Horse breeder preparing to tight state tax laws

LITTLESTOWN Hanover: In trotter and pacer horse racing circles. it's a name that evokes respect, and almost reverence.

The lush green pastures of southern Adams County outlined with neat fences and

dotted with tidy gold-colored farm buildings, are the nursery for the world's foremost Standardbred fillies and colts. Out of the Horatio Algier success story that is Hanover Shoe Farms, Inc., come legendary names in harness racing, names

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Here are a few of the world's most famous and valuable brood mares and their offspring, seen at the Hanover Shoe Farms. According to John F. Simpson, head of the farm, with the Pa. tax laws the way they presently are, it is becoming harder and harder to financially run the farm.

like Billy Direct, Super Bowl, Albatross, and "the greatest brood mare sire in history," 31-year-old still-instud Tar Heel.

Hanover Shoe Farms was formed in the early 1900's by area shoe magnates Harper D. Sheppard and Clinton N. Myers. It rose to world renovm under Sheppard's son, Lawrence B., who one day during 1922 when he'd been left in charge, sold out the entire stable stock.

Under directions to reconstruct the breeding herd, young Sheppard gathered the finest horseflesh in the nation. In 1926, he shattered tradition with the \$150,000 purchase of an entire 69-horse estate package. With the writing of that payment, Lawrence B. Sheppard also began rewriting harness racing records and the history of the sport.

Today, the reins of Hanover Shoe Farms, Inc., are firmly grasped in the solid, capable hands of president and general manager, John F. Simpson.

A third-generation South Carolina horseman with an instinct for racing and developing harness champions, Simpson was hand-picked by Sheppard, who had watched the young man make a name for himself setting racing records. In 1959, Simpson joined Hanover as general manager of both the racing and breeding units of the farm.

Under Simpson's leadership, Hanovei aned stock continues to run way out in the forefront of harness racing competition, although the Shoe Farm itself does not race animals. Last year's purse winnings from Hanover-sired entries outdistanced the closest competitor by over two million dollars.

But as the prized broodmares and their colts race across almost 4,000 acres of limestone grass in the Spring sunshine, clouds are looming on the horizon of the home of horse super-stars. Those storm fronts have moved over the racehorse breeding

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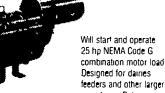
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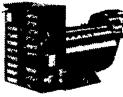
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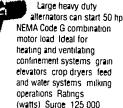
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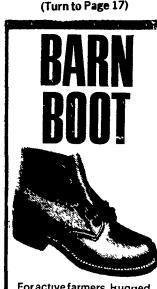
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