

# Wine Conference Held

Proper site selection, based on favorable climate, is the backbone of establishing vineyards for wine grapes, it was reported December 4 and 5 at the Third Pennsylvania Wine Conference at Pennsylvania State University.

Dr. Carl W. Haeseler, Penn State scientist in fruit growing, said climatic conditions seem quite favorable for growing wine grapes in several localities of southcentral and southeastern counties of the Commonwealth. Dr. Haeseler indicated climatic factors favor wine grape production in the vicinity of Bethlehem, Gettysburg, Lancaster,

York, George School, and Philadelphia. The same is also true of the prominent grape growing belt along Lake Erie in Erie County.

In general, the greatest factors to be overcome seem to be winter injury and disease. South eastern Pennsylvania may have more difficulty in these respects than does the Lake Erie area, he pointed out. The southern counties receive more rainfall, have higher mean monthly temperatures, and can expect temperatures of minus five degrees Fahrenheit or lower more frequently than the shores of Lake Erie.

He claimed that sites for growing wine grapes should have protection from cold prevailing winter winds. There should also be good drainage and the soil should be well drained. Temperatures should seldom reach five degrees below zero Fahrenheit or lower.

The southcentral and southeastern areas of Pennsylvania are superior to the Lake Erie shores with respect to "growing-degree days." This is a term used to describe heat units. All the locations described as favorable for producing wine grapes have an adequate number of growing-degree days.

In reporting his findings, Dr. Haeseler called attention to Progress Report 303 of the Agricultural Experiment Station at Penn State. The report is entitled "Climatic Factors and the Potential for Wine Grape Production in Several Areas of Pennsylvania." He said copies are available from county offices of the Cooperative Extension Service or from the Agricultural Mailing Room, 110 Service Building, University Park, Pa. 16802.

Interest in producing wine grapes has grown with the passage in state legislature of a bill permitting sale of table wine at the winery. The bill permits the sale of table wine at the winery provided annual production by a given winery does not exceed 50,000 gallons per year. Wineries are now located in Erie and Chester counties.

## Ephrata YF Workshop Set

A workshop for Ephrata Young Farmers members interested in shop work and machinery repairs will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 29, at the high school.

Woodwork, welding, cutting, steam cleaning, repairs and painting are possible.

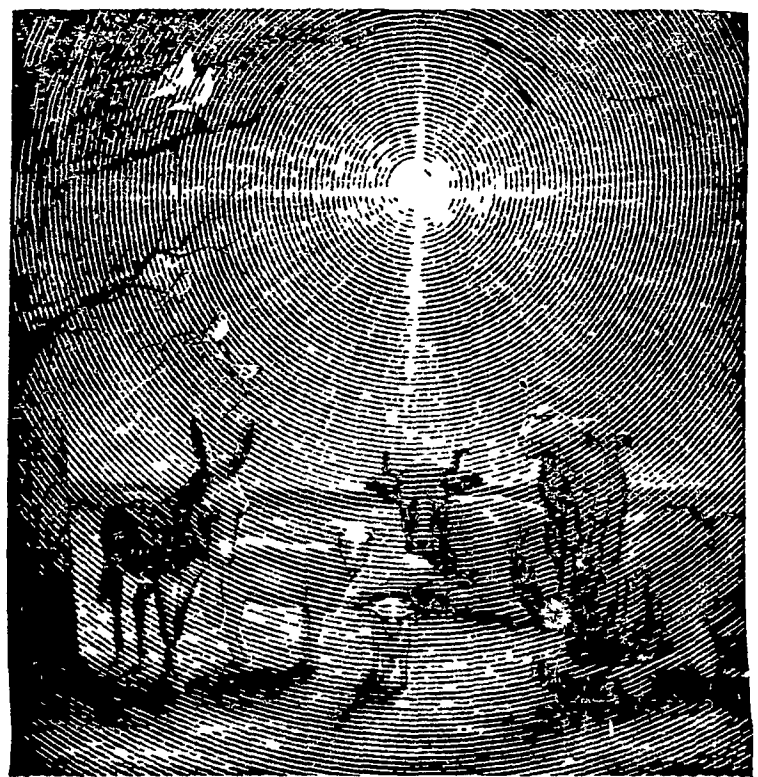
Further information on the workshop may be obtained by contacting Charles E. Ackley. Registration must be completed by noon, Wednesday, Dec. 23.

