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HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

Ag weather service stalled

By DIETER KRIEG

LANCASTER - That special weather forecasting service for farmers, which was to begin this Spring, isn't likely to be implemented until several months from now or even later.

The delay seems to be a combination of costs and a lack of sponsors.

Congressman (then candidate) Robert Walker of Lancaster revealed the unique weather service in a joint announcement with Noah Wenger, who has since been elected to the General Assembly in Harrisburg. Lancaster County was chosen for the initiation of the farm weather service because of its top ranking in agriculture among non-irrigated counties. The Garden Spot ranks third in

agricultural production among all U.S. counties. That's a whopping \$335 million worth of goods during 1975.

Interest in providing more detailed weather information for farmers is becoming more widespread. USDA Secretary Robert Bergland is noted for his backing of more advanced weather reports for farmers. An idea being entertained by some is the stationing of an Extension meteorologist at each of the nation's land-grant colleges.

According to Hugh Koffman, aide to Congressman Walker in Washington, D.C., funding for the weather service project is the primary stumbling block. An Atlanta firm, PASTEL, is to market the weather service

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Big poultry events on tap

HARRISBURG - The Pennsylvania Poultry Federation has recently revamped its Annual Poultry Conference and the change is going to have wide appeal for Pennsylvania poultrymen, say PPF leaders. The conference is scheduled for June 23, 1977, at the Host Farm in Lancaster. Three separate conferences will be held

under the same roof and industry men can attend a Broiler Congerence, and Egg Conference, or a Turkey Conference for the entire day. In addition, a separate Hatchery Seminar will be conducted in the morning for hatcherymen. Individuals with more than a single commodity interest will have a difficult time deciding which sessions to

attend from the great variety of topics and speakers. Speakers come from all over the United States including California, Georgia, North Carolina, Ohio, Virginia, Delaware, and New Jersey. Topics have variety (production, processing, and marketing); controversy (the recent industry expansion in Pennsylvania and a new

approach to forced molting); and immediacy (price outlook for feed, broilers, eggs, and turkeys as well as a look into the future for the broiler and turkey industry). The Pennsylvania Poultry Federation reports that the program is presently at the printers, but the master

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Farm story being told on TV

By DIETER KRIEG

LANCASTER - The farm and the farmer - his work, problems, goals and opinions - are the subject of a new television program which had its debut here last month over WGAL-TV, Channel 8.

Conceived by Lancaster County Extension Director, Max Smith, the half-hour show is designed to bridge the gap between consumers and farmers. WGAL-TV is carrying the show as a public affairs presentation on alternate Saturday evenings, at 7 p.m. Two shows were aired last month; two more are on tap for transmission this month.

The next broadcast of "Out on the Farm" is scheduled for May 14, when Smith will present an educational segment on beef and hog production. Two Lancaster County farmers - David E. Buckwalter of Lititz R3 and

Mark F. Nestleroth of Manheim R5 - will discuss their respective beef and hog operations with Smith for the benefit of thousands of viewers who may be tuned in. Preparations for that show were being made this past Thursday when video-tape crews from WGAL-TV visited the featured farms with the county agent. Earlier, scripts and production were reviewed to assure proper organization of various segments and topics.

Smith, who has served Lancaster County agriculture for 40 years, told Lancaster Farming in a recent interview that the object of the program is "to present the farm operation of each participant ... discuss his product and give some idea of problems related to that particular commodity. In general, we would be interested in getting

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•Embroidery by Lisa Krieg•