

● **Keystone**  
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served as chaplain and secretary of his local chapter.

Paul was a state delegate and attended the National FFA Convention in Kansas City. He won the Guernsey calf at the Lampeter Fair in 1967 and had the champion ewe and was named the best fitter in the sheep show. He won the Chapter Sears Gilt.

An interesting project for Eckman was the planting of 1000 pine trees on some unfarmable land. The trees were supplied at a nominal cost but must be left to grow for conservation purposes.

**Thomas Aaron**

Thomas Aaron, son of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Aaron, Quarryville R1, is a member of the Solanco FFA Chapter. Growing up on a 176 acre Registered Jersey Dairy Farm, Aaron received the State Jersey Herdsman Award as the top Jersey boy in the State Association.

His FFA farming projects have included a dairy herd, fat-



Thomas Aaron

tening and breeding swine, corn and alfalfa. Thomas is a vice-president of his local chapter and was the 1969 Lancaster County FFA Chaplain.

He is a member of the County Ayrshire, Jersey Brown Swiss 4-H Dairy Club and plans to stay on the farm and build up the size of their Jersey herd



Matthew Young

**Matthew Young**

Matthew Young, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Young, Peach Bottom R2, lives on a 420 acre dairy farm with a total of 230 dairy animals and 25 steers

Young has FFA projects of dairy heifers, a steer and fattening hogs. In the spring he plans to start 100 feeder pigs, buy a few more dairy animals and raise 10 acres of corn along with working on his family farm

President of the Solanco FFA, Matthew was a delegate to the Pennsylvania Association of Farmer Co ops in Shippensburg and the American Institute of Co-operatives in Illinois

dairy farm which is located near Kinzers. Paul's farming program includes dairy cows, dairy calf and eighty guinea pigs. He also, keeps production records on his father's forty head of cows

Paul is presently serving as president of the Pequea Valley FFA Chapter. He has also served as treasurer and chaplain. Paul will complete his year as county secretary this month. He was a county delegate at the summer State Convention. He is, also, active in church work

Paul won the FFA Quiz at the 1968 Leadership Training Conference and a weed identification contest at Hershey. He has been awarded several chapter awards and was the high seed salesman for Pequea Valley in 1969.



Carl Erb

**Carl Erb**

Carl Erb, son of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel S. Erb, Columbia R2, is the fourth boy in his family to become a Keystone Farmer. A member of the Penn Manor FFA Chapter, Carl is serving as president and had also served as president of the Junior Agriculture Club as a freshman

The Star Farmer when he received the Red Rose Degree. Erb was a member of Penn Manor's winning County parliamentary procedure team last year and was a member of the state poultry judging team. Carl is just finishing his term as County corresponding secretary and was a County delegate in 1968

His farming experience includes small grains, tobacco, corn and hay and he is now under the supervised farming program, working at Huber's Nursery.



Paul Clark

**Paul Clark**

Paul Clark, the son of Mr. and Mrs. David R. Clark, is a senior at the Pequea Valley High School. He works on his father's

**Wanted: Tags With Stay Power**

Ear tagging, the most common way to identify livestock both on a permanent and temporary basis has two disadvantages—tags are easily lost or they become illegible. To eliminate these problems, ARS animal identification specialist N. W. Hooven, Beltsville, Md., is evaluating several types of tags

Showing promise for identification of sheep and lambs, for example, is a new tag made of an oilcloth-like material that is light in weight and yet large enough to be easily seen from a distance. The tag is shaped like a barbell, except that the ends are flat and square. The lamb's nursing ability is not affected by this ear tag as it is with heavier tags. The tag is also being tested on calves and older cattle

Another ear tag under evaluation is made of a lightweight, flexible plastic. One end is square and contains the identification number, the other shaped like an arrow, is punched through the animal's ear with a specially designed tool. In 1-year tests with beef cattle, this tag had about 98 percent retention as compared with some other tags which had only about 77 percent retention

A high level of retention is also found with a plastic tag which is held in place by a four-pointed, star-like projection at the back of the tag

Another type, the basket tag, can be easily seen, says Hooven, and none of them has been lost by cattle. But it is expensive and hard to insert because of the thick skin in this region of the body. Since the tag passes through two folds of skin, infection is more likely to develop and be more difficult to treat than infection from ear tags

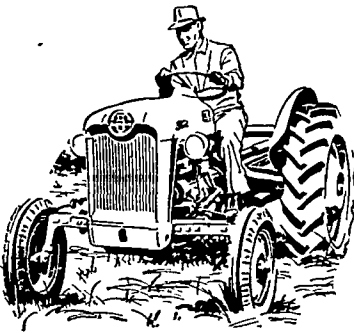
When dairy cattle are milked in herringbone-style parlors, only the hindquarters are visible, making neck chains and ear tags impractical for identifying animals. To help dairymen, Hooven is trying newer methods of identification which can be seen by the person milking the cows. One method is the "flank" tag. Unfortunately, flank tags are difficult to insert and require careful disinfection of the wound area, a time-consuming project for a busy dairyman. And the flank is continually subjected to contamination by dirt and manure, inviting infection. When the cow walks, the flank stretches, irritating the wound and thus prolonging the healing process. Additional work needs to be carried out to overcome some of these disadvantages

Tail tags have been used by dairymen, but Hooven considers them a waste of money. If the tags are not tight, they slide off easily, especially in fly season when the tail is used as a swatter. If, on the other hand, the tags are tight, the blood can't circulate and the animal's tail sloughs off

Several types of tags are also being evaluated on sheep and cattle at Clay Center, Nebr., and Front Royal, Va.

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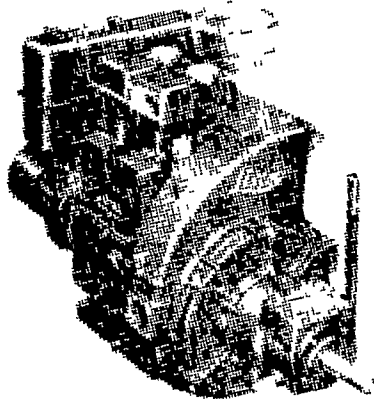
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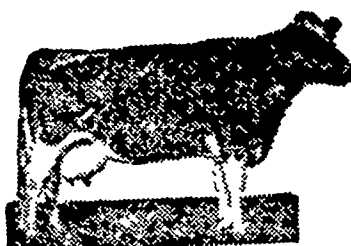
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