

Membership Education Services Committee Boosts Marek's Vaccine, Has Annual Meeting

The membership education services committee of the Pennsylvania Poultry Federation doesn't get involved in many news-making activities, but it is vital to the operational success of the organization, according to Homer Bicksler, executive secretary.

On July 8, Bicksler, who is chairman of the membership education services committee, consulted with Dr. Robert Gentry, poultry research pathologist at Penn State and, following a series of meetings, the Department of Agriculture gave permission to a private firm to manufacture Marek's vaccine. The vaccine is expected to be available to the entire industry within Pennsylvania sometime late this year.

Marek's has been a source of serious losses in the poultry industry in Pennsylvania. When the disease is successfully stopped, the operating costs of the individual producer are expected to be reduced, helping make the entire industry more competitive with other food products.

The committee was responsible for the annual membership meeting and seminar at Hershey June 24. This annual meeting included election of officers and presenta-

tion of awards for outstanding service to the poultry and egg industry in Pennsylvania.

The Federation's award and recognitions this year included "Allied Industryman of the Year," George L. Hauer, past president of the Lebanon Valley Poultry Association and vice president of C. F. Manbeck Co. "Good Egg," a new award to recognize the public servant who has decided to work with poultry youth in the face of many other options, Wayne B. Rentschler, Berks County native and former resident of Lancaster County for 10 years. "Poultryman of the Year," Charles Phillips, pheasant producer, and several awards to youths who have demonstrated success in the poultry and egg business.

Fred Slezak, New Alexandria, was elected president for the coming year. In accepting the position, Slezak praised the work of his predecessor, Donald E. Horn, and stated, "It is the first time the Federation has successfully united the various phases of the poultry industry and I hope to continue it."

Various speakers at the June meeting discussed both current problems and opportunities and

the probable situation during the 1970's. Speakers included "Poultry Housing in the Seventies," David Spague, ag engineer, Ithaca, N.Y., "Housing Layers," Herbert Jordan, poultry extension specialist, Penn State University, Dr. Glenn O. Bressler, department of poultry science, Penn State University, and Glenn Heir, Cloisterdale Farms, Ephrata, "Housing Broilers," Dr. Floyd Hicks, poultry extension specialist, Penn State University, Dr. Carey Quarels, Indian River Poultry Farm, Lancaster, and Harry Hess, J. C. Snavely, Inc., Lancaster.

"The Future of the Poultry Industry in the Seventies," T. M. Reese, vice president and director of Checkerboard Farms Division, Ralston Purina, and "Legislation and Regulatory Development Affecting the Poultry Industry," Dr. Jerome B. Seibert, assistant to the undersecretary, USDA.

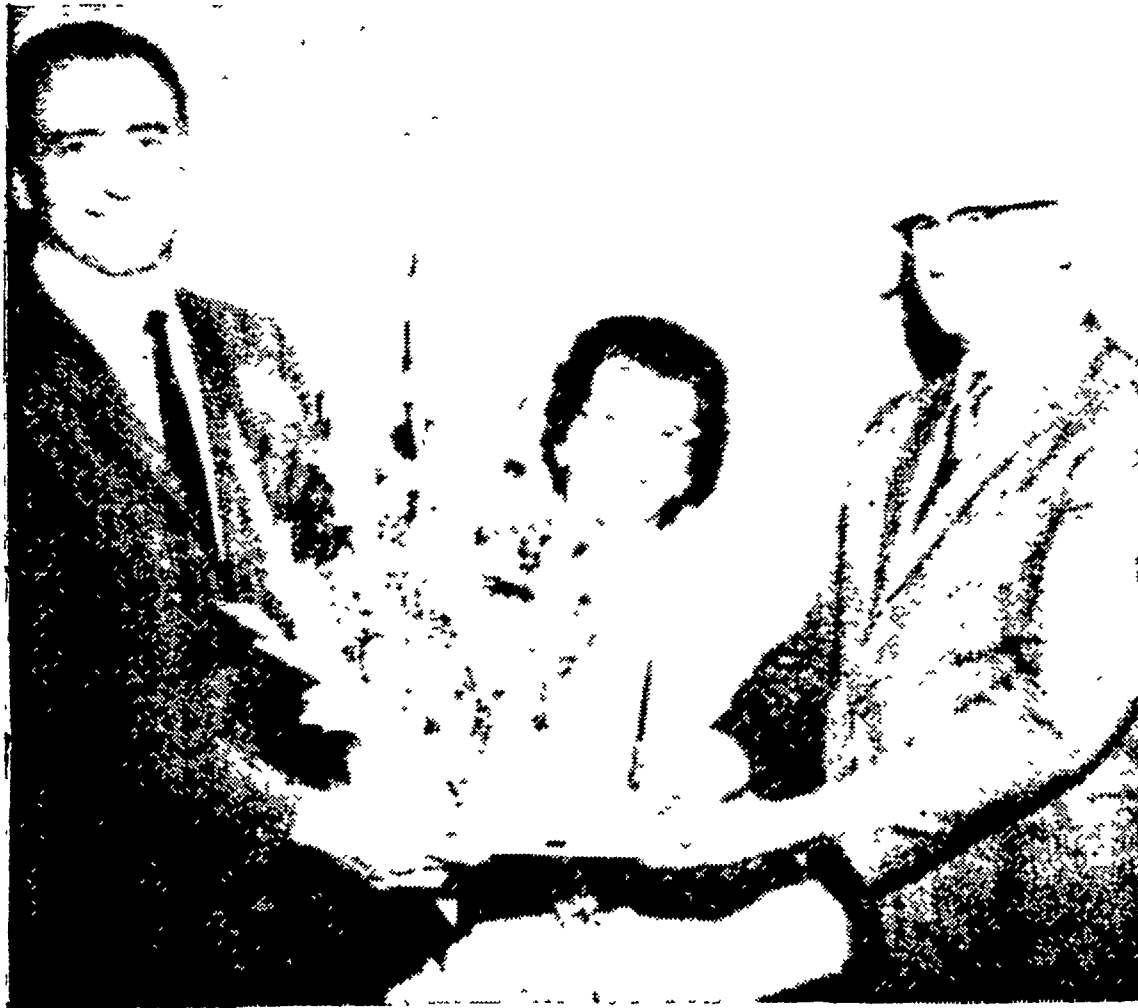
At the Federation's meeting on turkeys in March, speakers were Dr. L. M. Potter, staff member of VPI, Va., discussion of turkey feed formulation, and Dr. William Chandler, Terre Haute, Ind., discussion of turkey diseases.



