



## ED ESHLEMAN'S WASHINGTON REPORT

Any year when congressional elections are on the immediate horizon, you can make a pretty safe bet that someone will begin talking about tax reform.

Of course, everyone favors equalizing the tax burden as much as possible. But, too often, when the talk gets translated into action, the great reform movement ends up putting more of the burden on the shoulders of the average, middle-income wage earner.

What you have to realize is that some of the tax reformers in Congress are interested in something completely different from the prime concerns of the taxpayer. These

congressional reformers can get interested in how much additional money will be raised by reforming the tax structure. And when the chief concern becomes more money for the government, the chances are that the middle income guy will be slugged because he's the biggest source of revenue.

All of this is important today because there is a good bit of talk around Congress about tax reform. The Ways and Means Committee in the House is working on a bill headlined as a reform measure.

But is it really? The three major reforms detailed in the legislation are items that benefit one group more than

others. Guess Who? — The middle income wage earner.

The committee is talking about eliminating the \$150 deduction for medical insurance premiums, the deduction allowed for state gas tax paid and the permissible \$100 of dividend earning without tax.

Each of those proposed changes are aimed at the guy who finds making medical insurance payments takes a big chunk out of his budget or paycheck, who can use the gas tax deduction to help meet the greatly increased fuel costs that he faces operating his car today, and who earns a few dollars a year on money he has invested to meet his family's needs.

These proposals will have to rise or fall on their individual merits or lack of them if and when they come before the House for a vote. But I cannot imagine that many average taxpayers are going to be happy about Congress squeezing them a little harder and calling it reform.

There is another tax reform question that is causing a great deal of comment and concern. Many churches and charitable organizations are disturbed by legislation which has been introduced that would eliminate the charitable

## Weaver Honors Two For 30 Years Service

Willis H. McCarty and Paul M. Wert, received service awards in recognition for the 30 years of dedicated service to Victor F. Weaver, Inc. during a recent award ceremony at the company. The awards were presented by Dale M. Weaver, executive vice president of Weaver.

McCarty, a resident of 819 Grandview Dr., Ephrata, joined Weaver in 1944 as a production worker in Weaver's Egg Department, and later as clerk at one of Weaver's Philadelphia market operations. In 1951 he was named to the position of Live Poultry Buyer and served in that capacity for 20 years, prior to being named to his current position as Production Scheduling Supervisor in 1971.

Wert, a resident of R.D.1, Leola, began his employment at Weaver in 1944 as a production worker in the R. K. P. department, and

contribution deduction.

While the concern about that proposal is understandable, in all honesty, there is no need for any panic. Not only do I oppose any such "reform", but I'm confident that the vast majority of House Members are also opposed. There is no chance that church and charity deductions will be knocked out during this Congress.

later was named to the post of R. K. P. foreman. In 1948

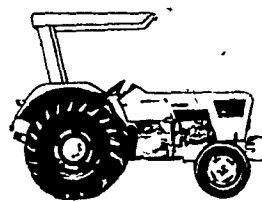
he joined Weaver's Egg department and served as a truck driver, department foreman, egg buyer, salesman, and field representative. Currently, he is serving as a serviceman in the truck garage of Weaver's Equipment, Inc.

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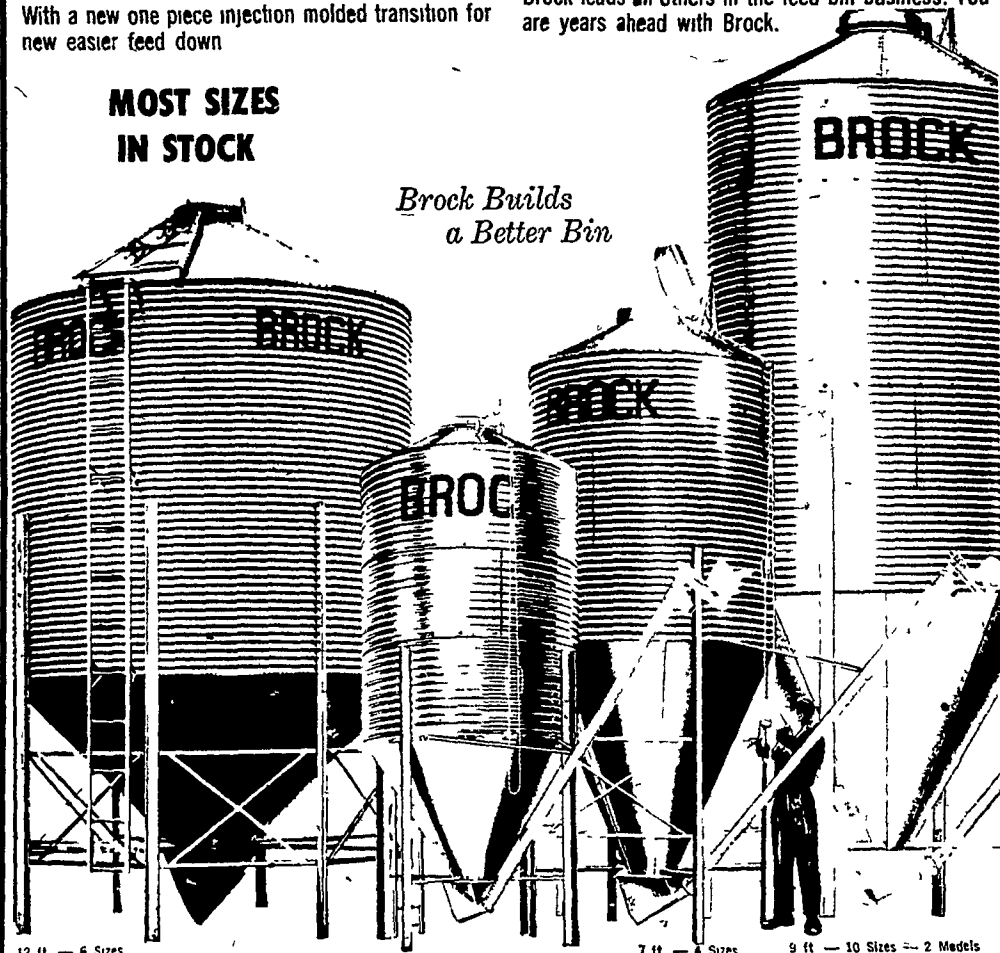
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