

# They went from catching chickens

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future, dry cows will be grouped in a separate barn. On occasion, this could mean 100 more milk cows than they have free stalls.

In 1977 the new Master Farmers hired a full time mechanic. By doing this they saved a substantial amount in repairs the first year and up to two to three hours a day on major repairs that normally stop field work.

"We didn't have any big delays," Abram reports.

"The mechanic doubles as a machinery operator so there is no noticeable increase in the payroll."

One of the most important things the brothers learned is employees should earn parable to, or better than, off-farm employment. The farm employment. The workers get housing, beef, milk, and other farm fringe benefits plus paid vacations and medical coverage. Also, a retirement program is under consideration.

Efficiency is the "key to the game" at Star Rocks Farm. A seven-ton mixer wagon helped increase milk production 10 per cent. Electronic scales weigh out proper amounts of grain and silage and wagon blends the complete ration for better utilization by the herd.

A self-propelled forage harvester, purchased in 1978, enables the Barleys to harvest corn silage and high-moisture corn at the optimum stage of maturity. It

cost \$50,000 but they feel it will pay for itself with higher quality feed and more milk.

They now have seven diesel tractors, plus a few small gasoline tractors. "Engine maintenance proves to be a big plus. Several diesels have gone 5500 hours and do not use oil. We'd be lucky to get 3000 hours out of a gasoline tractor," Abram emphasizes.

The Barley brothers find time to serve their community and farm organizations. John has served as district president of Inter-State Milk Producers Cooperative, vice president of the Lancaster County Holstein Association, and member of the legislative committee of the Lancaster County Farmers' Association.

John also is politically active, serves on the Manor Township Commission, and is a member of an agricultural committee studying ways to preserve farmland in the township. A member of the Emmanuel Lutheran Church, he has been president and vice president of his Sunday School class and takes an active role on the church council.

Abram can cite seven farm organizations and four community and religious affiliations in which he is an active member. These include the Lancaster County Farmers' Association, Agway, County, state, and national Holstein associations, Inter-State Milk Producers Cooperative, Manor Young Farmers, Washington, Boro Fire Association, St. Joseph School Republicans, and the Ecumenical Council of St. Philip's Church.

"Too many farmers feel they are too busy to become involved," John Barley says. "This attitude must change if agriculture is to remain a free enterprise."

Other Master Farmers

## UCC applications being accepted

HARRISBURG - Applications for the 1979 summer Youth Conservation Corps program are now available from high school guidance counselors, Bureau of Employment Security Job Service Offices, Bureau of State Park Offices, Bureau of Forestry Offices and State-affiliated YMCA's and YWCA's according to John Naylor, State recruiter for the YCC.

The Summer work program is open to any youth who will be 15 years old by June 1, but will not be 19 years old before August 30, 1979.

Youth Conservation Corps work sites are located throughout the Commonwealth on Federal lands administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. Department of the Interior and on State lands administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources.

Typical projects include stream improvements, construction of bridges and

other recreational facilities, thinning of forest plantations, improving wildlife habitat and similar related tasks.

Two types of YCC opportunities are available - residential program where corps members live and work in a camp setting away from home and non-residential programs where participants live at home and commute daily to their work site. Residential participants earn \$73.25 per week plus room and board while non-residential participants earn \$87.00 per week.

Completed applications must be received at the YCC Selection Office, P.O. Box 800, Falls Church, Va. 22046 by March 15. Incomplete applications cannot be considered.

Questions on YCC should be referred to Naylor at the Bureau of State Parks, Department of Environmental Resources, P.O. Box 1467, Harrisburg, Pa. 17120.

## Training school attended

DOVER - Ronald C. Herr, and Frank G. Pannell Jr., represented A.L. Herr & Brothers, Quarryville, in a recent two-day service training school for Case lawn and garden tractors and attachments.

The school, held at Dover, included troubleshooting and procedures for hydraulic systems, engines, electrical systems, trans-

missions, attachment drives, clutches and riding lawn mowers.

Set up, predelivery instructions and safety were also included in the school. The school was part of an ongoing program sponsored by the Outdoor Power Equipment Division of the J. I. Case Company, Win-

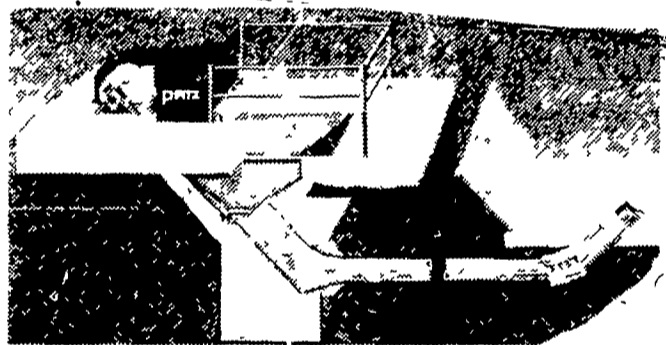
Losing Your Mind  
One tourist went to Las Vegas with no money available to gamble. After watching the games for a few hours and gambling "mentally," the man had lost his mind!

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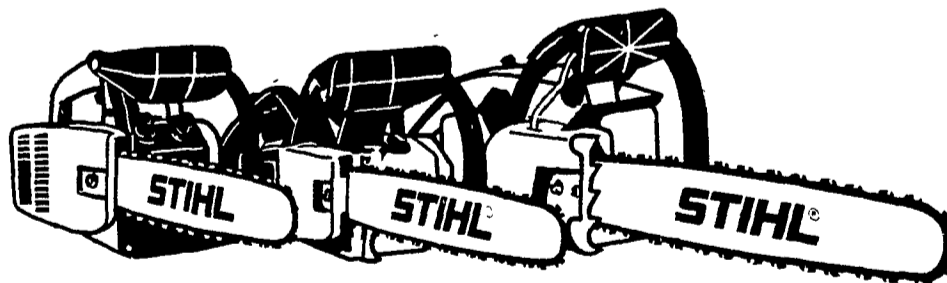
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