



MILK COOLER DOUBLES AS A TABLE for Henry E. Givler, teacher of vocational agriculture, and Roy Mentzer, New Holland R2, as they check over the preliminary entries in the American Farmer Degree application form. Mentzer, who graduated two years ago, will try for the coveted FFA degree at the national convention in Kansas City next October. L. F. Photo.



ALL INSTRUCTION IS NOT BOOKS in vocational agriculture at Pequea Valley High School. Junior and senior students are conducting an experiment in growing vegetable plants in the classroom. Glenn Esbenshade, Paradise, left, and Melvin Hershey, Intercourse, right, receive instruction in transplanting tomatoes from the seed flat to the transplant flat by Henry E. Givler. L. F. Photo.

● **Ag. Teacher**

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with Charles Drawbaugh, teacher of vocational agriculture at Dover, who is completing work on a Ph D degree at the Pennsylvania State University. The boys are learning the effect of temperature, light and water on growing plants.

While there was no chance for relaxation during school hours, Givler does take advantage of a few minutes of quiet as soon as the students are excused for the day. A coffee pot in the shop was turned on and three teachers and the supervising principal came by for a hot cup of coffee and a few minutes of "hashing over" the events of the day.

Coffee time was soon over and we started out to visit boys on their home farms. Most of the other teachers were on their way home to supper, but we still had almost three hours of work ahead of us.

At the first stop, we visited Roy Mentzer who graduated 2 years ago, but is still an active member of the Pequea Valley FFA chapter. Roy is farming 307 acres with his parents and hopes to win the coveted American Farmer degree in October.

The application forms had arrived just a few days earlier and preliminary figuring on farming program, leadership in FFA, school and community, and details of the farming agreement had to be worked

out.

Givler gives much of the credit for success of a member of FFA to the parents of the boy. Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Mentzer, who farm at New Holland

R1, were in on the discussion, and many more sessions will be needed before the application form is in shape to submit to the county, state and national FFA offices for grading. The American Farmer degree is the highest award given by the National Association of Future Farmers of America. Pequea Valley High School (Continued on Page 9)

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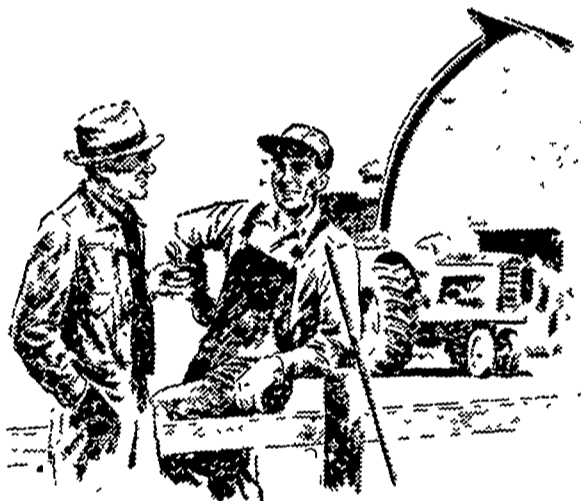
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