

● **Maple Springs**

(From page 6)

who knows which of us will get sick first. We are glad we have it now."

Most of the cows in the barn look young. As herds go, they are young. Of the 18 milking cows in the stalls now, seven are heifers with their first calf. This is part

of the secret behind the records in the Maple Springs Herd Book.

As he works around his cows, Breckbill shows consideration for their feelings and is careful for their comfort, but if a cow does not produce as she should, he does not keep her for purely sentimental reasons. He is not afraid to cull a heifer if

she does not suit his program or to sell an old cow for beef if she has passed her useful age.

During March, Maple Springs Farms was third high in butterfat average in the Red Rose Dairy Herd Improvement Association. The herd made 53 pounds of butterfat per cow during the month. "Three of our first-calf heifers made over 1,000 pounds of milk for the month," Breckbill said.

The barn is not modern by the standards many dairymen would use, but there is a contentment among the cows. An occasional sign above the drone of the evidence that this herd was healthy and happy.



AS A FIVE YEAR OLD, this cow, Maple Springs Mable has produced 4,672 pounds of milk and 243 of fat in the first 80 days of her lactation. She has three previous records of 462, 617 and 562 pounds of butterfat. Even with seven first-calf heifers among the 11 mature cows, the Breckbill herd averaged 53 pounds of butterfat per cow during March. —L. F. Photo

The Guernseys repaid their owner for his kindness last year by producing over 500 pounds of butterfat each. "It looks like we will reach 500 pounds again this year," (Turn to page 10)

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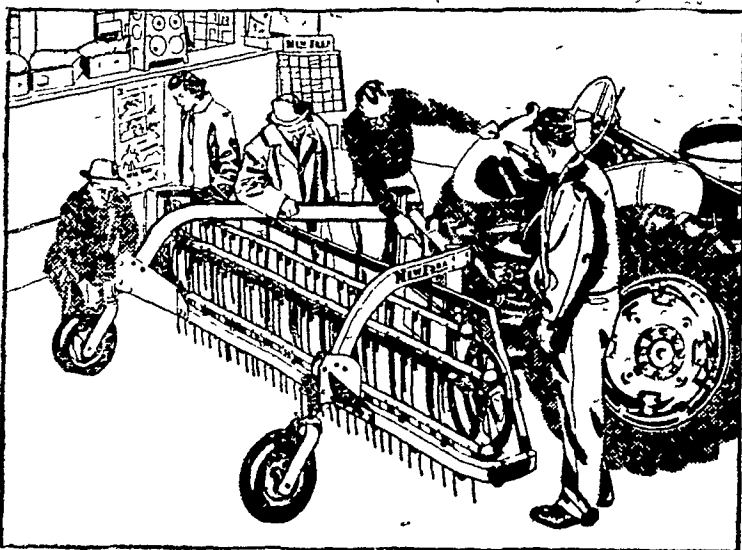
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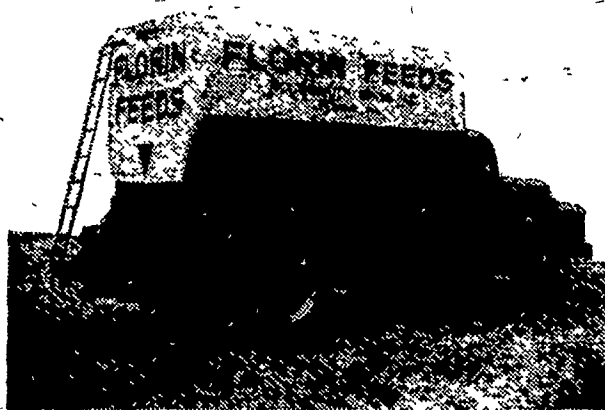
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