

Robert P. Simon Named to Receive Honorary American Farmer Degree

Robert P. Simon, Eastern Lancaster County School Superintendent, has been named to receive the Honorary American Farmer Degree at the 44th Nat-

ional FFA Convention, October 14, at Kansas City, Mo. The award recognizes outstanding service to the FFA. Only a few of the awards are given

nationally each year. Simon is one of the few school administrators in Pennsylvania ever to receive the award.

Simon taught mathematics, social studies, science, and industrial arts at New Holland High School from 1941 through 1951, with time out to serve in the U.S. Navy to 1944-1946.

He was principal and teacher at Terre Hill school from 1951-1956 and principal of Garden Spot High School from 1956-1957. In 1957 he was named Supervising principal of the Eastern Lancaster County school District and remained in that position until 1966 when he was named Superintendent of the Eastern Lancaster County School District.

He is a member of the American Association of School Administrators, former President of the Lancaster Area School Study Council, First President and recent Secretary of SPEED-IER, the five county educational development and implementation organization.

Simon is a member of Trinity Lutheran Church, New Holland, vice president of the congregation, chairman of stewardship, and has spent over 20 years as teacher in the adult Sunday school class.

He has been active in Boy Scouts of America for the past 39 years. He holds the rank of Eagle Scout and has been a scout master for five years. He is also a former district chairman.

He is a member of Lodge #556 of F & AM, and is active in the Sheep Hill Beagle Club.

Among accomplishments cited in receiving the award were

"He was instrumental in getting a Vocational Agriculture Department authorized and established in the Garden Spot High School, where for 20 years, it was said it wasn't wanted or needed nor would it gain the acceptance and support of the community."

He was instrumental in getting a Young Farmer Program started at Garden Spot and paving the way for a fulltime Young Farmer instructor.

He helped establish a junior agriculture program in the seventh and eighth grades and helped organize and get a fulltime teacher for the elementary agriculture program of the district, now in its fourth year with over 500 students in the sixth grade. The junior program "has gained national attention and has served as a pilot program for other schools."

He coordinated the efforts between the community and the vocational-agriculture program in offering adult education courses for off-farm agriculture businesses.

Simon has previously received several awards including: certificates of appreciation from

both the local FFA Chapter and Young Farmers, Honorary Chapter Farmer Degree, and Honorary Keystone Farmer Degree in 1963. He was the first Lancaster County administrator to receive the coveted Keystone award.

Simon has also attended many local, state, and national FFA events, including the National FFA Convention, to witness the Grassland FFA Chapter receiving the National Gold Emblem Award.

Conservation District Holds Regular Meeting

The Lancaster County Soil and Water Conservation District met Thursday evening, August 5.

Larry Krick from the Lancaster County Planning Commission ask the district directors for their help on the new county comprehensive plan.

New cooperatives are: Ivan Bowman Jr., 75 acres in Paradise Township; Preston W. Newcomer, 133 acres in West Hempfield Township; Donald Mutchler, 21 acres in East Hempfield Township; Bunarco, Inc., 114 acres in Martic Township; Jefferson S. Hartzler, 55 acres in East Donegal Township; Amos L. Stoltzfus, 15 acres in Salisbury Township, and Glenn Hershey, 73 acres in Penn Township.



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