

● Zimmerman

(Continued from Page 1) 100 poults in each section of the five-tier, electrically-heated starting batteries. They are debeaked at six days of age, and after eight days the birds are put out in the regular turkey buildings under gas brooders — 200 to 300 birds to each stove.

The turkey ranges consist of plots of grass surrounded by strips of corn. The 8,000 turkeys that are placed on these ranges at seven weeks of age are confined to the grass plots until the corn is harvested. Then the birds are allowed to move over the entire field.

The Zimmermans farm about 15 acres of corn which lasts about two weeks in the 30 tons of turkey feed needed each week to keep the gobblers happy. Their feed mix consists of corn and a 41 percent supplement mixed at a ratio of three to one.

TABLE TURKEYS

"The public is looking for a small turkey that is real plump," says Leroy, "and turkey products are the coming thing."

Actually, there are no turkeys dressed on the Zimmerman farm. Leroy is part owner (one of four other turkey growers) of Gottshalls Turkeys, Inc., Spring City, Pa. The five turkeys leave the farm on trucks (840 birds per day over the rush season) for the modern dressing plant where they are placed upside-down on a conveyor at one end of the plant. When they come out the other end they are neatly packaged and ready for the oven. It is mostly the hens weighing about 15 pounds (live weight) that are packaged in this way.

The toms weighing 27 pounds or more, are sold throughout the year to processors who make a pre-cooked turkey roll. Both hens and toms are dressed and frozen as they reach their ideal selling weight if the need arises.

There is a trend toward contracting and integration in the turkey industry — hatcheries, feed companies, growers and processors going together to share profits and

losses. But Zimmerman has no such arrangement. Each partner in the dressing plant runs his own business and carries his own risks.

In summing up the management problems involved in raising turkeys Leroy said, "Sanitation is most important. As soon as you are careless, you run into trouble." Also, starting the little turkeys is a busy time. "They are touchy," he said. Zimmerman uses medication only as needed, but those going on range are always treated to prevent blackhead.

Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Zimmerman, and their two-year-old daughter Monica Ann, live on the Zimmerman Turkey Farm located along Highway 625 mid-way between Blue Ball and Terre Hill.

Producers Co-Op Calls In Some Stock Shares

Following a board of directors' meeting last Friday, Harry P. Metz, president, Producers Cooperative Exchange of Coatesville, announced that all outstanding shares of Patronage Common stock issued in the year 1949 will be called for redemption.

The directors further resolved to call for redemption all Membership Common stock in the hands of members who hold no other equity and are no longer using the services of the Exchange. This stock was issued during the period 1937 through 1949.

Members effected by this action will be notified by mail within two weeks, Metz said. Further details will be presented at the annual membership meeting to be held December 7.



The Old Timer
"The man who has to eat his words never asks for seconds."

● DHIA

(Continued from Page 1) Inn on Lititz Pike, Lancaster. Dinner will be served at Noon and ticket prices were set at \$2.85. The featured speaker for the program will be Frederick Sample, supervising principal of Mannheim Township.

Wilbur Houser, head tester, reported that the Association had recently replaced one tester lost to the Armed Services, and was anticipating losing one more, also to the draft, in the near future. He suggested establishing a policy of returning as soon as possible any withheld pay to a tester who leaves the Association. Presently, this pay is being withheld to the end of the calendar year, at which time it is returned to all testers. The directors approved Houser's motion unanimously.

Victor Plastow, Extension Office advisor to the Association, was assigned the job of setting up a nominating slate for election of directors in the following districts: 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, and 15. Directors in those districts whose three-year terms are expiring are: Paul B. Zimmerman, John E. Kreider, John J. Herr, Leon Hess, Samuel Dum, and Isaac Brubaker.

A committee headed by Clyde Martin, and including Kenneth Shoemaker and Paul Zimmerman, was appointed to select the outstanding tester for the year.

Jacob Houser, Jr., treasurer, reported on getting insurance on the milk-o-meter and other equipment presently stored at his farm. The Northern Mutual Insurance Co. would offer a policy to cover all milk-meters for a maximum of \$1200 for a premium of \$4.80 per year, Houser said, and a policy for \$224 a year to cover the other Association equipment up to \$800. The Board voted to accept these offers.

Houser also reported an Association balance of \$3475.34 cash in the bank. This included approximately \$1000 to be paid back to testers as withholdings.

Extension Service Annual Christmas Program December 2

The Pennsylvania State University Extension Service's Annual Christmas Program will be held on Thursday, December 2, in the Lititz Community Center, 21 North Spruce Street, Lititz. This year's program will feature Mrs. Ralph Eichert, Orwigsburg, Pa. Mrs. Eichert's topic will be "Christmas Around the House." She will demonstrate how to make Christmas decorations for the home with confidence, ease and at nominal expense.

The other highlight of this year's program will be exhibits of gift ideas, foods and decorations for the holiday season. These exhibits will be prepared by Farm Women Societies and Homemakers' Groups from all parts of Lancaster County.

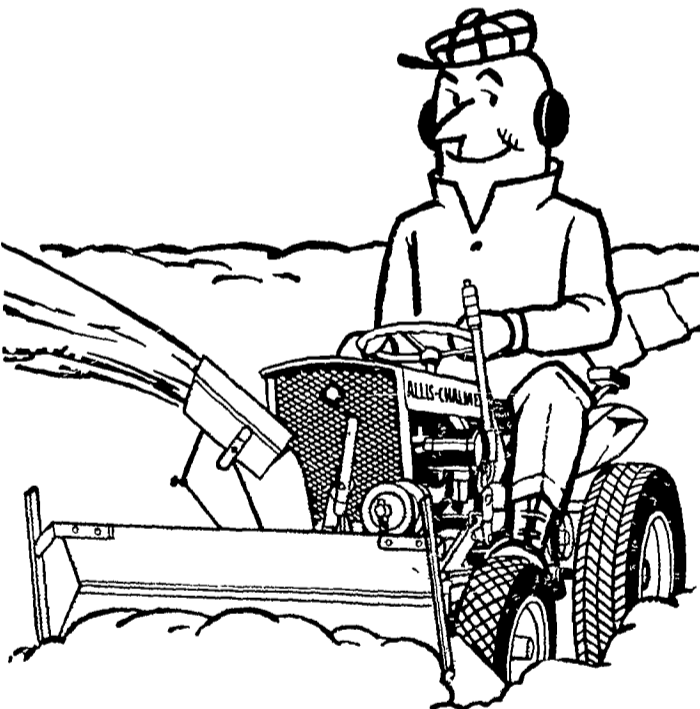
This year's program will be presented at two different times. The afternoon session will begin at 2:00 p.m. and the evening session will begin at 7:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served by Farm Society No. 18.

Any interested persons are invited to attend either of the sessions and there is no admission charged.

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