

## Fletcher plans retirement

UNIVERSITY PARK — Robert F. Fletcher, professor of vegetable crops Extension at Penn State, will retire January 1 with 28 years of service to the University.

By action of the University's Board of Trustees, Professor Fletcher has been granted emeritus rank.

A native of Northumberland, he earned the bachelor of science degree in horticulture in 1939 and the master of science degree in horticulture in 1952, both from Penn State. During World War II, Mr. Fletcher served four years with the 45th Infantry Division and was awarded the Legion of Merit for distinguished service.

Professor Fletcher



Robert F. Fletcher

returned to Penn State in 1949 and was promoted to assistant professor in 1952, to associate professor in 1956, and to professor in 1963.

## WHAT'S NEW

### SEED-DRILL

A wide seed-drill made by an Australian company, John Shearer Limited, is designed to cultivate, sow and fertilize 80 rows across (47 feet) at every pass.

Large feed and fertilizer boxes reduce the number of filling stops, further improving the implement's speed of coverage.

The manufacturer, a specialist in equipment for broad acre farming, has been supplying its agricultural machinery to Australian and world markets for many years, according to the Australian Trade Commission.

The hoppers on the new drill have a capacity of 1040 kg (2300 lb.) of seed and 1680 kg (3700 lb.) of fertilizer.

Four anti-sway bars, ball-jointed at each end, are fitted on the machine, providing rigidity to the undercarriage.

Each time is made from 44 mm (1.75 in.) heat-treated square spring steel, and is fluted to allow free flow of stones through the undercarriage. Spring pressure can be adjusted on each time to reduce the chance of damage.

The wide seeder's main frame and undercarriage are hinged to enable the implement to follow undulating ground contours as closely as a 13-row drill, the maker says.

Working depth is 110 mm (4.25 in.) and the rate of sowing is controlled by a calibrated lever to suit conditions.

V-shaped feeds on the bottom of the grain box and contra-rotating stars for fertilizer ensure an even rate of sowing. A glass window in front of the seed box allows the operator to see how much seed is left.

All reader inquiries should be directed to Ed Falk, Cunningham & Walsh Inc., 260 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016.

### FREE STALL SCRAPER

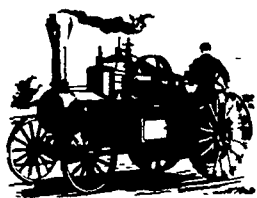
De Laval announces its new free-stall scraper - the Delta-Matic II. It is designed for large free-stall barns from 180 feet to 500 feet in length...dairy barns, swine confinement facilities or beef feedlots. It automates the unpleasant, time-consuming chore of manure

handling. It works while you work elsewhere.

Features a new rugged corner wheel for durability and longer wear life, an all new drive tensioning base which automatically controls chain tension throughout the system for longer chain life. The Delta-Matic II Scraper provides you with energy efficient low horse power method of removing manure. Plus it automatically enables you to clean your barn several times per day - a better environment for you and your animals with little labor input.

For more information, write The De Laval Separator Company, 350 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12602.

### The Steam Tractor ...From an Age That Was Yesterday



Steam power part of the history of rural America that thrived in a golden age of farming. The American Society of Agricultural Engineers offers a unique account of the development of steam tractors in the US. Over 500 photos and drawings illustrate the 160 page 8 1/2 x 11 in. The Agricultural Tractor 1855-1950 providing a rare glimpse of farm tractors once common to a bygone era. The price is \$11.95 a fair exchange for some pleasant evenings of nostalgia and a book you'll keep coming back to again and again. The Agricultural Tractor 1855-1950 is also a thoughtful gift. We have a special card we can enclose in your name.

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In 1963, he received an award for outstanding service from the National Junior Vegetable Growers Association. In 1968, the "Farm Technology" magazine cited his educational soils program as one of the top 20 in the United States. In 1971 he won the

Carl S. Bittner Award of the American Society for Horticultural Science for outstanding achievements in Extension programs.

In 1974, the vegetable crops specialist received the Ruby Award of Epsilon Sigma Phi, national honorary Extension fraternity, for his educational programs. The next year he was elected a Fellow of the American Society for Horticultural

Science for his contributions to horticulture. He served on the society's board of directors and was chairman of the Extension Activities Committee.

Professor Fletcher was named Man-of-the-Year in 1976 by the Pennsylvania Plant Food and Protectant Educational Society. That same year he was named an honorary life member of the Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association.

The 64th Annual Horticultural Show at Pennsylvania State was dedicated to Professor Fletcher for his numerous contributions and service to horticulture.

He is a member of the American Society for Horticultural Science, American Horticultural Society, Bedding Plants Incorporated, Extension Professors Association, Epsilon Sigma Phi, and Gamma Sigma Delta.

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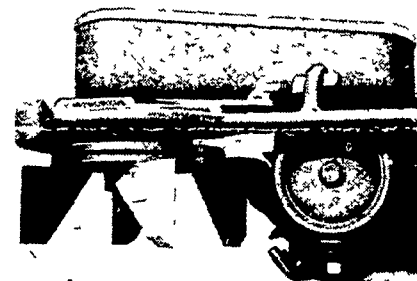
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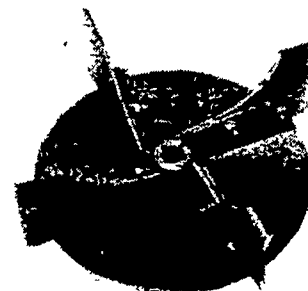
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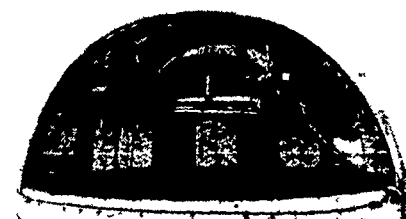
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