



The Harold Bollinger and Donald Bollinger family of Kleinfeltersville represent the 8, 9 and 10th generations of the same family to live on the George Becker farm. Family members shown are

(from left) Mrs. Donald Bollinger, Mrs. Harold Bollinger, Harold Bollinger, Donald Bollinger with son Steve and in foreground, Angela Bollinger (daughter of Donald).

*A Bicentennial Feature*

# Tenth generation of family lives on Lebanon Co. farm

By MELISSA PIPER

**KLEINFELTERSVILLE** - With flowing penmanship and signatures of William Penn's sons, a deed dating back to the year 1741 described a farm in northern Lancaster County, surrounded by small creeks and purchased by Jacob Becker, a German immigrant.

The farm mentioned in the deed has remained in the same family for the past eight generations and is currently owned by Harold Bollinger, a descendent of the Becker family through marriages of the female children.

The Bollinger farm is not however now in Lancaster County but two miles west of Schaeferstown in Lebanon County. For when the re-districting of counties took place in the 1800's the lower northern parts of Lancaster County were given to Lebanon.

No known documents of the period record the history of the Becker farm from 1741 to 1824 although it is believed that the farm was the founding place of the Evangelical Church. A Rev. Jacob Albright was reported to have stayed in the house later dying on the premises. The founder of the Evangelical movement, Albright's connection with the Becker farm house has given it the air of a religious shrine.

History does however note that in 1824 the farm was sold to George Becker, Jr., by his father. From this genealogical point, it is recorded that Bollinger's great, great, grandfather, John Kleinfelder (spelled with a "d") married a Becker girl thus providing the eight generation - Harold Bollinger to live on the farm.

The original house on the property was located in a pasture of the farm and was constructed of thick heavy logs. When moved later in the early 1800's, the carpenters

were forced to saw off some of the ends of the logs shortening the original structure. The house still remains on the Bollinger property but has since been covered over with modern siding.

A 200-year old barn still stands on the farm property but has been remodeled over the years. One interesting feature was that each heavy beam was joined to the other with dovetailed architecture. Histories of the area indicate that itinerant preachers often stabled their horses in the barn during trips around the county.

A stone wall surrounded the 50-acre property and has since been repaired by the Bollinger family. Millstones dating back to 1751 have also been found in the barn.

Bollinger is well known to the farming community in this area for his outstanding dairy operation and is currently in partnership with his son, Donald. It is in-

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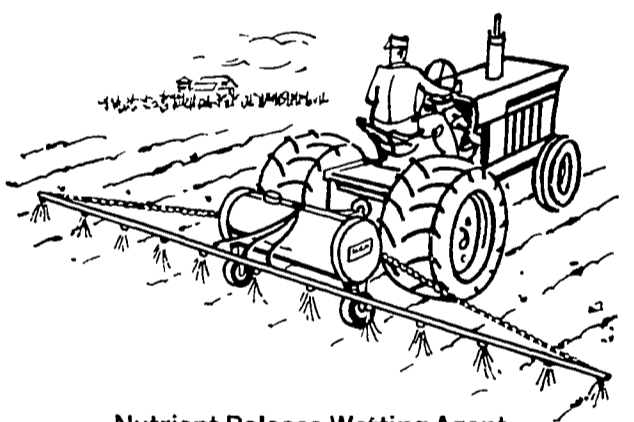
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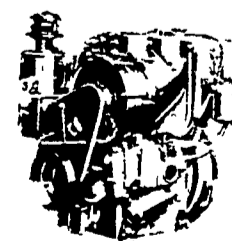
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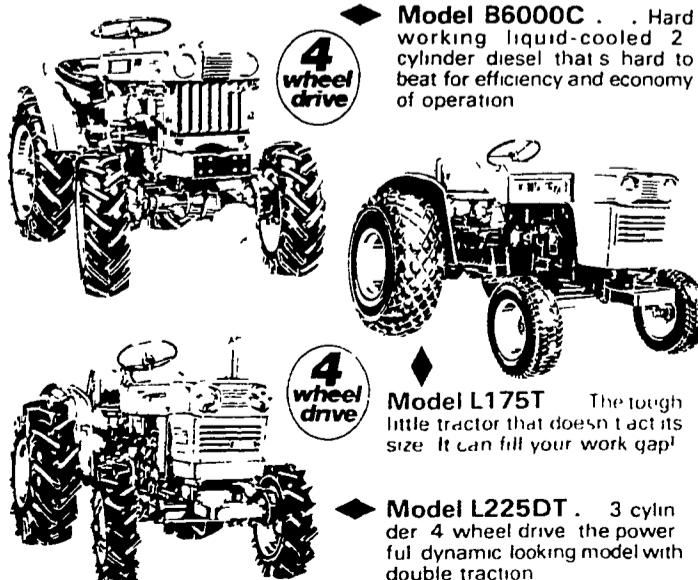
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