organizations are considered by the national examining board along with the farming program of the applicant.

Book, graduated from Lampeter - Strasburg High School in 1957, received the Keystone Farmer degree in 1958. Participation on the state champion Parliamentary Procedure Team and service for one term as Lancaster County FFA Treasurer, helped him earn the highest state award.

From his program of 80 fattening pigs, five gilts and two acres of corn in his first year in high school, J. Rob-

ert Book has built a farming enterprise hiring three full-time employees and covering almost 400 acres of rich Lancaster County soil. This Future Farmer is an American Farmer of the present.

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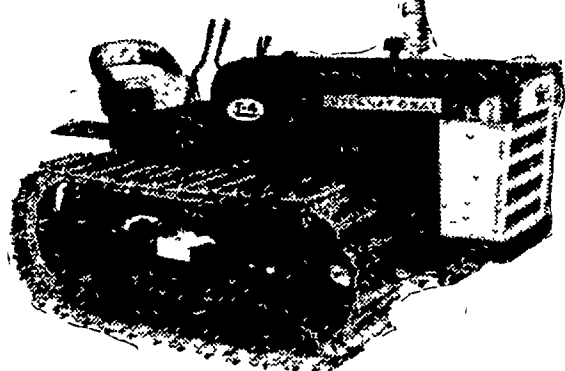
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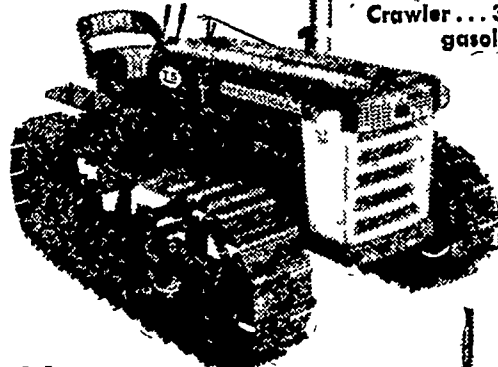


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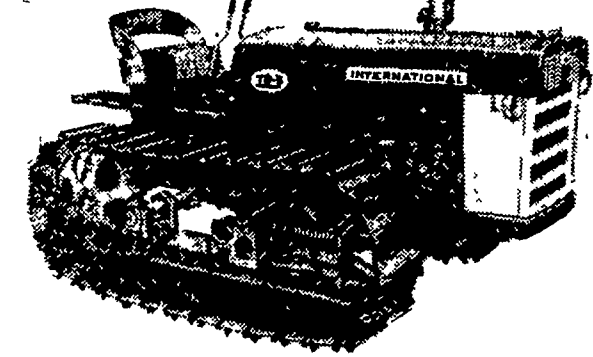
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