T. E. Moncrief (right) presents the "Allied Industryman of the Year" award to George L. Hauer, past president of the Lebanon Valley Poultry Association and vice president of C. F. Manbeck Co. Mrs. Hauer participates in the ceremony this Summer.

The membership education services committee also is responsible for the Federation's annual directory. This publication lists the various poultry and egg organizations and their memberships. It's a handy telephone and address guide, a who's who in the Pennsylvania poultry and egg industry.

The members of this committee with Bicksler were George Anthony, Strausstown, Eugene Schlosnagle, Carlisle, Kenneth Goodwin, poultry science, Penn State University, Vernon Norris, Valencia, and Edward Wilson, Emmaus.



Herbert Jordan, poultry specialist, Penn State University, presents the Federation's "Good Egg" award, a new award to recognize service to youth, to Wayne B. Rentschler, a Berks County native and

former resident of Lancaster County. Mrs. Rentschler participates in the ceremony at the Federation's annual meeting this Summer.



William Myer (left) presents the Federation's "Poultryman of the Year" award to Charles R. Phillips, Pillow, while Mrs. Phillips looks on.

Research Committee Supports New Waste Disposal System

The research committee of the Pennsylvania Poultry Federation encourages and promotes research and development of new products and procedures of benefit to the state's poultry and egg industry.

The research committee's efforts this year have gone largely into the major problem area of waste disposal.

The Federation gave \$1,000 to the poultry department of Penn State University to further study the development of better methods of manure disposal.

This Penn State research under the direction of G. O. Bressler already has made major progress toward development of an economical means of converting poultry manure into a saleable product. This automated system, which provides for daily manure removal, removes moisture to a 30 per cent level and eliminates the offensive odor of the manure. This is accomplished by use of fans for drying and a pulley stirring and removal system (Lancaster Farming carried pictures and detailed stories September 12).

Such a system is in actual op-

eration in a 30,000 layer house at Cloisterdale Farms, Ephrata.

Bressler has also developed a system to further reduce the moisture content to about the 10 per cent level and plans are under way to develop this 10 per cent moisture product into a saleable fertilizer. The plans include development of a market for the product.

Some industry officials hope that eventually this new by-product of the poultry industry will at least pay for the cost of manure removal and hopefully provide an important new source of profits. The effort in the future will be to develop markets for the products and devise means of obtaining the product from a large number of poultry and egg producers so that the product will be available in quantity.

It is believed that if manure, which in the past has been primarily a costly waste product, can be converted into a profitable and saleable product, it will be a major breakthrough for the industry.



Members of the "Broiler Housing" panel at the Federation's annual meeting this Summer are, left to right: Harry Hess, J. C. Snavely, Inc., Lancaster; Dr.

Floyd Hicks, poultry extension service, Penn State University, and Dr. Carey Quarels, Indian River Poultry Farm, Lancaster.