

## Blue Mountain FFA Student Wins Area Speaking Contest

The Berks-Lebanon-Schuylkill County FFA public speaking contest was held last week at Conrad Weiser High School.

Speakers in the contest were: Nevin Mast, Twin Valley FFA president, "Soybeans - Miracle Crop to Feed the Hungry World"; Ronald Myers, Conrad Weiser, FFA, "Hunger"; Nelson Heagy, Annville-Cleona FFA, "Neatness Does it Matter?"; Glenn Gingrich, Cedar Crest FFA, "Agricultural Machinery Management"; Steve Bixler, Tri-Valley FFA, "Pesticides"; Eugene Eckroth,

Blue Mountain FFA, "Water Pollution". These speakers represented the first and second place winners from each of the three counties.

Selected to represent the Berks - Lebanon - Schuylkill County area at the Eastern Regional contest were Eugene Eckroth, first place, Ronald Myers, second place, and Nevin Mast, third place. These three speakers competed against FFA members from 19 other Eastern Pennsylvania Counties at Lehigh County Vo-Tech school May 2.

Judges for the contest were Dr. Glenn Stevens, Penn State University agricultural education department, Charles Lebo, assistant State supervisor, agricultural education, Pennsylvania Department of

Education, Earl Horst, supervisor of instruction, Lebanon County Vo-Tech School.

Included in the activities at Conrad Weiser was the area Parliamentary Procedure contest, with one team from each County competing.

This contest was won by the Lebanon County team from Northern Lebanon County High School, coached by J. Ray Bickel. Second place went to the Schuylkill County team from Blue Mountain High School, coached by Philip Lobaugh, and third place was awarded to the Berks County team from Governor Mifflin High School, coached by Peter Boyer and Lynn Stoudt.

The area contests were coordinated by Harvey Smith, area

vocational consultant for Berks-Lebanon-Schuylkill counties.

## Broiler Chicks Up

Broiler chick placements throughout the Commonwealth rebounded sharply recently to 1,191,000 according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service, a joint venture of the Pennsylvania and U.S. Departments of Agriculture.

This is a two per cent improvement over each of the preceding two weeks, but still 10 per cent below the same week in 1971.

The 10-week average of broiler chick placements is now running about even with the same period a year earlier after being consistently ahead of 1971 through the first quarter of 1972.

A substantial portion of the egg production for the broiler-type chick hatch in the state continues to be shipped out of Pennsylvania and the number is increasing. About 255,000 were shipped interstate recently which is 14 per cent of the total set for hatch in the Commonwealth during the same period and up 38 per cent from a year earlier.

Pennsylvania ranks 12th in the nation for broiler production. Recently 1,598,000 broilers were slaughtered under federal inspection with the average weight 4.02 pounds.

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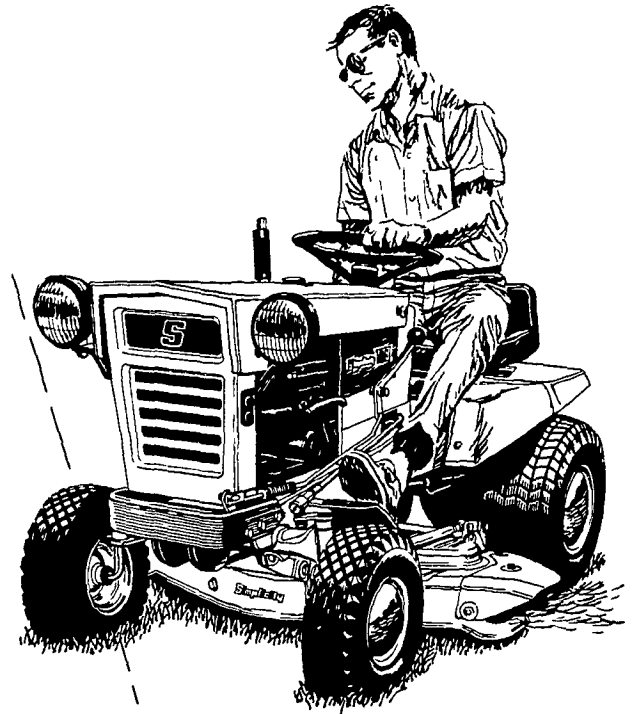
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