

**Eating Out** mated \$28 billion. Almost 3.3 million persons, including part-time workers, are employed in the food service industry during an average week. According to a U.S. Department of Agriculture report, the Food service industry is a major outlet for the food produced in this country. It accounts for an estimated \$28 billion. Almost 3.3 million persons, including part-time workers, are employed in the food service industry during an average week. America has 17 million families, and 22 million dogs.

## Farm Women

### SOCIETY 14

Farm Women Society #14 met Wednesday, September 11, at the Village Vista Nursing Home, Lancaster, where one of the members, Mrs. Mervin Denlinger, is a guest. Hostesses were Mrs. Denlinger, Mrs. Harold Groff, Mrs. Samuel Lynch, and Mrs. Raymond Barge. Mrs. Barge had charge of the devotions.

Members answered roll call by given their pet economy. Donations of \$25.00 were given to Mental Help and \$10.00 to the United Campaign.

Several vocal selections were given by a sextet consisting of the following members: Mrs. F. Edwin Rohrer, Mrs. John Hershey, Mrs. Clarence Groff, Mrs. Harold Groff, Mrs. Christian Landis and Mrs. Mervin Denlinger.

Mrs. Chester Smith was the guest speaker and spoke on handwriting analysis.

The next meeting will be a Food and Plant Sale on October 9 at the home of Mrs. James Hall, Strasburg. Members are reminded that dues will be payable at this meeting.

## Ragweed Control Helps Hayfever Sufferers

One of the most common causes of hayfever is ragweed pollen, one of the most widespread allergens known, says E. M. Rahn, associate professor of horticulture at the University of Delaware. People who are sensitive to this pollen suffer severely, with sneezing, swollen membranes and watering eyes — all symptoms of hayfever.

Both species of ragweed encourage hayfever suffering, says Rahn. Common ragweed, which grows at least three feet high, has green fern-like leaves with tiny greenish-white flowers. Giant ragweed grows from six to ten feet high and has one, three or five lobed leaves with greenish-white flowers. During August and September, both plants release huge quantities of dusty yellow pollen into the areas where people live, work, play or travel to and from their jobs.

Ragweed is especially prevalent in areas where the soil surface has been recently disturbed.

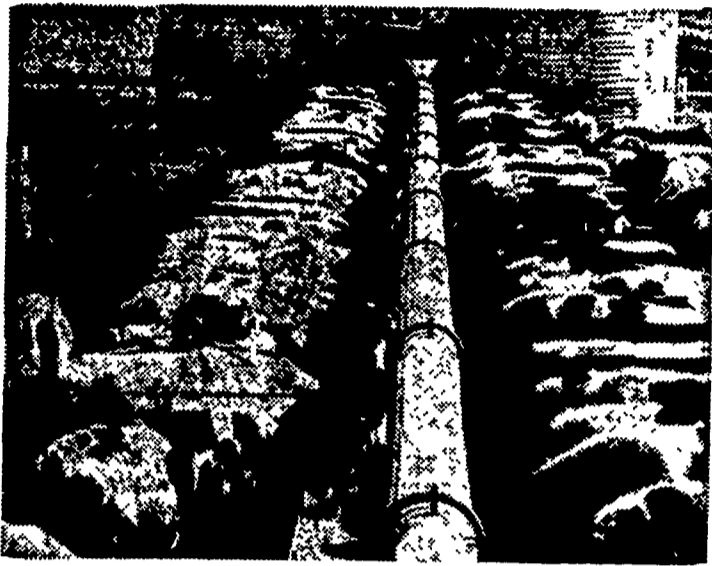
This may occur in construction, and grading areas and in other areas where the soil surface is bare. Ragweed is also fairly common near housing and apartment complexes before these developments are landscaped.

Since hayfever and asthma, often an outgrowth of allergic reactions, are considered to be one of the most serious chronic respiratory diseases in the United States, it is important to eliminate as much ragweed as possible.

Rahn urges property owners, tenants, gardeners, municipal officials and highway officers to eliminate ragweed on a year-round basis, and particularly during the pollen producing season. Control ragweed by spraying with 2,4-D or related compounds, but be particularly careful that drifting spray does not damage other sensitive plants.

Freshly emerged pollen is most irritating to hayfever sufferers, says Rahn. For those people, the critical factor is the pollen concentration at nose level. Proper ragweed control can go a long way in reducing the pollen concentration and will bring a good deal of relief to Delaware's many hayfever sufferers.

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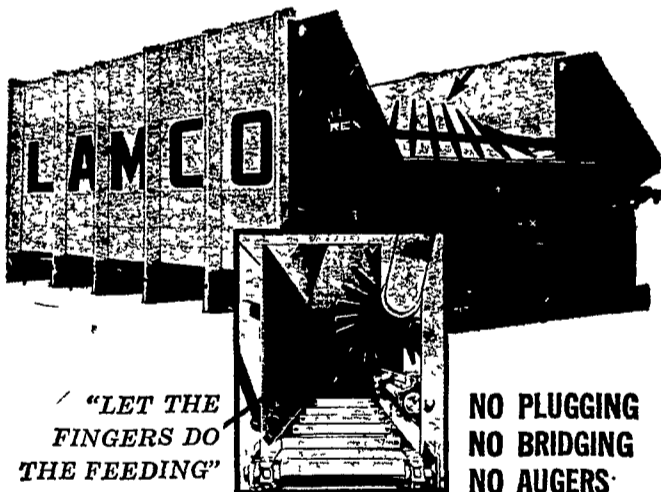
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## Unsound Loans Threaten Farms, Banker Warns

Low farm prices and too-easy credit are going to spell disaster for a number of farmers in the months ahead, a banker and agricultural economist said this week.

Lindley Finch, vice-president of the Continental Illinois National Bank & Trust Co., pointed out at a press briefing that many farmers may be overextended beyond the point of return.

Finch, a widely known authority on farm credit, said there are many more sources of credit open to farmers than there were in the past. These include co-operatives, Government agencies, finance companies, equipment manufacturers and farm suppliers.

The extension of credit at effective interest rates of 12 percent a year or higher makes the farmer's ability to pay debts out of declining profits questionable, he observed.

Ultimately, the failure of the small farmers must lead to more corporate farms, which are more efficient, have tax advantages and can obtain large amounts of capital, according to Finch.

He said that many farmers who are unsophisticated in credit management may borrow for non-income producing facilities. The various lenders may also be unaware of how far the farmer is going into debt.

The agricultural debt is multiplying at a rate 6 times faster than during the period immediately after World War II. This year's debt is expected to total \$50 billion.

The outlook now, Finch said, is for a return to burdensome farm surpluses. There is also doubt, he added, about export markets holding up because more and more countries abroad are becoming agriculturally self-sufficient.

About a ton of ore must be processed, in an average gold mine, to obtain enough gold for an average wedding ring.