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MEMBER F D I C

Mich. 4-H'ers

(Continued From Page 1)

we haven't been able to bale yet." He said that neighbors are having difficulty planting their crops, especially soybeans.

Josie, who was to have had a garden project this summer says she may not have one because she's never been able to get her garden planted. She said, "I was really surprised to see women picking beans here. The crops at home aren't doing much." About the landscape, she said, "It's a lot flatter at home - it's so pretty here."

Mrs. Ray Moll, who along with her husband is a chaperone for the busload of 4-H'ers, said that the growing season seems to be further along here, probably because of a harder, longer winter in Michigan. She said, "Most farmers at home are just getting in their first cutting of hay."

Mark hails from Monroe County in the southeast corner of Michigan, bordering on Lake Erie, and he explains that the soil they cultivate is "lake bottom - it has water in it all the time." To combat this problem, they must "tile" the land, that is, dig trenches and lay tile for drainage, being careful to put it deep enough that they don't plow it up.

He said his county is mostly agriculture, with a lot of truck farming, but he added, "We're starting to be squeezed out by Detroit and Toledo." His father, grandfather and three brothers farm about 600 acres of land, raising sheep and hogs, and growing "everything they grow here." "There are a lot of soybeans around our area," he says.

The one thing he misses in Lancaster County is sheep. Mark has had a sheep project for 7 years in 4-H, and for the last two he has had a beef project as well. He's a senior and hopes to major in Ag Engineering when he



Elmer D. Lapp, Kinzers RD1, delighted visiting Michigan 4-H'ers with a demonstration of his lead Belgian horse. One girl later recalled that she had finally learned the meaning of "gee" and "haw".

graduates. He's on the county 4-H livestock judging team.

Mark said he finds the people here "more easy-going" than in Michigan, but basically he said, "We're just all hard-working farmers."

Mrs. Marian Brenneman, RD1, Mount Joy, a 4-H leader who is hosting the Molls, said about the exchange, "I love it. I enjoy meeting people and it's fun to learn about how others handle their 4-H work."

That's another benefit of the exchange, and in this case the differences can be quite interesting. Mrs. Moll had the opportunity to visit the Mt. Joy Busy Bakers, a first year cooking club of which Mrs. Brenneman is a leader, and the visiting girls attended the Mountville 4-H Club where Nancy is a teen leader for

knitting. They all agreed that there is a vast difference in the way club work is handled.

Josie said, "Here there is more of a set way to follow. At home girls decide for themselves what they will make, for instance in first year sewing. If they have experience, they can make a dress or whatever they want. They do not need to follow an exact sequence of projects, as you must here."

Each project is then judged individually, not compared with other projects of the same year. "There are no record books," she said.

Josie said, "The advantage of the way we do it is that it allows you to use your ability a little more."

Nancy said she feels the (Continued On Page 20)

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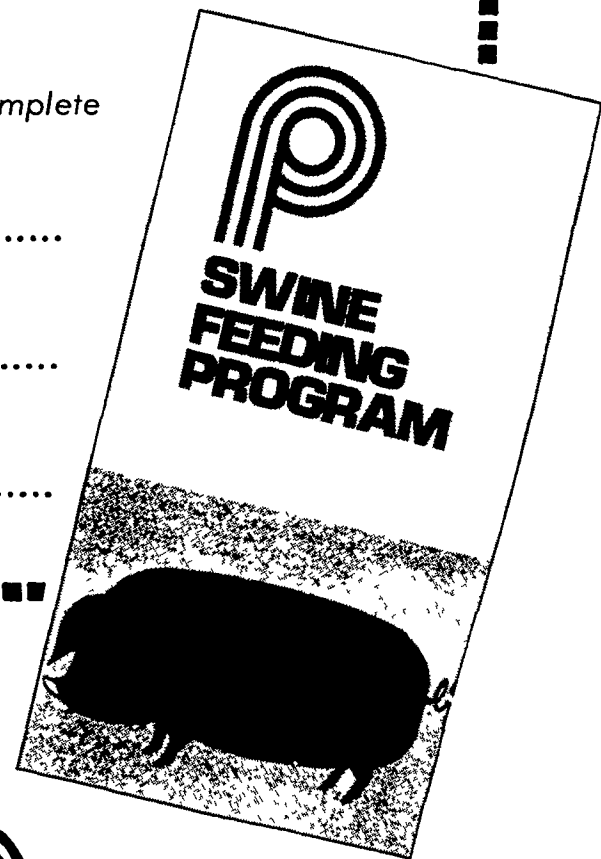
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