

# Reflections

(From the files of Lancaster Farming)

## One Year Ago Five Years Ago

May, 1966

**No State Pullet Program—** Poultry and allied industry people went on record overwhelmingly opposing the proposed Pennsylvania Approved Pullet Grown Program Tuesday (May 10) at a hearing at the State Department of Agriculture building in Harrisburg.

Although state agriculture officials maintained the program had been requested by members of the poultry industry, they refused to reveal who those industry men were.

Questions and statements from the floor interrupted the official reading of the proposed program.

At the end of the meeting, assistant agriculture secretary Jack R. Grey asked all those opposed to the program to so indicate with their signatures. He lamented the fact that those people who requested the program had not seen fit to attend the hearing.

**Buy-Your-Own-Steer-Plan Debated** — The question of whether the Red Rose 4-H Baby Beef Club should institute a plan allowing members to purchase their own club steers was the subject of a lively debate Wednesday night (May 4).

In the member-parent-packed auditorium of the Rohrerstown Elementary School six speakers talked for and against the proposal.

Speaking in favor of changing the rules were Larry Weaver, New Holland R1, a former beef club president; Bill Hollinger, Quarryville; and Carol Hess, Strasburg R1.

Debating for the other side of the issue were club leader Melvin Rohrer, Lititz R3; Bill Houser, Lampeter; and Pat Yunginger, Marietta R1.

Whether to change or retain the present system in which all steers are screened and selected by a committee of club leaders will be voted on by the members at the next meeting.

**NEPPCO Takes Freight Rate Action**—At the recent semi-annual board meeting directors of the Northeastern Poultry Producers Council (NEPPCO) endorsed a plan to obtain a reduction of freight rates on feedstuffs shipped into the northeast.

The action was necessary, NEPPCO said, due to the recent withdrawal of the New York Central Railroad's proposed rate schedule. The new schedule was withdrawn because of ICC's approval of the Pennsylvania-Central merger.

The NEPPCO board voted to use any legal means available to pressure the merging rail companies to adopt the proposed rates once the merger becomes effective.

**F&H Scholarships Awarded**—Two county youths were recipients of the first Farm and Home Foundation scholarships this week (May 21).

Winners were Eric Stoner, 1051 Eden Road, and Eileen V. Anspach, 1711 Ridgeview Avenue. Both awards, in the amount of \$250, were presented by F&H president B. Snavely Garber. They will be used by the recipients toward their higher education at Penn State University.

May, 1962

**Grows His Grass Indoors—** A dairy farmer near Marticville, Charles H. Hess, is growing hedge against short pastures — he's growing his grass indoors.

While Hess doesn't expect the grass to take the place of pasture, he feels it will help supplement the cows' diet.

The grass is grown from oats in seven days in an air conditioned incubator. It is fed to the cows once a day at the rate of 15 pounds per head.

Hess has not yet decided to purchase the grass-growing machine, but preliminary calculations show the feed can be produced for between \$8 and \$10 per ton. The cost of the

machine would be slightly higher than the cost of an upright silo, he explained.

As for the practicality, he will judge that after a three-month trial period.

**Artesian Well Yields 180 Gallons Per Minute**—When he decided to drill a well to supply his dairy herd recently, farmer John Thomas, Jr., Millersville R1, had no idea he'd strike a 180-gallon a minute gusher.

Well driller Paul C. Myers started drilling on the spot where a neighboring water dower said water would be found at 110 feet.

According to Thomas, the hole was so dry for 130 feet that water had to be poured into the hole to keep the drill working. The first 122 feet of drilling was through solid limestone.

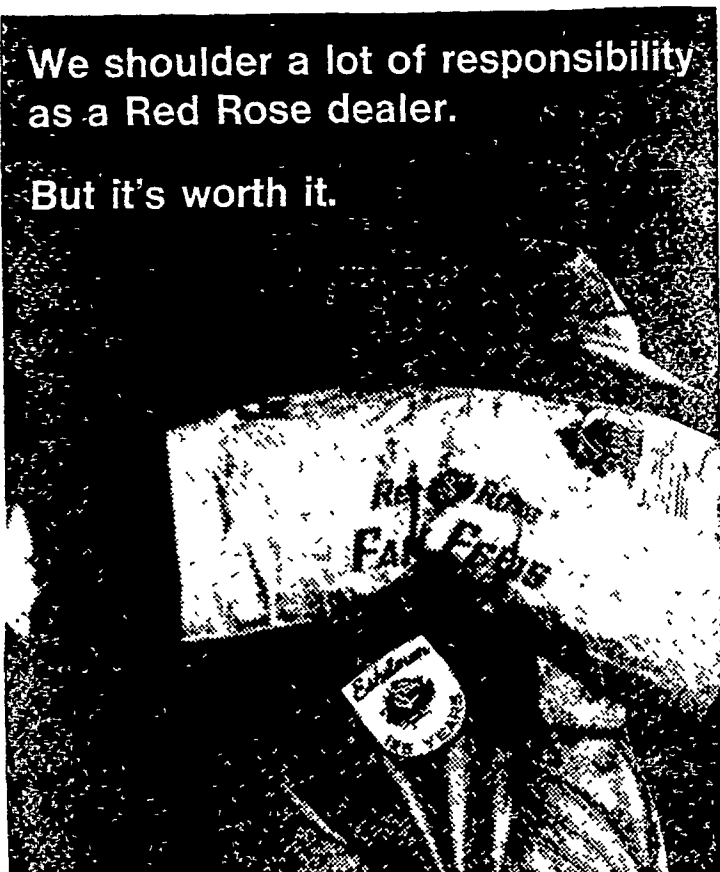
While free-flowing wells are a rarity in Lancaster County, one flowing at the rate of 180 gallons a minute, night and day, is just about unheard of.

Word of Thomas' unusual "strike" spread fast, and in the following few days more

(Continued on Page 7)

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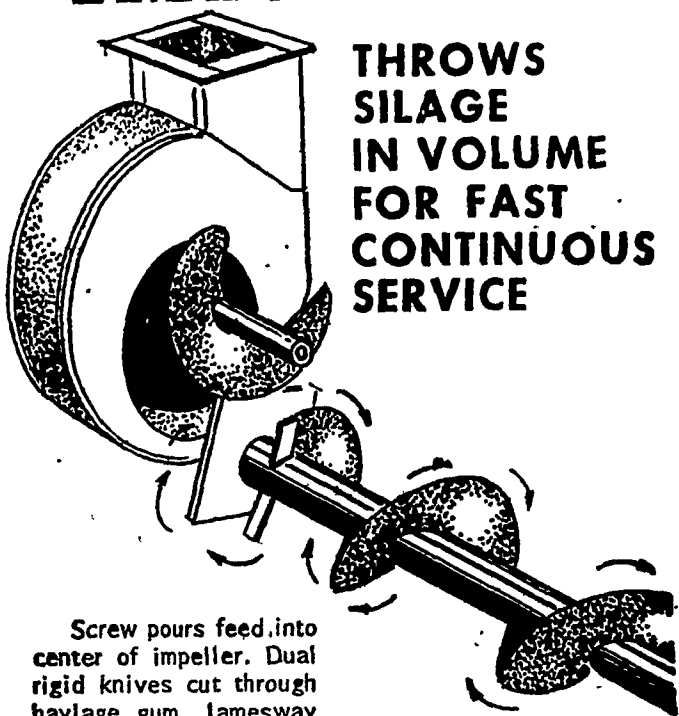
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