

Bicentennial farm

Paul Egan keeps family farm and works away

By JUDY MITCHELL

Berks Co. Reporter

LEESPORT, Pa. - A stone marker on the Paul S. Egan family's large farmhouse still clearly bears the date of its construction in 1764 and the initials of its original owners, Mathias and Marie Weber. The Webers are ancestors of Paul's mother, Mrs. Calvin (Katie) Egan, and are the first recorded settlers of the farm in Leesport R1.

Paul says that quite an assortment of names appear on the old documents and deeds, which have been preserved over the years and are now kept in a safe deposit box, because the farm was not always passed down through direct descendancy. Although at times the ties were distant, he explains, the family was able to maintain ownership of the farm from its beginning to the present.

Although carefully preserved and adapted to modern living, the basic structure of the Egan home remains unchanged after 212 years, and commenting on its solidity, Egan declares, "they don't make farmhouses today that will last over two hundred years."

The Egan's home is the only remaining structure on the farm that dates back to the original settlements, although a second house which stands not far from it bears the date 1817. The existing barn, Egan ex-



Mr. and Mrs. Paul S. Egan of farmhouse looking at the family's Leesport R1 are pictured sitting in scrapbook. the kitchen of their 212-year-old

plans, was built in 1903, after the original barn was destroyed by fire.

Paul and his wife, June, purchased the family farm in 1950. At the time, Paul was employed at the Agway feed store in Leesport and the couple was renting a home. Paul remembers that they weren't really looking to buy a farm but a house. When the Egan's bought the farm, however, they not only got the house they needed but also kept the farm in Katie Egan's family.

Paul, who was born and raised on an adjoining farm which his father worked until 1961, never did give up his job

with Agway and is presently manager of the Agway feed store in Bernville; but he still manages to find time to

Holstein staff shifted

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. - Zane Akins has been named administrative assistant of Holstein-Friesian Association of America. In his new position, Akins will assume major responsibilities in management of the association and its subsidiary, Holstein-Friesian Services, Inc. Having been the manager and responsible for successful development of the Holstein Sire Development Service since 1973, Akins will continue those responsibilities until a replacement is named. The sire development service has assisted hundreds of breeders sample and market quality bulls under Akins' direction.

Akins' experience with the association includes seven years as program director in Wisconsin. Earlier, he had been associated with the A.I. industry. He also has managed the family registered Holstein herd.

A University of Missouri graduate, with a bachelor of

science degree in dairy husbandry, Akins was the recipient of several college scholarships. While at the University of Missouri, he was the president of the dairy club, secretary of Agriculture Council and a member of the dairy judging team. He is also a member of Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity, serving as noble ruler while in college.

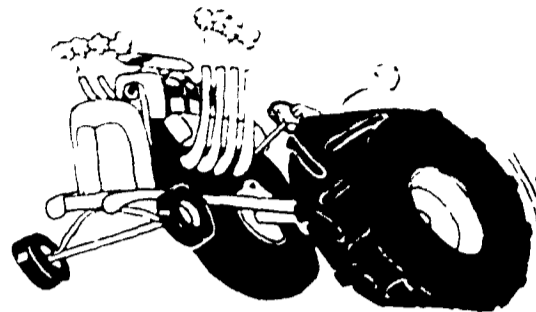
Akins, his wife Kay and their three children, Mike, Debbie and Christine, live in Newfane, Vermont.

work the 80-acre farm the Egan's live on as well as a 74-acre nearby farm they also own. In addition to the corn, wheat, oats, barley, and soy

beans he grows, Egan feeds about 22 head of steer

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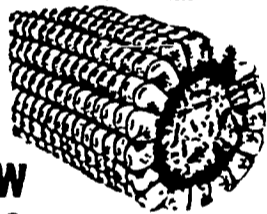
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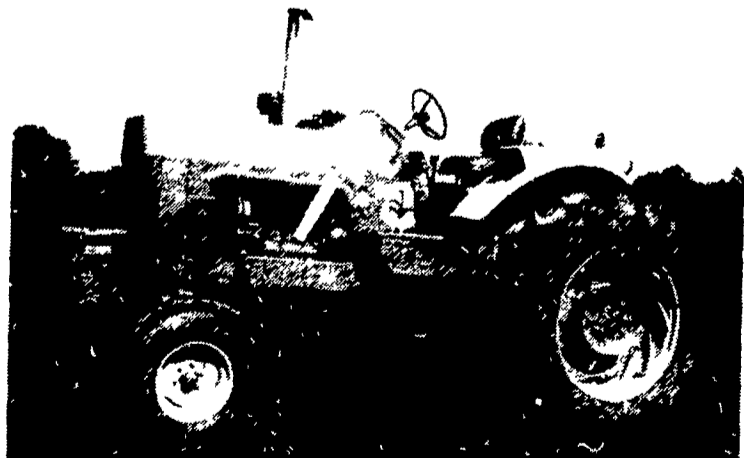
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