

Lancaster Farming

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THE BARN WALL WAS MOVED OUT to eliminate the old "forebay" on the Elvin Hershey farm. The sliding doors with the bars inside make it easy to ventilate the barn on sunny days. Replacement heifers can be handled easier and more efficiently in the remodeled barn.

L. F. Photo.

Co-op Merger Vote Is Asked

WEST SPRINGFIELD, MASS. — Members of Eastern States Farmers' Exchange, Inc., will be asked early next year to vote on a proposed consolidation of operations and facilities with Cooperative GLF Exchange, Inc.

Eastern States and GLF are regional cooperatives which provide purchasing and marketing services for farmers in a total of 12 states: Eastern States in the six New England

states, Delaware, parts of Maryland and Ohio, and Pennsylvania excepting the northern tier of counties; GLF in New York, New Jersey, and northern Pennsylvania.

Announcement of the proposal was made by Eastern States President Jonathan Davis of Sterling Junction, Mass., and GLF President James C. Corwith of Water Mill, N. Y.

Davis said the boards of directors of both organizations have approved the plan, subject to member ratification. Eastern States members will vote at their annual meeting in February, GLF members will vote at a special meeting to be held at the same time.

In making the announcement, Davis noted that "for more than three years Eastern States and GLF have been exploring the practicability of joint operation of some production and warehousing facilities.

"Because of the similarity of the types of agriculture served by the two cooperatives, and because our territories

Slatted Floors Is Subject Of Swine Meeting

A three man panel will discuss rearing swine on slatted floors at a special meeting of the Lancaster County Swine Producers next Thursday at the Poultry Center.

Dwight Younkin, Extension Livestock Specialist from the Pennsylvania State University will moderate the panel of three swine producers at the meeting scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m., December 12, at the Lancaster Poultry Center, 230 Bypass.

On the panel will be Titus Beam, Elverson R1, Herbert Schick, Kutztown R2, Berks County, and Joseph Pettner, Doylestown, Bucks County. All three men are raising hogs on slatted floors.

Income Tax Meeting Is Set

A special Income Tax and Social Security meeting will be held Wed. Jan 8 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in York at the Avalon Dairy.

County Agent M. M. Smith announces the meeting has been planned by the Cooperative Extension Service, The Pennsylvania State University, in cooperation with the Internal Revenue Service, and the Social Security Administration.

B. Wayne Kelly, extension farm management specialist, who will be one of the speakers, says the session is designed primarily for those who file their own, or assist farmers in preparing income tax returns.

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Fulton Grange Plans Meeting

Fulton Grange will hold their regular meeting Monday, Dec. 9 at 8 p.m. in their hall at Oakryn, Pa.

The program will feature a talk "Something New In Farming" by W. Harold Graybeal, a dance number by Warren Rush, instrumental music by Robert Black; Poems by Mrs. Mary Herr and games in charge of the Lecturer Christmas gifts for the State Hospitals will still be received at this meeting.

At the last meeting of Fulton Grange the Master, Gyles Brown, appointed the following to contact the State Highway Dept. to see if they could correct some dangerous curves between Fairfield and Chestnut Level C G McSparran, Theodore Beck and Scott Ankrum. The charter was draped in memory of our late President John F. Kennedy.

A \$5.00 donation to the Tuberculosis & Health Society of Lancaster Co. was approved.

Old Fashioned Butchering Done On A Modern Farm

Old-fashioned country butchering is not quite a lost art in Lancaster County.

Elvin R. Hershey, 2655 Columbia Pike, butchers about three hogs each week for his market trade, and he still cuts the pork much the way it has been cut on farms since colonial times.

But there is one big difference. Now each carcass is examined by a city inspector before it is divided into the retail cuts ordered by city housewives.

Hershey and his sons Nelson, 27, and Wilson, 13, farm 198 acres on two places west of Lancaster in addition to standing market each week, but he has no intention of giving up the Arcade Market trade developed by his father-in-law, John C. Hostetter, who farmed the place before him.

