

Elro the robot was the center attraction

By SALLY BAIR
Staff Writer

UNIVERSITY PARK — "Excuse me, I'm having my picture taken. Cheese!" With those words, one very flustered Lancaster Farming reporter snapped a picture of what appeared to be a fat tin can with arms and a lively personality!

Actually, the subject was "Elro," a robot featured in the family living tent at Ag Progress Days. Elro is no ordinary robot, and when he was "visiting" with his public, the area was packed with fascinated children and adults who watched and listened, but didn't quite believe what they were witnessing.

Elro is about five feet tall, rather round with arms but no legs, and he displayed a quick sense of humor and high intelligence as he answered the many questions put to him.

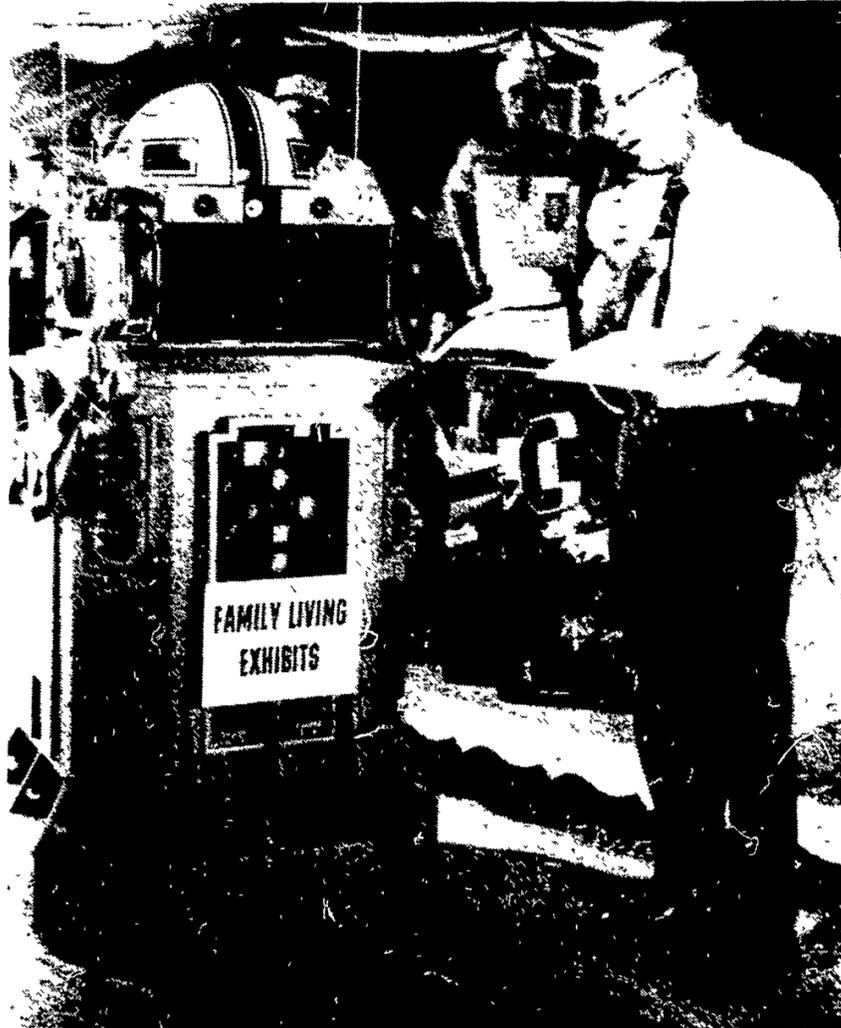
The questions were endless. "How'd they make you?" "That is classified information." "How old are you, Elro?" "I have no chronological age." "Do you have a girlfriend?" "No, but I'm looking around." "May I shake your hand?" "Affirmative - you have very soft hands." "Where do you hear?" "I have various audio sensory devices."

Sometimes a question was not to be answered, but always polite, and well-spoken, Elro would say, "That particular data is not in my present programming."

It was too much to expect that someone wouldn't inquire if he was acquainted with R2D2 and CP30 of Star Wars fame. Yes, he acknowledged, he knew them adding, "CP30 has a platinum body and mine is more metallic."

