This queen is proud to represent the poultry industry

Bv KENDACE BORRY NEW HOLLAND — Since last August, Kathy L. Martin, New Holland R3, has been known as Lancaster County's Poultry Queen.

Looking back on that contest now, the 18-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Martin, said that she wasn't even sure she had wanted to try for the title.

"I was very surprised to win." she commented. "Of course I hoped that I would, but you never know."

Since then she has represented the Garden Spot of the World poultry industries, attending such things as open houses, banquets, poultry days, parades, fashion shows, and school programs.

"I went into a third grade" Kathy related, "and my nother dressed in this big

chicken costume. I called her Henrietta and introduced her to the students. Then I made gold strike punch for the children and gave them samples. I read the story in the Incredible Egg coloring book and gave out recipes for them to try. And I stressed the qualities of eggs, such as protein."

When not busy with her poultry queen activities, the senior at Lancaster Mennonite High School, is kept active on her parents' family-run farm.

She helps milk, and gathers and packs eggs of the 5500 layers kept on the place. The Martins have 48 Holsteins which are milked by the family-no outside help is hired.

Besides Kathy, the Martins have two sons, Mike, who is married, and

Jànae.

Kathy has been involved in 4-H for nine years. A member of the New Holland Baby Beef 4-H Club, she raises and show 4-H steers, and has had two reserve champions at the New Holland Fair.

In the fitting contest, for seven years she has been named first. She took the top honor for six years in a row, only to have her younger sister take it away. But she won it back last year.

Other activities of the busy teenager include working with the Leighton Ford Crusade youth committee; being church typist; and teaching a Sunday School class. She also helps her father, who is an auctioneer, with sales.

Kathy told that one of the representing it".

Jeff, and another daughter, highlights of being the poultry queen is "meeting new people", an experience she will never forget. She related that she enjoys promoting the poultry industry and going places.

"You have to strike up conversations with people, and you have to enjoy talking," she commented. "There is excitement and you get to meet new friends all the time.'

She also stated that she had picked up quite a bit of knowledge about the poultry business, and since she became poultry queen she eats an omelet every day for breakfast.

"The poultry industry of Lancaster County is something to be proud of," she smiled as she spoke, "and I'm happy to be



Kathy Martin, Lancaster County's poultry queen, shows she knows what the industry is all about, as she gathers eggs on her family's farm.

"The egg is one product that has no addititves," she continued. "And that in itself is something to be proud of."

The young lady told that she loves farming and living on a farm, and hopes that she will always have the opportunity to go on living on one. After graduation, she will go into secretarial work, but she stated that she'll always want to come back home to the farm.

"You're never bored on the farm," she summed it up. "You're kept active, and the family grows closer together. You work together, you talk to each other, and you can joke together."

"I love the outdoors," she added, "there's nothing quite like the country."

Kathy urges girls to try out for the poultry queen contest, stating that even if you don't win, it is good experience for everyone involved.

The constest is judged by three judges, and Kathy said that each girl has a personal interview with the judges that lasts about 25 minutes. During that interview poultry questions are asked, and Kathy said the judges see how the contestant relates to people as well as what she knows. Also all of the girls are judged on how the handle themselves on stage.

The Lancaster County poultry Queen for this year will be chosen on August 3 at the Farm and Home Center. The committee in charge of the contest is now looking for contestants.

Any young lady between the ages of 18 and 23, and the daughter of someone involved either to an allied poultry industry or a poultry producer may enter.

For more inforamtion. interested persons may contact any committee or board member or call Leroy Esbenshade at 717-665-3168; or John Hershey at 717-653-

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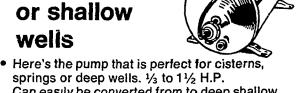
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