

## Hans Herr House

(Continued from Page 102) through the years, the Hans Herr House has another building on its property which is currently being reshaped into a visitor's center for the Herr Home. This visitors' center is an

1892 farm house which is typical for its age. The exterior lines have never been changed and little has been done to the interior of the home.

Originally, this dwelling had been the homestead of

## Deadline extended

HARRISBURG - Several changes in water quality regulations have been proposed by the Department of Environmental Resources to the Environmental Quality Board. The Board ordered all the changes published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin to receive comments before taking any formal action on them.

Changes proposed to regulations governing erosion and sedimentation control would modify the

current July 1, 1977 deadline for development of erosion and sedimentation control plans for agriculture.

The governmental agencies which do the technical work for farmers in drawing up most of the required plans do not have sufficient resources to meet the deadline and thus the Department is proposing that if a farmer has applied to a Conservation District for a plan by July 1, 1977 he would be considered in compliance.

## Agronomy meetings set

WEST CHESTER, Pa. - The Chester County ASCS Committee has decided to cost share programs for controlling Johnsongrass and multiflora roses. To legally purchase Tordon and use it for controlling multiflora roses in pastures, farmers must be instructed about its safe use and application. This instruction and certification will be done at meetings to be held on March 15 and March 18 at the Extension Service office and Russellville Grange Hall, respectively.

In order to purchase "restricted-use" pesticides after October, 1977, farmers will need to be certified as private applicators. This certification will be explained briefly at the meetings. Farmers can become certified by passing a test which they can take at home on their own. Penn State has prepared a study manual to help farmers pass this test. This manual will be available at the meetings or from the Extension Office at a cost of \$6.00; the test is free.

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the Huber family, and the only major changes make were on the first floor.

In the 173 years which separate the Herr House and the visitors' center, quite a few changes took place. Most notably the 1892 farm house is quite large.

"It is a Victorian dwelling," says Groff, "and, the Victorian age is known for its grandioseness." Everything was large and gaudy, although the Swiss German Mennonite influence in the house kept its design plainer than most Victorian homes at the time.

The kitchen was quite large, because the farm families back then were quite a bit bigger than now, and often times employed hired help. So, the eating and assembling room in the house had to be large enough to accommodate the amount of people who would be using it.

Also, central heating had changed. There were two original chimneys on the farm house on the Huber property, and those chimneys were on opposite ends of the home instead of directly in the middle as in the Herr House.

Groff says that the Victorian farm home won't be restored to its original form. Instead, it will be made to serve as a launching point from which visitors to the Hans Herr house get a basic understanding of what they are about to see. Already, there are special educational displays set up housing artifacts found by Franklin and Marshall students on an archeological dig and studied by the state Historical and Museum commission.

There are also plans to add gift shop sales to the home so that the Hans Herr House can be kept in its

unadulterated state. At present the Lancaster Mennonite Conference Historical Society is in need of funds to help with the construction of this visitors' center. They hope to include large color transparencies and transillies of etchings and drawings all of which will be backlighted to give a feeling of depth and reality. Since the Hans Herr House

opened to the public, visitors have come from 50 states and 25 foreign countries. In 1976, alone, there were 10,000 paid admissions.

So, although it only opened three years ago, it has been enjoying success, and the renovation of the Victorian farm house beside it should continue to grow an educational as well as historical landmark.

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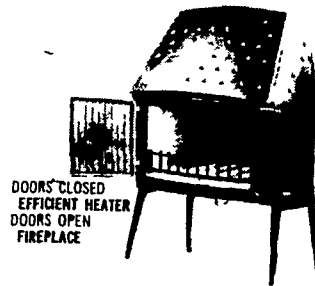
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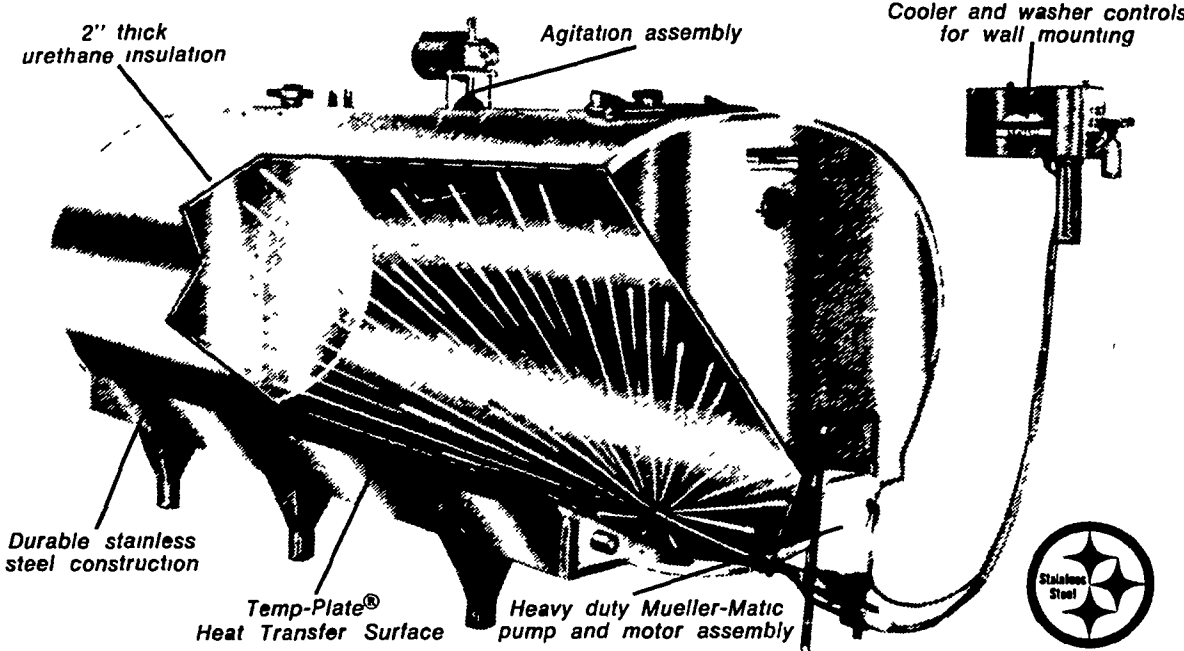
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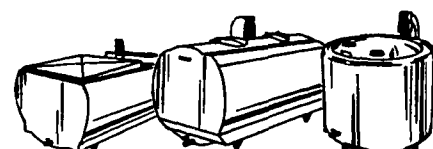
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