

Lancaster Farming

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Clair Witwer Named New FFA President

A hefty, 180 pound wrestler with a modest personality that belies his strong physical build, became the second Lampeter-Strasburg High School FFA student in as many years to be elected president of the Lancaster County FFA Chapter.

Clair Witwer, 16-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Witwer, 617 Strasburg Pike, was picked Monday night at a special County FFA reorganization meeting to follow a schoolmate, Paul Eckman, Strasburg R1, to the top County office.

The entire Lampeter-Strasburg student body was informed of

the unique occurrence Tuesday morning via the public address system and now Clair has a new nickname as one fellow student good-naturedly called him "The Whip."

How does the new president feel about the honor? "Well, I really couldn't believe it at first," he said. When you ask how he will do in wrestling, his favorite sport, he says in his usual reserved way, "I wouldn't say I'll be great — about average." And average is how he assesses his school work with Agriculture and Chemistry as his favorite subjects. But Walter McDanel, his Vo-Ag instructor goes a lot further saying Clair is an excellent student that will be a great Agriculture teacher some day. Ag education is what Clair would like to major in after high school.

Swine breeding and fattening, field corn and veal calves are projects that keep Clair busy on his home farm of 117 acres but it is the veal calves that really hold his interest at this time. He raises the calves from his father's dairy herd on milk replacer for about seven weeks and figures it takes about a \$12 bag of feed to bring each calf to the desired 180 to 200 pounds. At today's market the good veal calf

Christmas Program For Homemakers Set

The annual Homemakers' Christmas Program will again be held on December 4 starting at 10 a.m. at the Farm and Home Center. All county ladies are invited to attend any or all of the day's activities. Lunch will be on your own and the program is as follows:

10:00 a.m.—"Festive Foods for the Holidays" presented by Mrs. Mary Myers, P. P. & L. Home Economist.

11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.—Viewing of exhibits of decorations, gifts, (Continued on Page 6)

Hess Elected Vice President Of Pa. Holstein Association

Elvin Hess, Jr., Strasburg R1 Holstein Breeder, was elected vice president of the Pennsylvania Holstein Association last week at the annual convention held in Gettysburg. Hess is the appointed state director from Lancaster County.

Elected president was George Bridenbaugh, Martinsburg and Robert Curley, Montrose was named Treasurer.

Nearly 600 dairymen from all areas of Pennsylvania and Maryland attended the two-day meeting with the Thursday opening day being devoted to a guided tour of the Battlefield and a visit to the electric map in the National Museum.

Breakfast, sponsored by banks and business firms serving the South Central Pennsylvania area, served to open the business session on Friday. Miss Jamie Smith, Adams County Dairy Princess, welcomed the visitors. Speaker Jack R. Grey, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture for Pennsylvania, recognized the good job being done by dairymen in the Commonwealth. He reported that dairy farm income of \$400 million in Pennsylvania in 1969 was the big factor in pushing agricultural income over the \$1 billion mark for the first time.

Grey reported on studies in progress on possible renovation



Elvin Hess, Jr.

of relocation of the State Fair Show Buildings. He urged dairymen to give careful study to the proposed Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Development Program and to be sure to vote in the referendum early in December.

President Earl Noel, McSherrytown, Adams County, called the annual business meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. In his report to the Association, Noel congratulated the membership for the honors brought to Pennsylvania (Continued on Page 8)



PET VEAL CALVES are Clair Witwer's favorite FFA projects. The 16-year-old Junior at Lampeter-Strasburg High

School was selected County FFA President, Monday night. L. F. Photo

Tobacco Buying Starts Early

The Lancaster County Tobacco market opened about seven weeks early this season as buyers hit the road Monday offering a top price of 34 cents per pound for wrappers and 20 cents a pound for fillers. The straight stripped price was reported at 30 cents a pound, with one rumor that an offer of 33 cents for pull-off was made. That is now denied, however.

Trading was reported slow by industry spokesmen Friday morning with some companies out on Thanksgiving and others observing the holiday. Mark Hess, Agway Representative, summed up the thinking of other companies when he said, "We are finding a larger amount of shed burn and moldy tips than we first had expected. I don't mean to have this reflect on the total crop." He continued, "Where there is no damage the crop is equal to the

best we can produce in the County."

Buying was on the slow side with farmers and buyers alike not quite sure how much of the crop was really sold as of Friday. The reasons given ranged from the early start which left both buyers and farmers uncertain just how much damage from shed burn was present and everyone waiting to see how the market was going to go.

The week of rainy weather during the curing process in the sheds was named the culprit in the tobacco damage in most cases but one spokesman also blamed the over-use of MH 30. MH 30 is a chemical used to control suckers.

Meanwhile, there has been no change during the week in the offered price as farmers and buyers assess the new crop.

Pennsylvania's 1969 tobacco production was 38.0 million pounds, about one percent larger than the crop produced a year ago. The recent 5-year average was 45.2 million pounds.

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Pennsylvania S & W District Endorses Bills

The Pennsylvania Association of Soil and Water Conservation District Directors, Inc., has endorsed and urged early passage of four House Bills dealing with natural resources and the environment of the Commonwealth.

Support for the legislation was adopted by delegates attending the 22nd annual conference of conservationists held Nov. 12-14 at Allentown. The statewide organization includes rural and urban directors from 64 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties.

The pending legislation consists of House Bills 958, 385, 1353 and 1679, dealing with reclamation and revegetation of all strip mined areas, construction of fish ladders at dam sites and an amendment (HB 958) to the State Constitution entitling all citizens "to clean air, pure water and esthetic values of the environment."

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Farm Calendar

Wednesday, Dec. 3
4:15 P.M. — Vo-Ag Teachers meet, WGAL TV

Thursday, Dec. 4
10:00 A.M. — Homemakers' Christmas Program, Farm and Home Center
8:00 P.M. — Lancaster County Poultry Director's meet, Farm and Home Center

Saturday, Dec. 6
Farm and Home Foundation Benefit Antique and Art Auction, Farm & Home Center.

Secretary Lyng Requests Action Of Inter-State Cooperative

Problems as general as the United States Import Policy and as specific as improved milk handling at the store level were discussed at the 52nd annual meeting of Inter-State Milk Producers' Cooperative, Tuesday and Wednesday, November 25 and 26.

Richard E. Lyng, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, United States Department of Agriculture, asserted that the "new team's" first responsibility will be to increase farm income and said "We have been in Washington long enough to know the

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