## Pork Merchandising Discussed

Pork customers in the future are going to need and demand more product information and greater convenience, believes Thomas F. Mayer, fresh meat merchandiser for Jewel Food Stores, Inc.

Mayer was one of the principal speakers at the 2nd Annual Pork Promotion-Education Workshop sponsored by the Pork Industry Committee of the National Live Stock and Meat Board in Chicago recently

He elaborated by saying that more specific information on the preparation and use of pork will be needed because many young customers may have by-passed mother's training in cookery.

Therefore, in addition to their usual skills, "the merchandiser and the entire pork industry in the decade ahead will have to be well versed on meat cookery so that recipe and menu planning will be a vital part of their merchandising strategy," he said

The need for quick preparation is also going to be an important consideration, and "this may mean a need for new cuts and new ideas from packers," Mayer continued.

The customer will continue to demand honesty in advertising and labelling. And she's going to be more interested in such things as the nutritional value of pork and how important it is for the well-being of her family.

Variety is another important customer demand, according to Mayer, who went on to say that processors "have found more ways to process and apckage pork than for any other group of meat products They have given us the variety the housewife demands"

Freshness is also one of the customer's primary concerns. "She may know nothing of the producing or processing end of the business, but she can spot a bad ham at the far end of the store," Mayer continued

"And because she feels a deep sense of responsibility to her family to see that they get fresh wholesome food, woe be it to the store or industry that lets her down."

The customer is able to make these demands because: "she is the complete boss of our business," said Mayer. "If she picks up a chicken instead of a pork roast, regardless of her reason, we go out and buy more chicken. And if she picks up a ham instead of a turkey, we go out and buy more ham.

"She is the one who ultimately decides whether to buy or not to buy — and if she does buy, what to buy. It is through her that all of us can hope to exist, and she is the person to whom all merchandising must be directed."

With market conditions as they are and as they have been predicted, Mayer says that retailers cannot only draw new customers to their stores, but

## AFBF Notes Changes In Its Farm Magazine

New editorial goals and a new look have prompted a change in name for the nation's second largest general farm-circulation magazine.

Effective with the February, 1972 issue, The American Farmer will be the name of the former Nation's Agriculture, published by the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Emphasis will be on the business aspect of agriculture, according to William J. Kuhfuss, president, American Farm Bureau Federation. "This will provide farmers and ranchers with information needed to make management decisions in light of today's social, economic and political conditions," he said.

The American Farmer will be circulated to more than 2,000,000 families in 2,820 counties in 49 states and Puerto Rico.

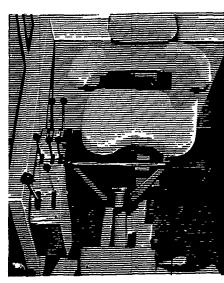
Steve Van Slyke, editor, and Jerry Claar, advertising director, will continue to serve in the same positions for The American Farmer.

Six states account for 60 per cent of the United States wheat output. Kansas, which produces almost twice the number of bushels as the next ranking state, leads in wheat production.

must introduce even more to the old-timers to get them and keep them in the pork buying mood.

"Our customers are porkminded. Now we've got the monentum going and let's keep it going," concluded Mayer. New York City's Bronx was named for Jonas Bronck, the first European to settle there. From the saying, "We will visit the Broncks," came the name Bronx. Bronck flew the flag that became the model for the flags of the city and state of New York.

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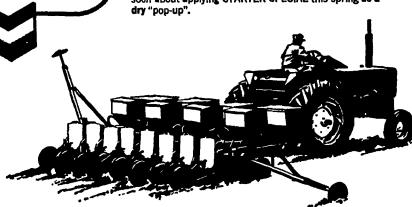
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