

Experience with Farm Records Handy for County Farm Women Treasurer

By Mrs. Charles McSparran
Farm Feature Writer

Mrs. J. Clayton (Dorothy) Charles, Lancaster RD2, who is finishing a two-year term as treasurer of the Society of Farm Women of Lancaster County says "I've enjoyed the work. I love to work with figures." As county treasurer she keeps the books, prepares the treasurer's written report for the annual county convention, collects county dues, collects for the scholarship fund and the migrant workers fund and miscellaneous functions.

The county project this year is the Lancaster Association for Retarded Children. Their contribution will amount to well over \$1,000 this year. Last year their project was the Child Development Center.

She represented the county Farm Women at the Fulton County annual convention this year and attended the meetings of at least 12 or 15 different local Societies since she was treasurer. She visited some of the Societies more than once. She attended the county board bi-monthly meetings and was hostess for the April meeting this year. The county convention will be held November 4 at the Lancaster School of the Bible.

Mrs. Charles joined Farm Women Society 23 about 11 years ago and has been a very active member ever since. She served two years as their president and has been on the ways and means



Mrs. Charles adds the whipped cream topping to her pumpkin chiffon pies.

committee this year. This committee has food stands at farm and household sales and sells vanilla and dish cloths.

Mrs. Charles was hostess for the Society's annual family picnic this year when 60 people attended. They also had a business meeting and Earl Groff showed pictures he took in Russia. Society 23 selected Dorothy as Farm Woman of the

Year and she will compete with representatives from other local societies at the convention November 4. The county winner will go on to the state contest.

Farm Society 23 has 21 members and they meet in the homes of the members. They support a Korean orphan through the Christian Children's Fund. They provide treat money for some children at Hamburg State School. They buy birthday and Christmas gifts for two children there. They support the County Farm Women projects. Their main project is supporting needy people in their local area.

The Charles' own and operate a 65 acre farm, 50 acres tillable ground, on Habecker Church Road in Manor Township. They keep 83 head of Holsteins, most of which are registered. Forty-five of these are milking and the rest are heifers. They usually have close to 550 pounds fat average and one year their average was 569 in DHIA testing. Their prefix for their herd is Carlos Villa.

J. Clayton is the fourth generation to own and farm this place. After graduating from high school he took one year at Millersville State College and intended to go on to Penn State to be an Ag teacher but conditions at home made it feasible to help there. After his father's death he bought the farm and has operated it for 13 years.

They do not have regular hired help Mrs. Charles helps at the barn mornings and evenings. If

they need extra help for some special jobs or to take over when they are away Clayton's brother helps. By using a bale thrower and a conveyor Clayton can do the baling alone. He raises corn for silage and alfalfa, then buys a grain ration in a pelleted form for his herd. He has a free stall, bunk feeder set-up and a pipeline from a milking parlor to the bulk tank. They have three milker units and can milk nine cows at a time. Inter-State buys their milk and it is shipped to Penn Dairies.

Clayton is a member of the Pennsylvania Farmers Association, the Holstein-Friesian Association of America, Inter-State Milk Producers Co-op and Manor Young Farmers.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles have two sons. John is 11 and is in sixth grade at Millersville Middle School. Tommy is nine and in third grade at Hambright Elementary School. Both boys are taking piano lessons. They had a flower garden this summer and helped to work in the yard. They feed the calves. They like sports as does their dad. John has a postage stamp collection. John is the fourth generation to have the name John Clayton.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles are members of the East Chestnut Street Mennonite Church in Lancaster. Clayton is church treasurer. Dorothy is director of the Children's Department of the Sunday School. They are planning their Christmas program now and will also give it at Water Street Rescue Mission. She taught fifth grade at Bible School at their church this past summer.

She is also secretary of the Evangelism committee. They have services at Water Street Rescue Mission the second Wednesday night of every month. They plan programs for any outreach program. They had a

fellowship supper this summer at Charles' when about 40 men from Water Street Mission and about 70 church people attended. They brought the men from the mission there by bus. These men mingled with the church people and needless to say they enjoyed the home cooked bounteous meal. This committee is promoting book rack evangelism by putting tract holders in a couple stores in their church area. They keep the racks filled with good literature. They take no profit from the sales. The storekeeper gets the profit.

Mrs. Charles is a member of the Women's Fellowship of the church. Their main concern is sewing but the church men have been repairing condemned homes in the southern part of Lancaster City so they can be lived in and the Women's Fellowship cleaned one house after the men had repaired it. These women also have a mother-daughter banquet once a year and have a program, usually on a missionary line.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles are members of the Hambright PTA. They formerly belonged to Ann LeTort Elementary PTA. Clayton served as president and Dorothy was on the hospitality committee.

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Mrs. J. Clayton Charles, Lancaster RD2, is preparing for her treasurer's annual report at the Lancaster County Farm Women's convention.

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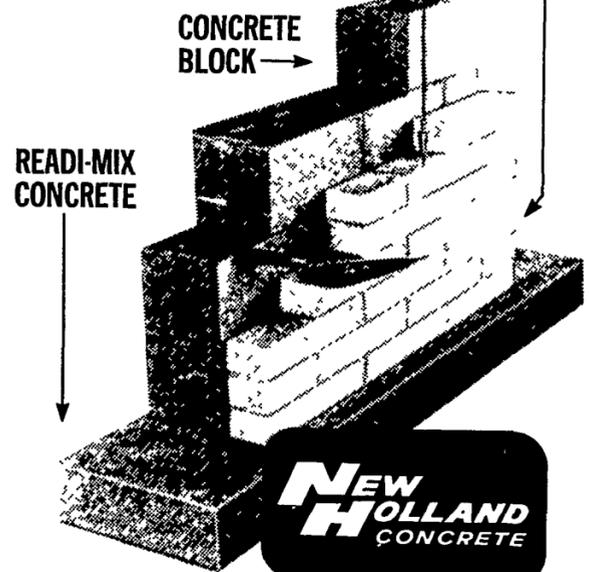
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