## Dr. Bressler Recuperating

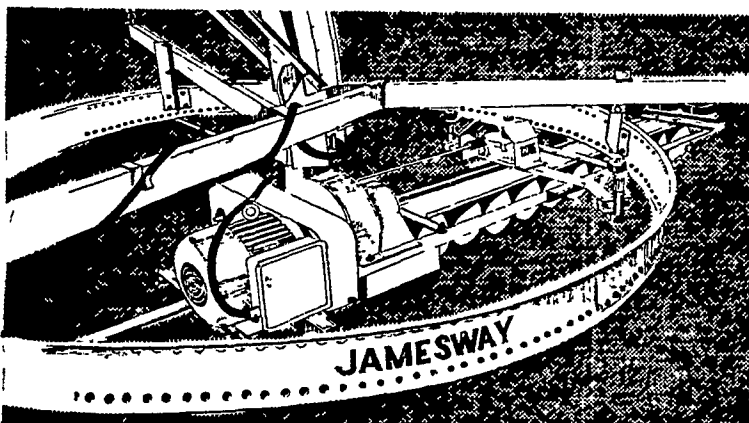
Dr. Glenn Bressler, a Penn State poultry management researcher, is reported recuperating at home in State College following a heart attack in Harrisburg last month which hospitalized him for 17 days.

Dr. Bressler is well-known nationally in the poultry industry for his research on drying of poultry manure for commercial use.

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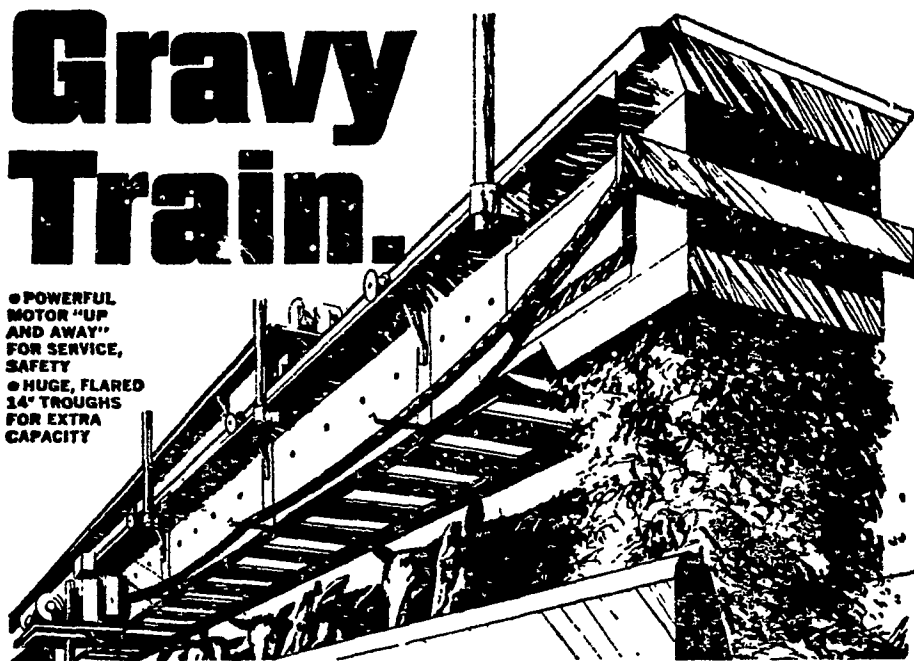
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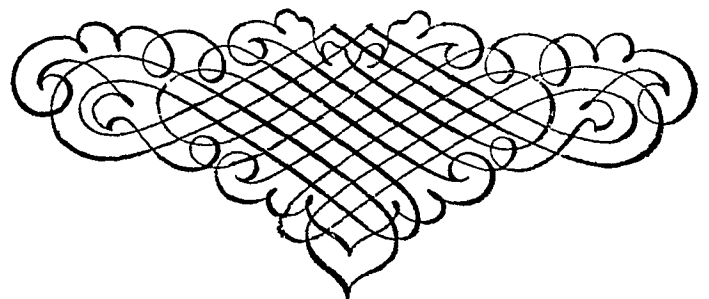
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