

Harmony and efficiency

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innovations include an energy efficient Nebraska Unit to house an additional 580 hogs for fattening, and a feeding program which will eliminate grain drying. Beam claims that there is too much upkeep involved with more conventional swine housing facilities, especially with ventilation systems, and that drying corn at 12 or 13 cents per bushel is getting to be prohibitive. That's why he's switching to high moisture corn, to be stored in an airtight, glass-lined storage structure. When the corn comes out for feeding it'll go through a roller or crumpler, thus eliminating not only the costs of drying, but grinding as well.

The new facilities are being featured in an Open House next Saturday, Sept 9

Despite the new innovations and sizeable investments, Beam is placing considerable trust and appreciation in old customs and lifestyles. He's a family man and a family farmer.

"Knowing that my wife and boys are all interested in farming keeps me motivated," Beam said



Helping each other out is a way of life for Violet and Titus Beam

while helping his wife shell lima beans. "It would go harder for me if my wife and children were not interested in the farm. I would find it hard to build or expand, or even to just keep going," he

said with sincerity. Reaching for more lima beans, the Chester Countian added:


"The boys have really taken hold. There's no assurance yet that they'll

stay on the farm, but at least they're interested. Bill, 18, will be a college freshman this year, majoring in beef and hog production. He has been a 4-H member for nine years and was named a champion showman for five

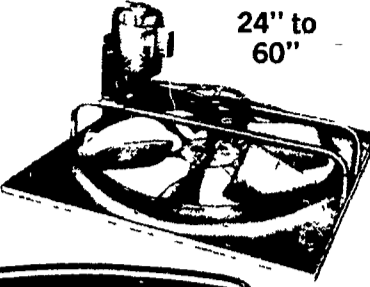
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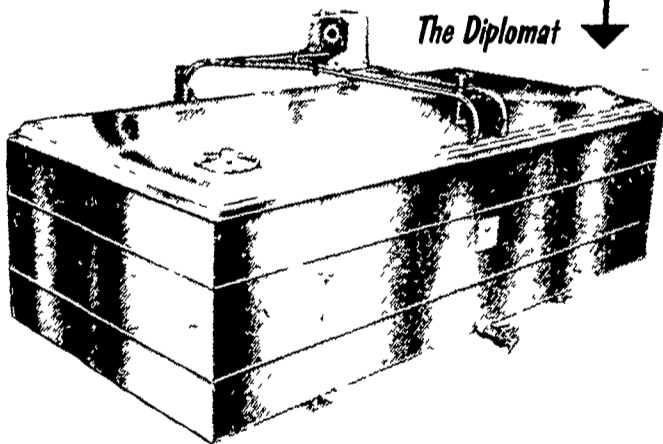
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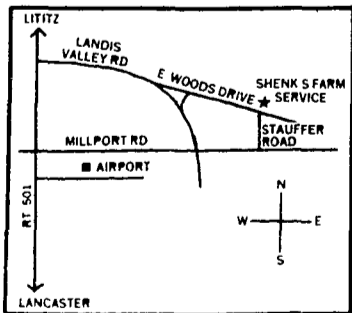
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