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"RIGHT HERE'S WHERE we need a poultry diagnostic laboratory," says Lancaster County Poultry Assn. president John H. Hess as he points to a Lancaster location on the map. The other dots indicate locations of present diagnostic laboratories in southeastern Pennsylvania. Part of the group discussing this matter with State Secretary of Agriculture Leland H. Bull this week are from left: Levi Brubaker, Rohrerstown; State Senator Clarence Manbeck; Bull; Hess; and State Senator Richard Snyder.

County Poultry Delegation Sees Sec. Bull In Bid For Local Diagnostic Lab.

A six-man delegation traveled to Harrisburg Tuesday afternoon for a meeting with State Secretary of Agriculture Leland H. Bull to explore the possibilities of locating a state-operated poultry diagnostic laboratory in Lancaster County. The group, consisting of Levi Brubaker, who served as spokesman, John H. Hess, association president, Paul Hiestand, past president; Hendrik Wentink; Dr. Wilson Miller, director, and Don Timmons, publicity chairman, was joined by State Senators Richard A. Snyder and Clarence F. Manbeck. It was pointed out by the Secretary that the state now maintains poultry diagnostic services at three locations accessible to Lancaster County—New Bolton Center, Doylestown, and Summerdale. Wentink, salesmanager for Miller & Bushong, reported that when Dr. Spurling was diagnostician at New Bolton the laboratory was heavily used by area poultrymen, but that in the past two years they have preferred to make the longer trip to Summerdale. This statement was confirmed by Dr. Palace Seitz, state poultry pathologist, who added that since approximately October of last year there has not been an active poultry pathologist at the New Bolton Center. In exploring ways in which to better serve Lancaster County's \$30-million poultry industry, Wentink suggested that perhaps the state could do a feasibility study on the question of putting a laboratory in Lancaster County. He said it might make a good subject for a master's thesis for a Penn State University graduate student. As an alternative, Wentink said, perhaps the Secretary could put pressure on Pennsylvania University Veterinary College at New Bolton to re-

L. F. Photo

Low-Cost Nitrogen Fertilizer On Test At Two County Locations

If anhydrous ammonia can be shown to be suitable for Lancaster County soils and growing conditions, area farmers may be able to realize a substantial saving on their nitrogen fertilizer costs in years to come.

In a 10-county experiment being conducted by Penn State University under a grant from the U.S. Steel Company, trials are underway to make this determination.

At two locations in Lancaster County—Harlan Keener's farm on Gypsy Hill Rd., Lancaster, and J. Mark Eshleman's, Lititz R3—demonstration plots were plowed and fertilized this week with anhydrous ammonia.

SPECIAL EQUIPMENT

One problem in handling anhydrous ammonia on the farm is the equipment. The material is in gaseous form, under pressure. When released as a gas it must be delivered into the furrow and simultaneously covered with dirt. When the gas makes contact with clay it is trapped, and converted at once

to a more stable form, explains U.S. Steel agronomist William McClellan.

To solve the equipment problem, Penn State engineers developed a mounting system to support the tanks, and a system of hoses to deliver the anhydrous ammonia to the soil.

According to PSU extension agricultural engineer Donald R. Daum, the equipment needed would cost a farmer approximately \$700; about \$400 of that would be for two reusable tanks.

NEW IN COUNTY

Although this source of nitrogen, applied as a gas, has had practically no use in this area, Daum notes that in the Midwest it has been used for

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Soil Moisture Makes A Comeback In State

HARRISBURG— Soil moisture in Pennsylvania ranges from adequate to surplus in practically all areas, according to the State Crop Reporting Service.

Leland H. Bull, State Secretary of Agriculture, called the soil moisture condition a "welcome change" from dry conditions of previous years.

The agriculture secretary said reports indicate that sub-soil water levels are much improved with some streams running which had been dry for several years.

Wheat and barley, seeded in the fall, came through the winter in good shape in most areas. Some reports indicate freeze-out in low lying wet fields. Oat seeding is behind schedule because of wet fields but should progress rapidly with more favorable soil conditions.

Planting of early potatoes (Continued on Page 8)

Baby Beef Show & Sale Set For December 5-6

The annual 4-H Baby Beef Show and Sale for the Southeast District will be held December 5 and 6 this year, it was announced Wednesday night at a planning session of district representatives.

Meeting in the Exchange Room at the Lancaster Union Stock Yards, representatives of the four southeastern counties—Lancaster, Chester, Dauphin, and Northampton—stipulated the beef events be held each year during the second week of deer season. Last year's show and sale were also held in early December, but traditionally, the dates had been in October.

Named to the show management committee were: Frank Bortz, assistant state 4-H director; William Krisher, Chester County associate agent; PSU extension livestock specialist

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SWCD Directors Plan State Conv.

Directors of the Lancaster County Soil & Water Conservation District furthered plans Monday night for hosting this year's state conservation convention to be held in Lancaster in November.

Meeting at the county courthouse, the directors accepted the proposed theme of "This Land Is Your Land" for the annual state meeting. Details on tours of points of interest in the county for the more than 150 conservationists and wives expected in November were discussed.

Director Everett Kreider announced that Soil Stewardship Week will begin with Rural Life Sunday April 30th. He noted that material promoting

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Smucker Top Area Public Speaker, But County Unseated In Procedures

It was a night of upsets Wednesday at the York County Kennard-Dale High School as public speakers and parliamentary procedures teams from York and Lancaster counties vied for area FFA titles.

Mike Smucker of Grasslands Chapter and Nelson Newcomer of Manor Chapter reversed their respective county standings in the area public speaking competition. They will meet again in the upcoming regional contest to be held at Millersville State College on April 28th.

Smucker, president of last year's county champion procedures team, is the 16-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward F. (Continued on Page 7)



Mike Smucker

Cloister Dairy Products Judges Win Fourth Straight Area Title

A freshman team of Future Farmers of America Monday defeated dairy products judges from six other high schools in the Lancaster-York area to give the Cloister FFA chapter its fourth consecutive area dairy products title.

Twenty-nine contestants judged seven milk samples and several milker unit heads. Their scores were checked against those of the official judge, Richard Williamme, director of quality control for Queen Dairy.

The top four Cloister youths became eligible for the state dairy products contest which will be held at Penn State University during FFA Week June 28, 29, and 30.

Eligible are: Luke Martin, first; Lowell Sensenig, second; Jeffrey Pfautz, third; and Eugene Nolt, fourth. The fifth member of the winning Cloister team was Paul Wise. Other placings included: Dean Hess and Richard Thomas, Penn Manor, sixth and seventh. (Continued on Page 12)

Farm Calendar

- April 17-17th-23rd., Pennsylvania Grange Week
- 7:30 p.m., Organizational meeting Kirkwood 4-H Community Club at Bart-Colerain Elementary School.
- 7:30 p.m., Elm-Penryn 4-H Community Club at Penryn Fire Hall.
- April 18-7:30 p.m., Lincoln 4-H Community Club at Mt. Airy Fire Hall.
- 7:30 p.m., Garden Spot Young Farmers meet at Garden Spot High School agr room; subject, "Improving Home Grounds", (wives invited.)
- 7:30 p.m., Drumore 4-H Community Club at Chestnut Level Church House.

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