

Ladies events planned for NEPPCO

HERSHEY, PA. - A unique educational and social program awaits the ladies who will be attending the 44th anniversary Exposition of the Northeastern Poultry Producers Council to be held here Oct. 21-23.

On Tuesday, Oct. 21, they will join the men for the opening luncheon featuring a dramatic, illustrated keynote address by Dr. Robert Spitzer of the U.S. Department of State. Afterward, they will have an opportunity to visit special attractions in the area on do-it-yourself tours. Kits of information will be provided for this purpose. Returning to the Hershey Convention Center, they will be guests of NEPPCO at a President's Reception staged in the Exhibit Hall.

On Wednesday morning, several young participants in the NEPPCO Youth Program will visit the Ladies Hospitality Center to demonstrate their skills in poultry food preparation. Afterward, the ladies will journey to the Groff Farm near Mount Joy in Lancaster County, where the mid-day

meal will be prepared and served family style. Betty Groff, author of the recently published "Good Earth Country Cookbook", will be the hostess as well as the guest speaker. Also attending will be Anne Nesbitt, director of the National Chicken Cooking Contest.

Thursday will begin with an event in the Ladies Hospitality Center at 10:30 a.m. hosted by Dona Kuipers of New Holland. She is the artist and author of an impressive 11 x 16-inch coloring book entitled, "The Chicken and the Incredible Edible Egg". Copies of the newly-published book will be given to the ladies and its theme and implications discussed.

Throughout the three-day NEPPCO Convention, they will be welcomed on the exhibit floor at the Convention Center, featuring today's and tomorrow's poultry equipment and products, as well as at the market egg show and educational sessions.

On Thursday evening, the ladies will again join their men for the big annual banquet and floor show that

Corn and Wheat Were Bulwarks Of the Growth of Agriculture

No two farm crops are likely more representative of the amazing historical advancements of U.S. agriculture than corn and wheat.



When the very survival of the Pilgrims was at stake, maize or corn was chief among the many plants the Indians introduced to the Colonists.

Although wheat was not native to the New Land, it became a major crop for domestic food and export by 1640.

The Pennsylvania German farmers of the area west from Philadelphia to the Susque-

climaxes this year's NEPPCO Convention.

Copies of the complete Convention Program and registration forms are available from NEPPCO, 322 Oxford Valley Road, Fairless Hills, Pa. 19030, telephone 215-547-0190. Room reservations should be made directly with the Hershey Motor Lodge.

hanna River tilled the rich land known as the "Colonial Breadbasket," which fueled many of the military campaigns of the Revolution.

Corn and wheat growing largely remained a manual task for many years to come. By 1825, some 60 man-hours were needed to produce an acre of wheat, using a walking plow, bundle of brush for harrow, hand broadcast of seed, harvesting by sickle and threshing by flail.

Mechanical improvements were soon to come. In three short years, 1833 to 1837, the steel plow, mechanical reaper and threshing machine had made their appearance.

But still to be learned was the value of good farming practices.

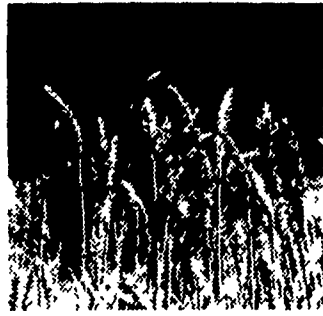
Top wheat fields in New York State yielded more than 30 bushels an acre after the Revolution. But within a half century, average yields would be down to 8 bushels.

One Ohio farmer commented "Among anti-book farmers, it's corn, corn, corn for 40 years and then move West. Among the progressives, it's clover two years, potatoes, corn, wheat, clover."

The agricultural push west had begun in 1840, Pennsylvania was still the top wheat state. Within 20 years, the wheat-growing center shifted to Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin.

Labor requirements to produce the crops were dropping. Some 35 man hours were still needed to produce an acre of

corn. By 1930, only 3 man-hours were needed for an acre of wheat and 6 for an acre of corn.



Spurred by the Civil War and a tremendous demand for food, the commercial Corn and Wheat Belts began to take shape.

The combine made its appearance and had only a short life in Michigan before the war. Later it was transplanted to the Pacific wheat fields, powered by as many as 40 horses, and was a factory production in California by 1880.

It wasn't until the late

1930's that the self-propelled combine of today made its appearance. And it was just in time to fill the food needs of another war.

Numerous improvements have since been made to the combine, but what about the future of this miracle machine?

Researchers at Sperry New Holland, a leading farm machinery manufacturer, see future development following two different paths.

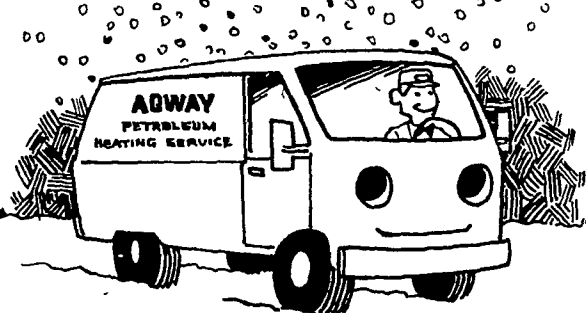
First, efforts at improving their harvesting efficiency will provide less field loss and less kernel damage.

Second, electronic guidance of combines through fields will reduce harvesting time and fuel consumption and permit the operator to devote more attention to other monitored functions of the combine.

Therefore, corn, wheat and other crops harvested by a combine will continue to play a major role in the future of U.S. agriculture, just as they have done throughout its rich historical past.



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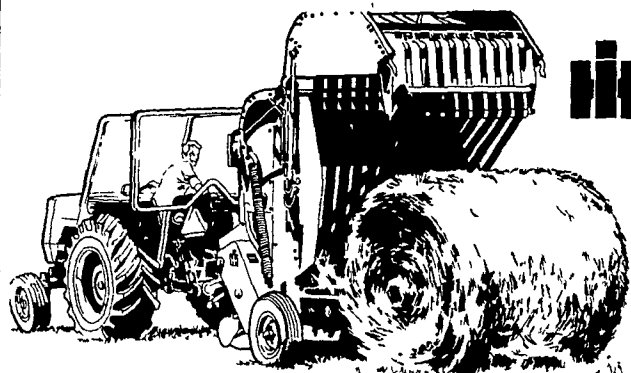
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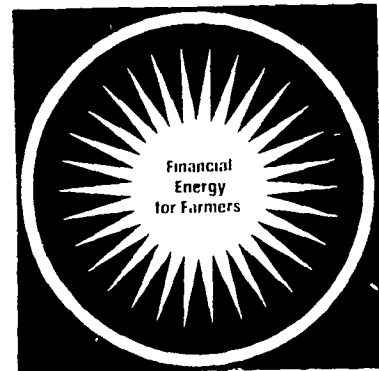
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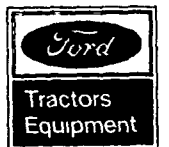


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