

New farm equipment dealership opened

NEW PARK - A newly formed farm equipment dealership recently opened the doors to new sales and service facilities, here. M & R Equipment, formerly C.H. Manifold, Inc. of New Park and Robinson Brothers of Delta, has completed construction of its new place of business. The new facilities are the

culmination of over two years of design, planning and construction. The building contains 12,000 square feet of floor space with a full 6000 square feet devoted to shop facilities. The remaining space is used for parts storage, offices and a show room.

Both Manifold and Robinson Brothers have been International Harvester dealers for many years. Because of their close proximity and close working relationships, the two businesses decided in 1975 to combine forces and construct new facilities with an improved location and easier access. Construction began in the Spring of 1977 and was completed Nov. 1 of last year.

Lee Manifold serves as overall manager of the merged dealerships. Parts

manager is Charles Robinson. Don Robinson is shop and service manager, while Dave Robinson is sales and inventory manager. Five of M & R's employees have over 30 years of experience in the farm equipment business.

Charles Robinson, who has been in the business since 1928, said "I can remember when a dealer's parts inventory could be hauled out the door in a wheelbarrow. Now a large moving van couldn't hold it all. We have over 15,000 individual parts numbers and that number is growing every day."

Manager Lee Manifold observes that "parts and service are our most important concerns. As far as our goals are concerned, improved inventory - including both parts and machines, shop capabilities

and efficiency - are at the top of the list. Eventually we plan to add computer controlled inventories."

M & R markets International Harvester and

New Idea equipment, along with many smaller lines. The firm is located approximately five miles south of Stewartstown, just off of Routes 851 and 24.

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Hog cholera eradicated

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland has officially declared the United States free of hog cholera, the most destructive and costly swine disease ever to exist in this country. He made the proclamation on Jan. 31.

In signing a document which lifts a 1972 declaration of emergency and also recognizes the nation's "hog cholera free" status, the Secretary called eradication of this virus disease "one of the most significant achievements in animal health history."

Secretary Bergland noted, however, that hog cholera still exists in many countries of the world. "Just as with foot-and-mouth disease or African swine fever or any other foreign animal disease, farmers, veterinarians and regulatory officials must be alert for introductions of hog cholera. The U.S. Department of Agriculture is

prepared to contain and eliminate such outbreaks. If the disease is introduced, the sooner it is detected, the quicker it can be eradicated.

Hog cholera is caused by a virus which affects swine only. Neither humans nor other animals are affected. The disease is often fatal. Death from acute hog cholera usually occurs within four to 10 days after the first signs occur.

Secretary Bergland pointed out that the eradication of hog cholera ranks as a highly significant accomplishment for several reasons.

"This is a tax-supported program that has started and finished - and it was completed at less cost than originally estimated," Secretary Bergland said.

"The eradication of this 'native' American disease took just about 15 years - a relatively short time for disease elimination" he said. "But even more important, the job was done for less than the original estimate. At the outset, eradication was expected to cost between \$160 and \$200 million in state and federal funds. The actual cost from 1962 through 1977 was about \$140 million."

Weaver names employee

Allon H. Lefever, Rnks R2, has been named to the position of commodities and economic research manager at Victor F. Weaver, Inc., New Holland, it was announced recently by Dale M. Weaver, executive vice-president of Weaver.

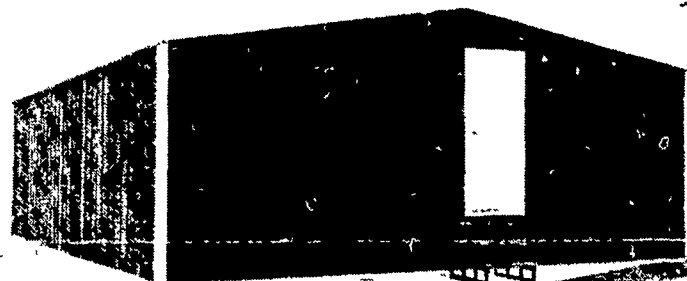
Lefever joined Weaver in 1974 as a training supervisor in the Personnel Division. He has served as commodity analyst, and more recently, commodities research manager of the Commodities Research Division.

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