

# MEDICINE AND MANAGEMENT

By CARL TROOP, VMD



## A word of caution about machinery repairs

This column is being written by request on a very good suggestion from a concerned farmer. It is directed not at farmers but toward those in agribusiness who serve and whose livelihood depends on the farmer. It is my hope that all those affected will take heed.

We have had numerous occasions in practice to treat cattle for hardware which be directly traced to carelessness of service personnel. These have varied from bolts not being tightened in new hammermills, feed mixers, and other feed handling devices, to carelessness in repair of silo unloaders, feeders, etc.

In more than one instance we have had a rash of hardware cases for a week or more after the unloader had been worked on. Not only have the animals exhibited signs of hardware but nuts, bolts, washers, wire, etc., have been found in feed bunks and feed troughs which could only have come from the unloader repair work.

When working on farm equipment which is around feed or handles feed the service person has a profound responsibility to do everything in his power to insure that no bolts or screws are left untightened and that all scrap or leftover

metal is accounted for. It is their own best interest to do so as the farmers who have been in this unfortunate situation have not been very good advertisement for the firms involved.

Not only do these situations leave a bad feeling with the farmers but also leave the firms in the possible situation of being open to a lawsuit, and some of these cows aren't cheap.

Just a little common sense and the time to be careful is all that is necessary. When making repairs on unloaders for bunk feeders it is important to have a solid container present to put extra pieces and parts that will not be used. All nuts and bolts should be accounted for and carefully tightened. It is not too much trouble to carry a bucket or some other container along up into a silo to keep small pieces in. And this applies equally as well to farmers working on their own equipment.

It is the responsibility of the company owner or shop foreman to be sure that his service personnel are responsible and reliable, and to be sure to instill in them the importance of keeping metal out of the feed supply. Some may just not realize how important that task is or

the possible damage it can do to an animal and the subsequent repercussions. Nothing should be taken for granted.

It is discouraging to farmer and veterinarian alike to be treating animals for something which could have easily been prevented. Besides a permanent stain on the image of the company, a great disservice is being done for the farmer. Most farmers are not the kind who would legally retaliate. But there are also many who would, and justifiably so. So please use a little discretion and common sense when setting up, repairing and replacing any feed handling equipment. A satisfied customer is not necessarily one for which a job is just well done, but just as importantly a job that is well cleaned up after.

## Deadline near for dairy recipe contest

READING - The 1978 Dairy Products Cooking Contest will be held in conjunction with the Berks County Dairy Princess Contest and Dairy Week at the Berkshire Mall, June 12 to 17. The contest is sponsored by the Berks County Farmers Association.

Entries will be accepted in the following categories: Appetizers, soups, casseroles, beverages, cakes, desserts, cheesecake, and pies. Anyone may enter one entry per category. All recipes must contain one or more dairy products. Dairy substitutes are not acceptable.

Entries will be judged on the use of dairy products, flavor, originality, ease of preparation, appearance, color, and texture. Winning recipes may be printed for distribution.

Recipes should be printed or typed on one or more 3 x 5

cards with one's name, address, and telephone number on the back of each card. Each recipe should contain the title, category to be entered with the recipe, exact measurements, mixing procedures, pan sizes, and approximate number of servings.

Entries may be mailed to: Dairy Products Cooking Contest, Box 626A, RD 3, Hamburg, Pa. 19526. Deadline for entries is June 1. The best six recipes in each category will be chosen and entrants will be notified by June 6.

Those chosen will then be prepared by the contestants at their home and brought to the Berkshire Mall on June 12 for the final judging. Winners will be announced that evening.

First place winner in each category will receive a \$10 gift certificate; grand prize winner will receive a \$25 gift certificate.

## Tip for mothers-to-be

NEW YORK, N.Y. - A protein and calorie deficiency during pregnancy is clearly deleterious to normal fetal growth, according to Dr. Myron Winick of the Institute of Human Nutrition at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, New York City.

Reversing a trend among

physicians to keep their pregnant patients as slim as possible, Dr. Winick believes that the average woman should gain between 20 and 25 pounds during pregnancy. A balanced diet is essential, of course, but it should include about 300 calories more than would be needed by a non-pregnant woman.

## Grange meets

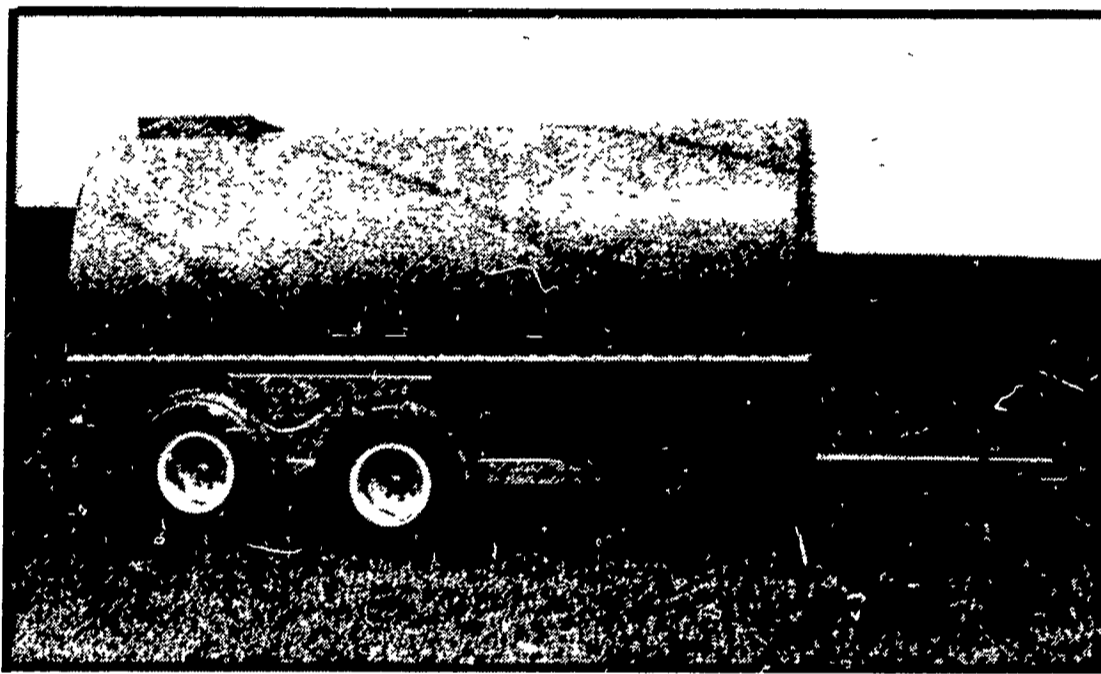
VIRGINVILLE - At a recent Virgunville Grange meeting, the social committee reported that they will have refreshments at the hall on May 29 and will need baked goods. They also reported sales on June 10 and 17.

On June 7, the group will

have their dairy supper, beginning at 7 p.m. All members are asked to bring a dessert using milk as an ingredient. Sewing contestants will model their entries.

As part of the Mother's Day program, Annetta Merkel was named Mother of the Year.

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