Once when he accidentally worked himself off the plywood runway which was his base of operations, Elro said the crowd, "Please excuse me, I must get into a higher gear and get back in position."

According to Carolyn Schrock, community resource development specialist at the University, the response to Elro was



Dr. Tom King presents a metal certificate to Elro, the robot, in appreciation of his fine service during Ag Progress Days.

terrific all week. "It's adults as well as children. Adults especially get a kick out of him." She said that University President John Oswald had an extended conversation with Elro when he visited Ag Progress Days as did Republican gubernatorial Candidate Richard Thornburg and his wife. Asked how Elro is able to respond so well to the questions, Miss Schrock said, "He has got quite a program of tapes."

Elro never seemed to tire of the endless and repetitive questions - as a human might. However, even robots need a rest. After about 30-45 minutes of being totally surrounded by inquisitive

people Elro would announce, "Excuse me, I must return to my charging place." And after he politely said "excuse me" about ten more times the crowd would slowly get the hint and begin to make a path for him. If anyone strayed into his path

he said, "Excuse me, ma'am."

For his perseverance and patience, Dr. Thomas King, director of Extension, presented Elro with a metal certificate which read in part, "A certificate of appointment as professor for

accepting the call to serve the University and the Commonwealth during Ag Progress Days."

Miss Schrock said, "We had hoped to have him walking outside the tent on the road, but the gravel got

caught in his wheels." She speculated that if the road had been paved they could have accomplished their wish. Even robots have some limitations.

Some people tried to see if

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GAP AUCTION

FRIDAY EVE., SEPTEMBER 8, 1978
5:30 P.M.

Located off Route 41 - Lancaster Avenue opposite Turkey Hill Market - Cross RR Bridge.

ANTIQUES AND HOUSEHOLD GOODS
SOLD AT EVERY AUCTION.

Inspection Friday from 9:00 A.M. until sale time.
CONSIGNMENTS ON MONDAYS
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OTHER DAYS BY APPOINTMENT.
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CONDUCTORS ALL TYPES PUBLIC SALES

PUBLIC SALE

OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE,
FURNITURE AND ANTIQUES
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7
at 9:00 A.M.

Located at Mount Joy, R.D. 3 approx. 2 miles north of Mount Joy along road to Milton Grove, or 1 1/2 mile off 283 bypass, get off at Manheim Mount Joy exit, toward Mount Joy located on Milton Grove road, 1 mile off Manheim road, all 3 tracks will be sold from Mount Joy R.D. 3 at farm no. 1.

REAL ESTATE NO. 1
1:00 P.M.

Tract No. 1 farm 8 3/4 acres more or less, located in Rapho Township, Lancaster County, Pa., 9 room farm house, 2 baths, oil fired furnace, storm windows throughout, drilled well, concrete porches, lg. attic, lg. cellar, lg. barn 90x60, lg. tobacco barn, 2 car garage, and other necessary out buildings, this farm has a lot of frontage and has a lot of possibility for building development Little Chuckies Stream running through the farm.

TRACT NO. 2
1:30 P.M.

Tract No. 2 - 2 1/2 to 3 acres more or less, meadow with stream running thru, along hard road, this track is located 1/2 mile from farm no. 1.

TRACT NO. 3
2:00 P.M.

Tract No. 3 - on the west side of Manheim road in Stauffertown, Lancaster County, Pa., 5 room house on lg. lot, sewerage available, this home needs repairs, this would make a nice home for someone.

ANTIQUES AND FURNITURE
9:00 A.M.

G.E. 2 door refrigerator with deep freezer across bottom, electric stove, 21 cu. ft. G.E. upright freezer, G.E. washer and dryer, breakfast set, 2 metal cabinets with glass doors, nice safe, 3 piece living room suite, 2 double beds springs and mattresses, 2 electric sweepers, electric clocks, piano bench, picture frames, lg. and small electric lights, lot of canning jars, set of dishes, silver ware, cabinets, kerosene lamps, end tables, clothe rack, old post cards, Martha Washington sewing cabinet, 2-knee hole desks, and chairs, telephone stand, lot of new dress material, old baskets, old plank bottom chairs, old buttons, easy chairs, 4 wash boards, 40 crocks, lg. and small, 5 iron kettles, 15 jugs 1 to 5 gal., meat cleaver, electric coffee pot, garden tools and other tools, picnic table, wash tubs, 21 inch lawn boy rotary mower like new, wheel chair, tobacco rails, old yard sticks, International Cub Cadet No. 128 with mower and 2 wheel cart, blankets, dishes, pots, pans, what not shelves and trinkets, new home sewing machine, cedar wardrobe, cradle, old quilts, Whirlpool 8000 air conditioner, slide projector, record player, many more items to be sold not adv., inspection Sept. 16-23-30 from 1:00 p.m., till 4:00 p.m.

