

## Agway, Garden Spot Unit Has 1st Annual Meet

by Everett Newswanger  
staff reporter

Officials of Agway Inc. this week estimated total assets of the farmer-owned cooperative to be over \$205 million since the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau joined the organization this year. The figure was disclosed in answer to a question during the member discussion period of the first annual meeting of the Garden Spot Zone, held Tuesday evening at the Lampeter-Strasburg High School. Agway was originally formed by the merger of Eastern States Farmers Exchange and Grange League Federation.

Kenneth Bangs, area manager, reported to the 450 members and friends present that in its first fiscal year, Agway recorded a dollar volume of \$338.5 million. The volume of some of the other important commodities is listed: 2.2 million tons, petroleum 201 million gallons, seed 780,000 cwt fertilizer, 422,000 tons and lime, 652,000 tons.

Bangs also stated that 77,000 farmers became Agway members in the 12 state service area during its first year of operation. Members in-

vested over \$37 million in Agway stock and debentures in the six month period from January to June 1965. Cash returns for the year to members was \$7.8 million in refunds, dividends and interest.

Guest speaker, Robert L. Short, Director of Operations, said, "The most important thing in any organization is people." He stated that the cooperative has size, money and volume, but its most important asset is still manpower.

In listing the forces that face the farmer, Short said that although farm production has increased 28 percent since 1950, net farm income hasn't changed much. The average wage has increased \$15 per week but only 19 cents of this increase has come back to the farmer in food purchases. He also listed labor, government, chain stores, inflation and transportation as other powers the farmer must face.

Speaking on the question of possible cooperative monopolies, Short said "Only 20 percent of farmers' supplies are bought through co-ops."

M. M. Smith, Lancaster County Agent, said that the image our city friends have of agriculture is larger farms, fewer farms, surpluses and over production.

One farmer now feeds 32 other persons so there are fewer farmers needed. But

"Agribusiness has filled the gap," Smith said. "Farmers are big consumers and there are many workers needed in the farm related field."

Concerning surpluses and over production (problem or blessing), Smith said, "It appears to me that with the many people going hungry in the world the surpluses will prove to be a blessing in the future."

Efficiency — greater output per unit — is still necessary "It will continue to be necessary," Smith said.

### ELECTED MEN

In the election of committeemen four members were named to three year terms. They are: John E. Campbell, Box 56, New Holland; J. Everett Kleider, Quarryville R1; Henry E. Shenk, Manheim R2 and Raymond H. Weaver, New Holland R1.

Samuel Dum, East Petersburg, served as chairman of the meeting.

### Farm Income

(Continued from Page 1)

tion, particularly in quality control and in new methods of processing and distribution. Prices improved in livestock and some commodities.

Farmers, he explained, helped to improve their situation through activity in commodity marketing advisory councils. Three of these have been formed in apples, poultry, and eggs.

Expanded certification of Pennsylvania farm commodities by his department was termed by the Secretary as assurance to buyers and consumers of getting quality products.

Quality control practices, he reported, have improved domestic demand for Pennsylvania farm produce and have increased exports. An initial shipment of certified apples to England has resulted in repeat orders for Pennsylvania growers.

### Poultry Council

(Continued from Page 1)

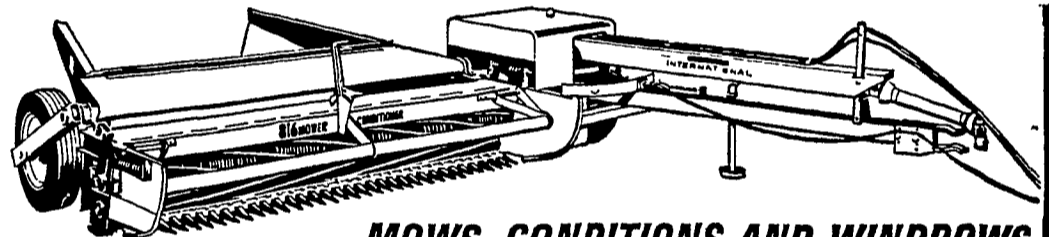
Burkholder, of New Holland, was named secretary.

Other members are: Lawrence E. Kegerreis, of Palmyra; Paul F. Konhaus, of Mechanicsburg R1; Horace W. Longacre, of Franconia; Clarence F. Manbeck, of Fredericksburg; N. Emerson Meashey, of Hershey R1; L. Howard Martin, of Lancaster; Harry P. Metz, of Belleville; William R. Myer, of Myerstown R1; Robert R. Parks, of Altoona R4; Eugene S. Schlosnagle, of Carlisle; George H. Schroeder, of Honesdale, and Donald Horn, of York.

The Poultry Marketing Advisory Council is the third such commodity group organized in the state to advise and recommend improved marketing plans to the Secretary of Agriculture. The others represent the egg and apple industries.

It would be shocking if some men preached what they practice.

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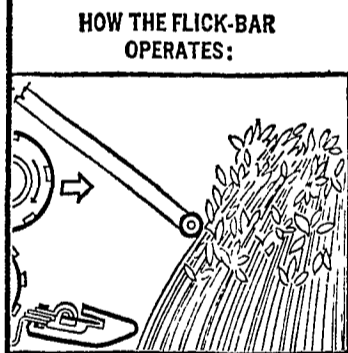
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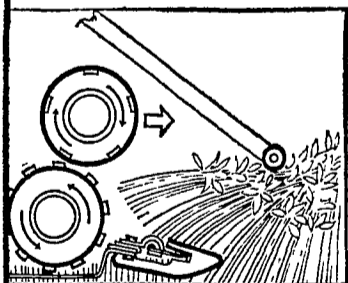
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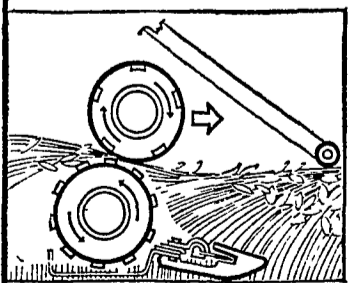


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