

Sheep and wool in spotlight at Md. festival

By JOAN LIESAU
WESTMINSTER, Md. — Lamb sales, a natural colored wool auction, a sheep to shawl contest, and many other activities filled the two day Sheep and Wool Crafts Festival held May 5 and 6 at the Carroll County Agricultural Center, Westminster, Md.

A total of 111 lambs went across the block bringing a total of \$9544.87. Twelve registered sheep averaged \$90 per head with the top selling sheep, a Dorset, bringing \$155. Forty-two market lambs were sold, averaging \$111.60 per head. The top selling market lamb, a 110 pounder, went for \$93.50. Fifty-seven feeders sold, averaging \$66.30, with the top feeder bring \$140.

Well over 100 fleeces sold with as many as 40 coming from Pennsylvania. Total poundage of white and natural colored fleeces was 662, averaging a price of

\$2.64 per pound. Black fleeces sold for a total of \$968 which included a black fleece donated to the Maryland Sheep and Wool Growers which commanded \$7.50 a pound for a grand total of \$54.38. Two other black fleeces were sold for over \$5 per pound. The minimum price per pound was \$2.

A real crowd pleaser was the Sheep to Shawl contest. Four teams of five members competed with three finishing the contest. The contest involved shearing the sheep, carding, spinning and weaving the wool into a finished shawl. The team which finished first was declared the winner. Shawls were then auctioned to the crowd.

Placing first in the Sheep to Shawl contest was the Eastern Shore Fibers Guild.

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A member of the Sugarloaf Spinners, team two, busily slid the shuttle through the shawl which

received the highest bid of the day.

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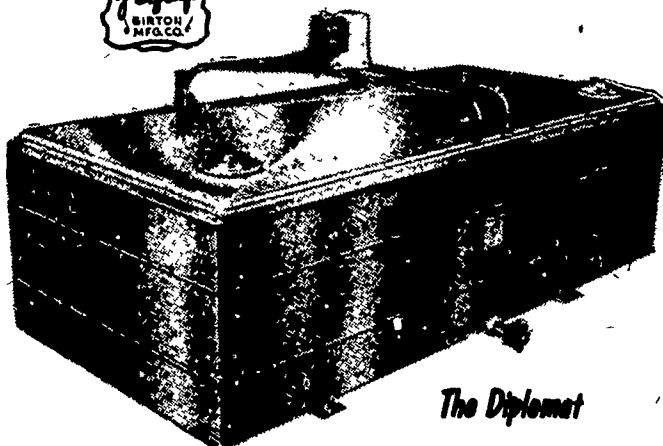
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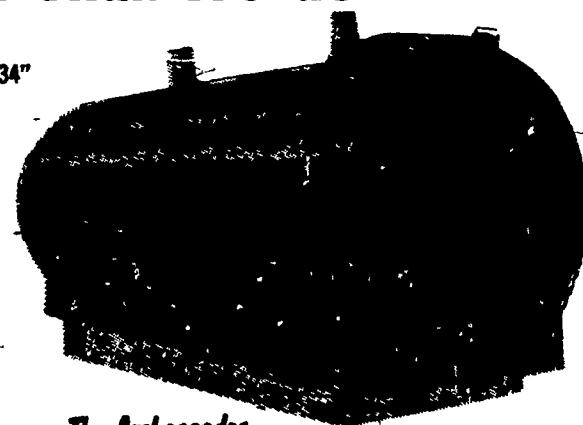
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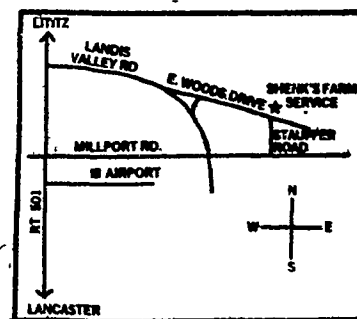
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