Mary Pruss Shows Champion 4-H Capons

With 90 4-H members each exhibiting two dressed capons, or 180 birds, Miss Mary Pruss of Wayne County won the grand champion honors at the Wayne-Pike 4-H Capon Roundup. She exhibited the grand champion pair of birds, which were of the Penobscot strain, each weighing ten pounds. Mary is seventeen years old and has been in 4-H club work for seven years.

The reserve grand champion award was cap-

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tured by Charles Shushenick, also of Wayne County.

This two county roundup has become in ten years the largest in continental United States and perhaps the world. These youngsters in Wayne and Pike counties raise and market more than 5,000 capons each year. Dayold cockerels are purchased from Mattern's Hatchery, Beaver Springs, Pa., and distributed in basic units of thirty-five chicks to each 4-H member in late May. The

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basic unit is provided by a local Rotary Club member, but 4-H members are free to purchase additional chicks. This year two 4-H members raised 600 capons. The birds are caponized at approximately twenty-one days of age by county extension agents and senior 4-H members. Currently five 4-H members are able to caponize proficiently.

At roundup time each 4-H member presents his Rotary sponsor with a dressed capon in repayment for the chicks provided. The Rotary Club members visit and correspond with the 4-H members, creating in many cases a close friendship between the town businessman and the rural young person.

John Creighton, Wayne County Agent and Richard Plotts, Associate County Agent, have built this program into an annual \$45,000 gross business. When the aid of a second Rotary Club was enlisted two years ago, Pike County 4-H members under the direction of Joseph Staley, County Agent, joined the program. In the course of the program several hundred youngsters have learned basic principles of poultry production, processing and marketing, as well as sound



Mary Pruss, Grand Champion of the Wayne-Pike 4-H Capon Round-Up, exhibits her winning birds.

business practices. These youngsters usually bank more than \$1.00 per bird profit each year. Some have made as high as \$2-3 per bird when good management, good luck, and a good market all have been favorable. More information may be obtained by writing to Mr. John Creighton, Agricultural County Agent, Wayne County Courthouse, Honesdale, Pa. 18431.

Pennfield Promotes Harter

James H. Harter, a 15-year veteran of L. M. Sheaffer Company, Pennfield Corporation's Egg Division, has been named maintenance supervisor for the division. His promotion was announced by Donald E. Horn, general manager of L, M. Sheaffer, who added that the position was newly created. Harter will handle operational and preventive

maintenance of equipment and machinery for the processing plants and Pennfield Farms. He plans to expand the new department in the future.

Before joining Pennfield, the Ephrata High School graduate was employed by Harter's Grocery Store in Ephrata. He resides in Akron with his wife, Eleanor, and five children.

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, January 12, 1974–17

Wickert Named Executive VP

John D. Wickert has been named senior executive vice president of Dauphin Deposit Trust Co., W. D. Lewis, Dauphin Deposit President, has announced.

Wickert, of 805 Mandy Lane, Camp Hill, had been senior vice president of National Central Bank.

He is secretary-treasurer of the Pennsylvania Bankers Association Political Action Council, the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance agency, the American Bankers Association Third Federal Reserve Lending Advisory Board, the Board of Clark Aviation Corp., the Advertising and Control Board for the Pennsylvania National Horse Show and on the support committee for the Hemlock Council, Girl Scouts.

Wickert is Past Chairman of the Pennsylvania Bankers Association lending committee and of the Downtown Harrisburg Association. He also has been active in United Fund solicitations.

He is married to the former Yvonne M. Miller, of New Cumberland and they have three children.

He is a member of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Camp Hill, the Country Club of Harrisburg, West Shore Country Club, Harrisburg Kiwanis Club, Tuesday Club, West Shore Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Harrisburg Chamber of Commerce.

Wickert is an alumnus of Erskine College, Muhlenberg College and the Stonier Graduate School of Banking, Rutgers University.



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