

Carl Brown Slated to M.C. Dairy Conference

The planning committee of the 8th Annual Southeastern Dairy Conference announced that the master of ceremonies for this year's event will be Carl A. Brown, manager of Farm Credit Services for the Production Credit Administration in Lancaster for eight years. Well known to area farmers, the Luzerne County native has

completed 16 years with Farm Credit since he started with the organization in Tunkhannock.

This year's event will be staged at the Sales Barn on Route 30 east of Lancaster, beginning at 9:30 A.M. on Tuesday, February 6. Coffee and donuts will be available from 8:30 until 9:15 for early arrivals, and lunch will be served to all at noon. All dairymen and their families and interested parties are invited for an interesting and entertaining day. The program will conclude at 3:15.

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FFA Mail Order Band Presents Concerts

In this era of folk, rock and other varieties of music, a "mail order band" stole the musical show this week during the 57th Pennsylvania Farm Show.

This year marked the 35th consecutive appearance of the FFA Band at the Tuesday evening show in the large arena.

The FFA Band was formed in 1938 by Dr. Henry S. Brunner, a teacher of vocational agriculture at Oley High School. Dr. Brunner continued to direct the band for the next ten years. With an increased work load as Head of the Department of Agriculture Education at the Pennsylvania State University and Director of the National FFA Band he turned his duties as director of the State FFA Band over to Dr. James W. Dunlop, who is also director of the famous Penn State Blue Band. This year was Dr. Dunlop's 25th year as director—a quarter of a century of dedicated service to helping farm youth develop and present the two concerts on Tuesday evening in the large arena and Wednesday afternoon in the Forum at the State FFA Convention.

Some of the heart warming moments come in the opening sessions of rehearsals, when fathers, who played in the State FFA band in years past, make themselves known to Dr. Dunlop.

This year's band was composed of 55 boys and 12 girls representing 26 counties and 39 school districts of our Commonwealth. Harvey A. Smith, Pennsylvania Department of Education is the Chairman and describes the band as mail order from the manner in which it is organized each year. Each applicant lists typical selections which he or she has played in his respective high school band. Some of the selections are "Festival Overture," "Shastrakovich," "Russian Christmas Music," "Reid and Troika from Lieutenant Kije Suite."

Three members from this band were nominated to represent

Pennsylvania at the National FFA Convention in Kansas City, Missouri in October.

Once the members of the FFA Band arrived in Harrisburg they followed a tight schedule of practice and discipline before a concert is ready to be performed. Between noon Sunday and noon Wednesday they participated in 12 rehearsals at the Camp Curtin Methodist Church. Their day began at 8:00 a.m., with breakfast and ended at 9:00 p.m. with bed check.

Area members of the band are: Berks County - Larry Stoltzfus, Beth McDonnell, Thomas Carskadon, Alfred B. Adam, Charles A. Goss and Libby Miller; Chester County - Jeffrey Austin. Lancaster County - Greg Landis and Joseph Metzler; Lebanon County - Craig M. Butt, Fred Baal and Douglas Martin. York County - Doug Kelgore.

Simmental Heifer Born At Beechdale Farms

A purebred Simmental heifer calf was born on December 27, 1972, at Beechdale Farms, Bird-In-Hand. Believed to be the first such purebred born in Eastern United States of this exotic breed of Swiss dual-purpose cattle, the calf thus joins a herd of cross-blood Simmentals owned by Dr. Thomas D. Conrad.

Simmental cattle are one of the oldest and most widely distributed of all breeds of cattle, numbering some 35 million throughout Europe. Noted for their size, disposition, fertility, conformation, milk performance, weaning weights, and carcass quality, the Simmental breed has attracted and excited progressive cattlemen here in the United States, particularly in western states, such as Montana, Texas and Kentucky.

Beechdale Farms' first

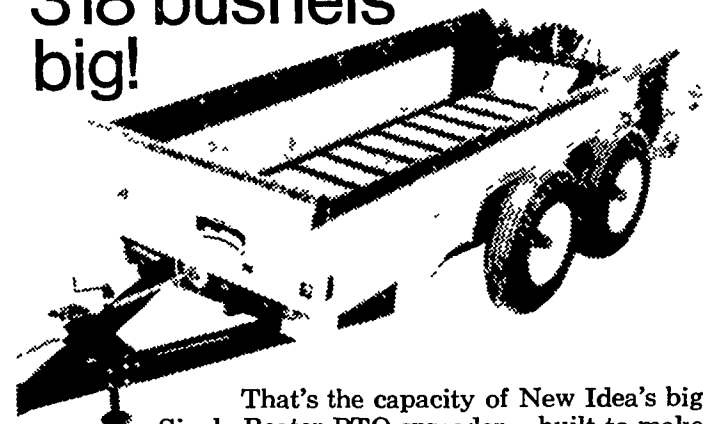
purebred Simmental is out of a 21-month old heifer with three-quarter Simmental blood and one-fourth Hereford. Beechdale's herd is exclusively Simmental blood ranging from one-half to three-quarters with original foundation dams being, in addition to Hereford, Hereford-Shorthorn crosses, Hereford-Angus crosses, Hereford-Red Angus crosses, Angus-Charolais crosses, Guernsey and Holstein.

Conrad expects the Simmentals to sweep the nation in a few years and replace the traditional English breeds (Hereford, Shorthorn and Angus) in the market place.

Conrad, a professional consultant, claims "the economics of this new breed, if studied by open-minded cattlemen, are most convincing and encouraging."

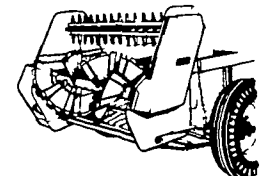
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