

Traditional Foods Lead Parade

Traditional foods will receive promotional emphasis this week at retail food markets. Plans for the Easter menu will influence purchasing decisions but the price-conscious shopper will find opportunities to economize, observes Tom Piper, Penn State Extension Marketing Agent. Ham, including whole, half and cooked ham, takes the

weekend feature spotlight in most stores. Present wholesale prices on pork loins and Boston butts are 4 to 5 cents a pound below a year ago, with loins at the lowest point in more than a year. The low levels probably won't last, however, as marketings will

drop off seasonally from now until mid-summer.

Supplies of turkey in frozen storage are still much larger than normal for this time of the year. This is keeping wholesale prices several cents per pound below a year ago and should encourage Easter promotion at favorable retail prices. Beef rib roast is another possibility for Easter and although wholesale prices on most beef cuts are above a year ago, rib sections have moved lower to a point below last year.

Egg production continues heavy although the pre-Easter demand has boosted wholesale prices. This item remains its position on the list of economical protein foods.

The spring outlook for fresh vegetables indicates a continuation of higher prices with production reportedly 19 percent below year-ago levels. Major production cutbacks have been for spring cabbage, celery, cucumbers, eggplant, lettuce and peppers. Larger amounts of beets, carrots and corn can be expected.

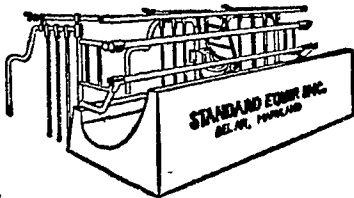
Shoppers will find supplies of some vegetables increased this week as more sections have started to harvest spring crops. Asparagus shipments from California are at their peak. New Jersey will begin

in about one week. Lower cabbage prices are anticipated as harvesting is underway in Georgia and South Carolina. Celery remains high in price as supplies continue inadequate to satisfy demand. Endive, escarole, radishes, broccoli, both new and old-crop potatoes and mushrooms are in plentiful supply and priced accordingly.

Consumption of apples seems to be running at a somewhat better rate than a year ago. Red Delicious, McIntosh and Rome varieties are available at firm prices. The USDA estimate of the orange and grapefruit crops in Florida was recently increased by one million boxes for each, giving promise of continued good buys for consumers. Avocados and Emperor grapes likewise offer economy at the fruit counter.

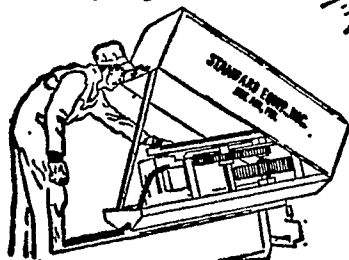
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Farm Women 13 Hold Auction

A county auction of plants and food highlighted the recent meeting of Society of Farm Women 13 in the home of Mrs. Lydia Belle, Runk.

The society made plans for a meeting May 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the home of Mrs. Elsie Wilson, 729 N. Franklin St., Lancaster. Mrs. Kenneth Eshleman, county president of the farm women will be featured speaker. County 4-H club members will be invited to the meeting.

Plans were made for a bus trip to Baltimore on May 2. The bus will leave the Lancaster bus depot at 7:30 a.m. Reservations may be made by contacting Mrs. Merle Miller, Mrs. Wilson and Mrs. Carrie Brown, who are in charge of the trip.

Co-hostesses for the meeting were Mrs. Catharine Hoover and Mrs. Irving Leaman.

The group voted contributions to the Easter Seal drive and the County Scholarship fund. Decorations were in keeping with the Easter theme. Per superstitions was the roll call feature.

Mrs. Daniel Meyer, president was in charge of the meeting.

Wheat Quotas Wider In Scope

The 15-acre marketing quota exemption does not apply to the 1962 wheat crop. Fred G. Seldomridge, Chairman of the Lancaster Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee, reminded farmers today.

"This is a change from marketing quota programs for previous wheat crops," the Chairman declared, "and we want all growers — especially those with small wheat acreages — to understand fully just how the program differs for this year. Since the quota exemption has been lowered for 1962-crop wheat, the quotas will affect many more growers this year."

Under previous programs, farms which produced no more than 15 acres of wheat for harvest were not subject to wheat marketing quotas, Mr. Seldomridge explained.

Under the 1962 wheat program, farms subject to marketing quotas are those on which the acreage of wheat exceeds the smaller of (a) 13.5 acres, or (b) the highest acreage the farm had for harvest in the 3-year period 1959, 1960, and 1961.