EDNA G. SHEARER,
Owner

Condition of Real Estate will be given day of sale by the Att. W.R. Howard, 104 W. Chestnut St., Lancaster, Pa. 392-2837.

Cash or Travelers checks if approved by the auctioneer.

Gerberich & Long, Auct.
838-1825

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NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS

PUBLIC SALE

12.5 ACRE FARM &
PERSONAL PROPERTY
SEPTEMBER 16

10:00 A.M.

DIRECTIONS: Located on Rt. 897, 2 miles east of Schaefferstown or 4 miles south of Lebanon. (Lebanon County)

Frame house, baseboard oil hot water heat (2 yrs. old). First floor - double living room, kitchen, bath & laundryroom comb., breezeway, attached 2 story summerhouse with 1 car garage. Second floor - 3 bedrooms and bath, attic with tin roof. Also this property has a bankbarn (50' x 30') with elec. & water, corncrib (5' x 24'), two story pig sty (40' x 14') with elec. & water, and a variety of fruit trees.

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: This is a real fine piece of real estate for anyone interested in a small farm.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

2 sec. cultipacker, D.B. disc, Surge R.V. milker pump, 2 wheel hvy. duty trailer, scorrer, Int. 2 row pull-type cornplanter, motorized 2 hole corn sheller, hog & cattle waterers, iron hog trough, hog self-feeder, asst. hand tools, Toro reel type mower, Agway crop duster, L. handle pitch fork, wooden work bench, hand mower, 8 pcs. (4' x 8' x 1/4") hardboard, King wood burning stove, G.E. elec. stove, metal base cabinet, metal wardrobe, new spouting, 2 storm windows, Kero. salamander, roofing paper, asst. water pipe & elec. supplies, 12 hp Sears tractor with 42" mower, snow blade, plow, disc, 2 wheel metal trailer. Fencing & ladder.

INSPECTION: Sept. 9, 1978 - (1:00 to 3:00 p.m.) or 717-949-2038. 10% down the day of the sale and balance on or before 30 days. Sale of real estate - 11:00 A.M.

Terms & Conditions by:

LEE H. & BARBARA A. BLOUCH
James K. Koller, Atty.

Auctioneer: Joe C. Hoke Jr.

445 Rocherty Rd.
Lebanon, Pa. 17042
Phone: 717-272-2039

FALL CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

OF FARM MACHINERY & FARM RELATED ITEMS
MONDAY, LABOR DAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1978
10:00 A.M.

Located at Auction barn in American Corner, MD, 10 miles South of Denton, MD on Hwy. 621.

TRACTORS: 56 Int. diesel with rebuilt motor & roll guard; 426 DAC; AC D-17 w/loader, Minneapolis Moline G diesel; Int. M, Ferguson 30; expecting a lot more

COMBINES: 760 MF with 20' platform, 6-row corn head; 300 Case with corn head; Int. 915, 6 row corn head, 15' platform, diesel & air; AC Gleaner G, 16' table, w/4 row corn head; Int. 303; Case 900; JD 55 12' table.

OTHER EQUIPMENT: 2 JD model FB gran drills; 12' King disc harrow; 14' Kewanee disc harrow; 6 bottom Int. semi-mounted plow; 4 row AC corn planter; 3-4-5 bot. plows; JD hay rake; JD hay baler; JD 12' disc; JD 494 planter; Int. 4 row planter; 14' cultipacker; 15' roller harrow.
This is only a partial listing.

Terms: Cash.

A. Curtis Andrew - Auctioneer
301-479-0756