

# Lancaster Farming

## SECOND SECTION

### Herringbone Milking Systems Best For Any Size Herd, ARS Reports

Herringbone milking layouts, besides providing faster, more efficient milking of dairy herds than other types of milking systems, also adapt well to a wide range of herd sizes.

ARS agricultural engineer Thayer Cleaver reached this conclusion after a study of 57 herringbone parlors ranging in size from layouts with two rows of four cows each to two rows with 12 cows each. Herd sizes varied from 37 cows in lactation to 760. Most of the cows tested were Holsteins. The California Agricultural Experiment Station at Davis cooperated in the study.

Herringbone layouts require less stooping, bending, and walking than conventional milking barns. These features, plus the compactness of the herringbone, mean faster milking, more efficient use of labor, and lower building costs per cow.

Despite the labor-saving revolution in agriculture, dairying continues to require a lot of labor at the milking stage. It still takes manpower to move cows in and out of the milking parlor, prepare them for milking, attach milking cups, operate feeding devices and clean up. Increasing milk output on dairy farms has accentuated this bottleneck. Herringbone permits near-capacity operation of pipe-

line milkers, bulk tanks, and overhead automatic feeders. There is little or no dead time during milking, ARS reports.

In addition, herringbone layouts save space by placing cows in two rows along opposite walls and angled outward at about 30° — as in the herringbone weave. At pit working area down the center separates the rows. Each cow stands snugly against her neighbor, head toward the outer wall. The cow, positioned at an angle, juts her rump just beyond the neighbor's. This makes udders readily accessible and gives the operator space for chores.

In some areas, dairymen have been slow in accepting herringbone and other types of elevated stalls because of the high cost of changing from one system to another. However, many dairymen who have had to relocate their dairies have switched from conventional to elevated types. Those who switched to a herringbone give these reasons for the change:

Lower investment in the milking structure;

Fewer milkers are required; The milking rate per operator is generally higher;

Herd size can be increased without increasing the number of operators;

Less labor turnover because of easier milking operations.



Joseph McGahen

### Former Manheim Vo-Ag Teacher To Ext. Post

Joseph H. McGahen, who served as vocational agriculture instructor for 11 years at Manheim Central High School, was recently appointed to the extension staff at Penn State University as an agronomist.

In making the announcement, Thomas H. Patton, extension director, noted McGahen will provide leadership in carrying out educational programs in the areas of corn cul-

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### Baby Beef Club Tour Set Aug. 2nd.

### Grange Project Deadline Aug. 1 In \$70,000 Event

HARRISBURG — Nearly 500 service projects that range from eye banks to community centers, now nearing completion in as many localities throughout Pennsylvania, will compete in a \$70,000 nationwide community progress contest, State Grange announced this week.

John W. Scott, master of the State Grange, said 478 of the state's 643 subordinate Granges are sponsoring the local projects as part of their work in community service. Similar programs are under way in the other thirty-seven states where the Grange operates.

Many of the projects have been developing over the past two years, Scott noted, adding that Pennsylvania winners will be announced at the State Grange convention next October 23-26 at Gettysburg. The first-place winner from each of the states will compete in the national finals. These results will be announced at the National Grange convention next November 12-21 at Syracuse, N.Y.

The national winner will get \$10,000. Nine runners-up will get awards ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000. Incentive awards ranging up to \$200

The annual tour of the Red Rose 4-H Baby Beef and Lamb Club is scheduled for Wednesday, August 2nd, according to an announcement this week by county agent M. M. Smith.

The tour will originate at 8:30 a.m. at the farm of club leader J. Harold Frey, Marietta R1. Farms to be visited in the morning include: Lewis Bixler, Harold Ney, and Richard Yunginger, all of Marietta R1; and Clyde Wivell, Columbia R1.

The group will picnic in Salunga Park, and Smith reminds the 4-H'ers to bring their own food and eating utensils. Soft drinks and ice cream will be available, he adds. Following lunch there will be softball games and general relaxation.

Starting at 2 p.m., three farms in the Mount Joy area will be toured. These include the John W. Neff, Wilmer Nisley, and Paul Hess farms.

All beef club members making the trip will get credit for meeting attendance, Smith notes, adding that friends and parents of members are also welcome to come along.

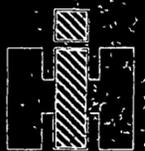
will be distributed at the state level.

Sponsors are the National Grange and the Sears Roebuck Foundation. All projects will be judged on their contribution to community betterment, and all award money must be used for the further improvement of localities in which

(Continued on Page 17)

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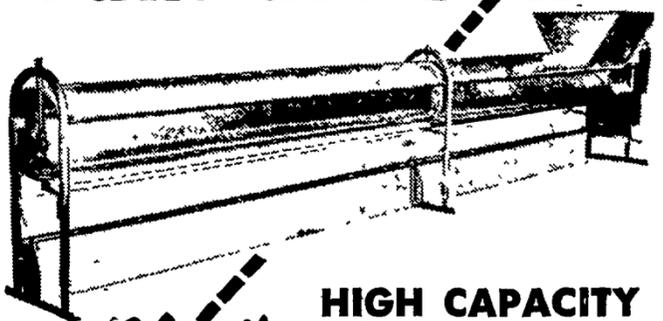
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