

● Reflections

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FIVE YEARS AGO

Zeiset, who contoured his farm in 1956, remarked that, "My crops are definitely better, but some of my neighbors think it is because I feed more cattle and have more manure to put on the ground."

Some of the increase is due to better fertilization practices, Zeiset believes, but he says, "I couldn't hold the manure and fertilizer on the fields without strips."

The conservation farmer, who is an associate director in the district, has planted corn after corn for several years and sees no ill effects

**Leininger Barrow Tops Market Show**—A Spotted Poland China barrow won grand champion honors Wednesday (March 13) at the Lancaster County Swine Producers' annual market hog show, held at the Lancaster Stock Yards

The 205-pound animal was from the herd of C Warren Leiningel, Denver R2, and was also one of three Spotted Poland China hogs in the reserve championship trio

Champion ribbon for pen of three went to Masonic Homes Farm, Elizabethtown, with Berkshires averaging 193 pounds

Stauffer Homestead Farm, East Earl R1, won pen-of-ten competition with a trim load of Landrace crossbreds

**Farm Tax Law Changes Urged**—Farmers were advised to push for a law to allow agricultural land to be taxed on a special basis compared with other property in the area Thursday (Mar 29)

Speaking at a meeting of the Lancaster County Agricultural Council, county planner C Bickley Foster outlined four ways farmers could help maintain their position in areas threatened by urban sprawl.

He said that, at present, farm land is assessed at the market, or speculative, value. This is true whether it is being developed for building sites or being farmed

Foster said a more equitable way would be to assess land on the basis of agricultural production until it is sold for non-farming uses. If, and when, it

is sold for development, it could be reassessed.

**Dossin To Head Poultry Extension**—Prof. Carl O. Dossin, extension poultry specialist at Penn State University since 1927, was recently made chairman of the poultry extension department. Dossin succeeds Prof. H. H. Kauffman, now retired.

Dossin helped to organize poultry and egg marketing cooperatives in Pennsylvania and developed a quality egg program. He was honored in 1952 by the poultry farmers of southeastern Pennsylvania at a testimonial dinner. He also received the Poultry Science Assn. "Outstanding Poultryman" award in 1952.

Ten Years Ago

March, 1957

**DHIA Directors Announce Program Change**—A six-point program to solve problems due to the machine record keeping system to begin in the dairy herd improvement testing program June 1 was adapted by Red Rose DHIA directors this week (Mar 1).

The new plan includes (1) Herd owners and the tester will share any increase in cost due to the change on an equal basis, (2) Additional owner-sampler work will be under the direction of the head tester and the supervision of assistant county agent Victor Plastow; (3) For pay purposes, the herd-size limit shall be increased from 40 to 70 head.

**Agricultural-Business Alliance Urged**—A total of 159 people attended the \$100-a-plate Poultry Booster Banquet at the Hotel Brunswick Wednesday night (Mar 6)

They heard H. H. Alp of the American Farm Bureau Federation call for a unification of efforts and more agricultural-business alliances

Alp pointed out that, too often, agricultural policy is determined by groups outside the industry.

For example, he said, farmers operating costs are raised by processors demanding new equipment and new methods of marketing. Too often, Alp no-

ted, this leads to a price squeeze that the farmer cannot fight.

He observed that such factors as increased farm sizes, raising the standard of living of today's farmers, and the increased investment in farming (\$88,000 on the average, he said), have all combined to make the farmer more vulnerable to price and cost variations.

**Hess Named Delegate To National 4-H Conf.**—James A. Hess, 20-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Elvin Hess, Strasburg R1, has been cited for outstanding achievement in 4-H club work and for leadership in club and community affairs. He was named as one of four Pennsylvania 4-H'ers to attend the national conference in Washington, D. C. in June.

**County Tobacco Acres To Remain Steady For 1957 Crop**—There will be no drop from last year in the number of acres planted to Type 41 tobacco in Lancaster County in 1957, according to planting intentions announced recently by USDA.

Approximately 30,000 acres were planted to tobacco last year, producing a bumper crop of 51 million pounds. Last year's yield was up 200 pounds per acre over the normal tobacco yields of 1500 pounds, it was reported.

Earlier this year, growers had indicated an intention to cut acreage due to difficulties in selling the 1956 crop.

**NEPPCO Pres. To Be Banquet Speaker**—Northeastern Poultry Producers Council president Harold P. Klahold will speak at a \$25-a-plate fund raising banquet to be held April 17 at Hostetter's in Mount Joy.

Klahold will talk on "the Poultryman of the Future" at the benefit banquet to help raise money for constructing the new Poultry Center in Lancaster.

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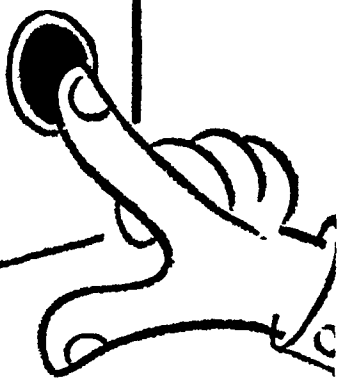
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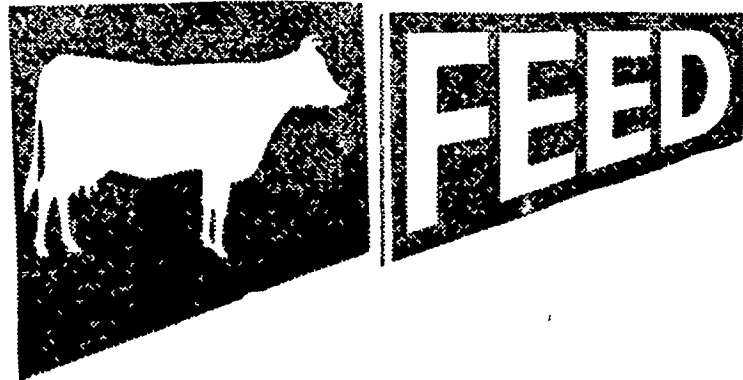
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