Hershey says several of the customers who bought pork from Mr. Hostetter back before 1934 still come regularly

every Friday to get their favorite cuts.

Many of his customers want pork or large spare ribs. In most packing plants, the pork carcass is sawed right down the middle of the backbone and a section of the rib, as well as the tenderloin, is made into pork chops. But Hershey knows the secret of successful merchandising is giving the customer what she wants. He splits the hog carcass down each side of the backbone and removes the tenderloin in one strip. This makes larger spare ribs for his customers who know what they want and where they can get it.

Hershey began butchering on the farm in 1934 when he married one of Hostetter's daughters and moved into the tenant house. He worked for Mr. Hostetter for four years before taking over the business himself. He slaughters about three hogs each week.

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Growers Trick Poinsettia Plants Into Blooming At The Right Time

Pennsylvania is the biggest producer of poinsettias, but growers provide an artificial environment to make them bloom during Christmas season.

Growers term this trickery "controlling day length", according to Lynn B. Smith, Extension Floriculturist, The Pennsylvania State University.

"Poinsettias respond to light and dark and would normally flower in November. This is because September's short days would give them the cue to form blooms too early. Greenhouse operators, however, correct this situation with artificial light. During September and until October 10 they light the plants for an hour in the middle of the night. This prevents flower bud formation until needed for Christmas bloom."

Plants go to retail florists in the first two weeks of December, Lynn Smith says. To avoid temperature changes and freezing, growers ship each plant in a paper sleeve. Poinsettias (after Poinsett, a Frenchman, who brought them to this country from Mexico in 1825) are a tropical plant and require warmth and humidity similar to the climate in which they grow wild. Land-

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Three directors will be elected to three-year terms next week at the annual meeting of Producers Cooperative Exchange.

Elections will take place at the Plain and Fancy Restaurant near Bird-in-Hand during the meeting scheduled to begin promptly at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, December 10.

President William G. Carlin will preside, and report for the Board. Treasurer, Melvin R. Stoltzfus, will present the financial statement for the Exchange.

Directors whose terms expire in 1963 are Paul L. Coates, Coatesville, Frank L. Hershey, Willow Road, Lancaster, and John E. Melhorn, Mount Joy, Penna.

John H. Herr, chairman of the nominating committee, will submit the following names: Lester M. Gehman, Manheim R2; Melvin E. Hess, Hunsecker Road, Lancaster; Larry E. Kegerreis, Palmyra; Nathan W. Martin, Terre Hill; John E. Melhorn, and Harry P. Metz, Belleville. Other nominations will be accepted from the floor.

FIVE-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

Temperatures during the next five days are expected to average near the normal range of 27 at night to 42 in the afternoon. Milder temperatures over the week end will give way to colder on Monday and more moderate for the rest of the period. Precipitation during the five days is expected to total about a half inch (melted) occurring as rain or snow about Sunday and again on Wednesday.

Farm Calendar

Dec. 9 — 8 p.m. — Fulton Grange Meeting in the grange hall, Oakryn.

8 p.m. — County Soil Conservation District Directors meet in the County Court House.

Dec. 10 — 7:29 p.m. — New Holland Young Farmers meet at the high school. Subject, Milk Promotion.

Dec. 10 — 7:30 p.m. — Producers Cooperative Exchange annual meeting at the Plain and Fancy Restaurant, Bird-in-Hand.

Dec. 11 — 12 noon — Cornerstone laying ceremony at new Agriculture Building, Harrisburg.

8 p.m. — Red Rose Baby Beef and Lamb club final meeting at the East Petersburg Elementary School.

Dec. 12 — 7:30 p.m. — County Swine Producers meeting at the Lancaster Poultry Center, 230 Bypass. 7:30 p.m. — County 4-H Holstein club Christmas party at the Production building, Roseville Road.

Dec. 13 and 14 — Annual meeting of County Agents at the Pennsylvania State University.

Dec. 13 — 8 p.m. — Lancaster County Jersey Cattle Club meets at Spanish Tavern, Quarryville.