



TOBACCO PLANTS IN THIS BED are just about ready for transplanting. Jason Weaver will plant 12 or 13 acres of tobacco this year beginning early next week. Weaver uses dried blood as the only fertilizer. He spreads the seeds, puts on tobacco ribs and the muslin and waters with a mist from a perforated hose. L. F. Photo.

● DHIA President

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the field and usually bites the div following. A tin in the bin is used if the moisture is not quite as low as he would like to see it.

Two feedings of Alltop hay a day in addition to good permanent pasture keep the 32 milking cows in good condition. Weaver made grass silage for several years as a supplement to his pasture but he has not made alfalfa silage recently, relying on the hay to do the job.

I don't have a grass silage

and I found it was hard to make good silage if I had to depend on someone else," he said. He now makes all his alfalfa about 10 acres of it into hay and a few acres of corn silage for winter feeding along with his hay.

Weaver, who lives downtown, does not put all his eggs in one basket, however. That would be to raise a few since in 1950 he had 1950 hens in cages but a peak of production of 90 per cent and continued to produce over 57 per cent for several months.

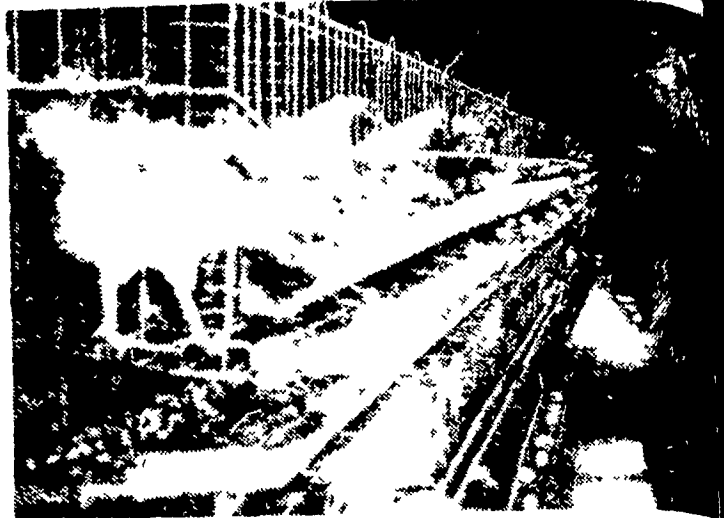
Laying hens have been part

of the farming program since Weaver took over complete operation of the farm two years ago but space kept the hen population too low to warrant building an egg room.

"The dealer kept pushing me to produce quality eggs," Weaver said but he felt he would try to add more hens to amortize the investment for an air conditioned egg room. He tried to raise and found the floor was less for the 1950 than it had been for the fewer hens he had before. He plans no further expansion in the layer business. If it got much bigger, I will have to hire another man and that could take all the profit out of the business," he explained.

Tobacco is also a big part of the farming program. In the 12 acres south of Quarryville the 12 acres Weaver plans to grow is considered a two-acre plot.

Tobacco is almost a heritage with Weaver. His father, Aaron, who operated the farm with Jason until two years ago, has been a tobacco farmer and buyer at the southern Lancaster County farm since

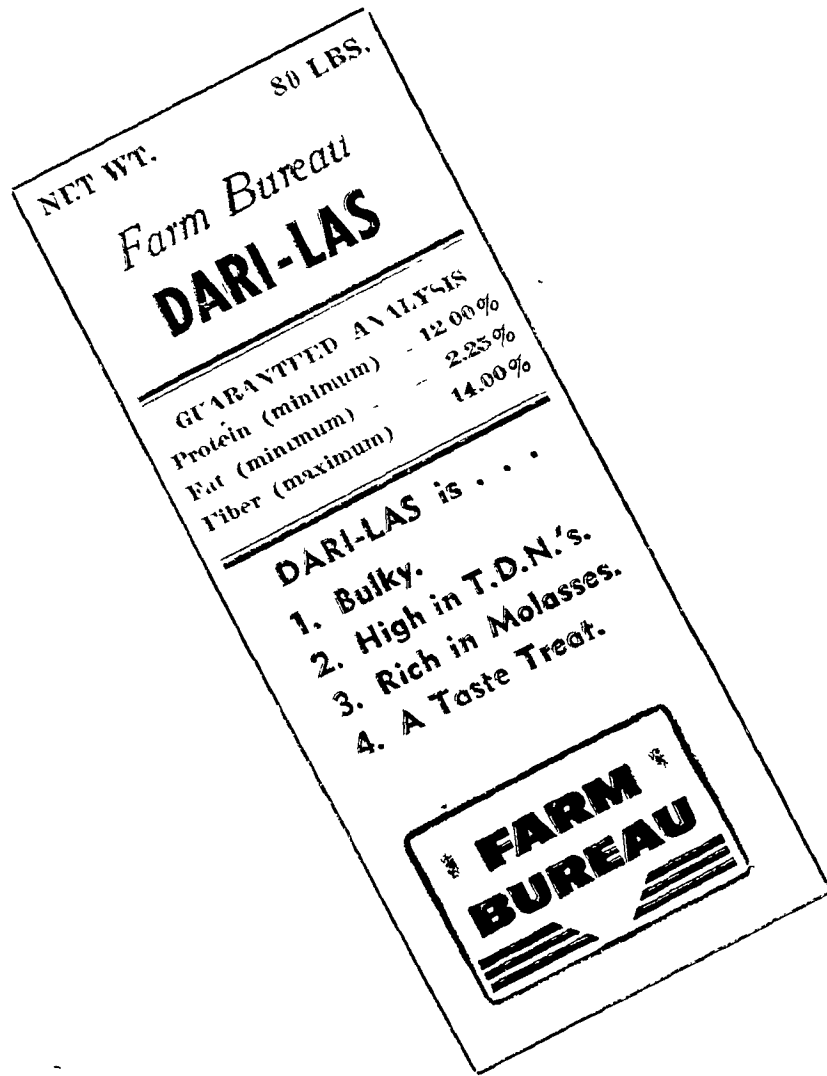


CAGED LAYERS ARE A SUPPLEMENTAL farm income for Jason Weaver. He keeps 1950 hens in cages in this house and in a pen on the second floor of the barn. Weaver says if he put on more hens he would have to hire extra help which might cut out the profit. L. F. Photo.

1942 and before that of his a few years farm near Eden.

But it is with dairy that Jason is most concerned. He says he is not satisfied with his herd average but with good culling based on good DHIA records, he hopes to bring his average up within top herd average in the county if it has to be made at a financial loss," he says. A good herd average with a sound financial program seems to be a goal worth working toward.

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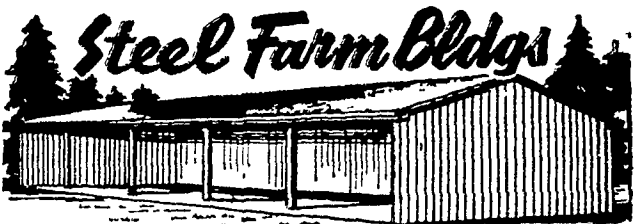
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