

Prices Paid To Penna. Farmers Down One Percent In March

Prices received by Commonwealth farmers in mid-March for all farm products were down 1 percent from mid-February, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service. Lower prices for wholesale milk and eggs contributed most to the decline. Partly offsetting were higher prices received for cattle, lambs, and meat-type chickens.

Wholesale milk price at \$4.75 per hundredweight declined seasonally from the month previous but was 17 cents above a year earlier. Prices received for eggs declined 1 cent a dozen in spite of the good Easter demand. Egg prices for the past 8 months have been below a year earlier. Prices received for meat

animals increased for the third consecutive month. Lambs at \$23.00 led the price hike with a \$3.40 per hundredweight increase because of the Easter speciality trade. Beef cattle increased \$.70 per hundredweight. Meat-type chickens rose ½ cent a pound. On the other hand, hog prices were off \$.20 and calf prices off \$.70 from a month earlier.

Generally, prices received for field crops averaged about the same as a month earlier, with the exception of potatoes up 15 cents per hundredweight and wheat down 10 cents per bushel. Alfalfa hay at \$41.50 per ton declined \$2.00 from mid-February and was \$5.00 under the all time record high set in March of last year.

The Index of Prices Received, which is a measure of the trend and changes of prices received by farmers, was 224 percent of the 1910-14 — 100 base. This compares with 227 a month earlier and 226 a year ago.

U. S. Prices

During the month ended March 15, the Index of Prices Received by Farmers remained unchanged at 240 percent of its 1910-14 average. Most important increases were for cattle and cotton which were offset by price declines for wheat and wholesale milk. The index was also the same as a year earlier.

The Index of Prices Paid by Farmers, including Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates, remained at 313 on March 15, the same as in January and February, and nearly 1 percent above a year earlier. Prices paid for production goods averaged slightly above February; prices paid for family living averaged about the same. The indexes of interest, taxes, and farm wage rates were unchanged from mid-February.

With neither prices paid nor prices received by farmers showing significant change during the month, the Parity

Ratio remained at 77, the same as last month, and the same as in March 1963.

Stephen Foster, America's beloved composer of folk music, was born in the little town of Lawrenceville, Pennsylvania. During his youth he attended school in Towanda and took much of his inspiration from the Susquehanna River and surrounding towns. Another Pennsylvania village memorialized by Foster is Camptown, where he composed his famous "Camptown Races."

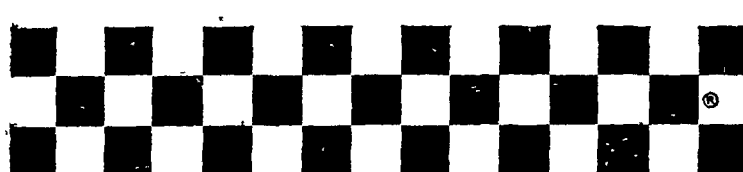
Tractors Sell At Mueller Sale

Tractors brought \$755 and \$565 at the Charles C. Mueller sale at New Providence.

A 1956 pick up truck closed the block at \$880 and a big one changed hands at \$390.

Other prices included a \$120 freezer, \$85 rug, \$33 corn, \$42 per ton.

Carl Diller was the auctioneer.



Checkerboard News



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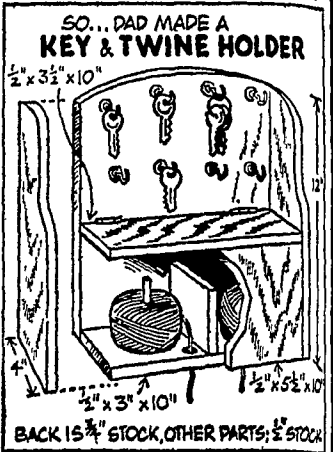


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