



On being a farm wife

—And other hazards

By **JOYCE BUPP**

Across the nation, hundreds of food producers with a flair for the air belong to an organization known as the "Flying Farmers of America." Many of the members use their own Cessnas or Beechcrafts or Pipers as part of the day-to-day farming equipment needed to keep tabs on herds of livestock scattered across acres of desolate grazing areas.

I wonder if they'd take a membership for my bicycle-flying farmer?

It might be a waste of membership money, though I don't really think he plans to solo the chain-driven two-wheeler again very soon.

At 10:30 p.m. on a Saturday night, when a repair part was needed for an ailing tractor, Patty's bike seemed the perfect way to make the quick run up to the machinery shed.

The departure flight take-off was smooth and uneventful.

But, shades of the DC-10 then took over and the landing turned disastrous.

That bane of aircraft mechanics, the loose bolt, caused the bike hand-brake to depart from the bike handle. Gravity took it downward, where it managed to wedge itself between the turning spokes of the bike's front wheel.

It was a highly effective braking maneuver.

All motion came to an immediate, abrupt halt, throwing the 24-incher into a dead stop in a front-end "wheeie." Not wearing his seat belt, the pilot catapulted

from the cockpit, over the nose, and somersaulted onto the rock-hard blacktop road that runs past our farmhouse.

While it was one heck of a way to wiggle out of the next morning's milking, the farmer is again in operation after recovery from severe shoulder bruises and a heavily damaged ego.

But a pressing question remains.

Is that what you call a farm-related occupational injury?

Chester Co. 4-H dairy judging team places

WEST CHESTER - The Chester County 4-H Dairy Judging Team coached by Mrs. Jane Pepple placed a strong third in the Regional Dairy Judging Contest in Berks County on July 6. Team members were Ed Breckbill, Oxford, who was fourth highest individual over and fifth in oral reasons, Keith Stoltzfus, Morgantown, who was fifth highest individual overall, Donnie Stoltzfus, Morgantown, and Sue Kulp from Pottstown. Ed, Keith and Donnie will be joined by Alan Mason of Nottingham to represent Chester County in competition for the state title August 7 at The Pennsylvania State University.

Also, the Dairy Bowl Team consisting of Ed Kulp from Pottstown, Jon Weinstock from Phoenixville and Alice and Howard Mark from

West Grove placed a close second to Cumberland County in the regional Dairy Bowl Contest on July 5th. This team will also represent Chester County in state competition.

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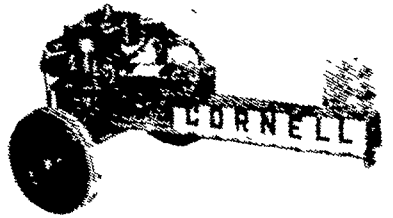
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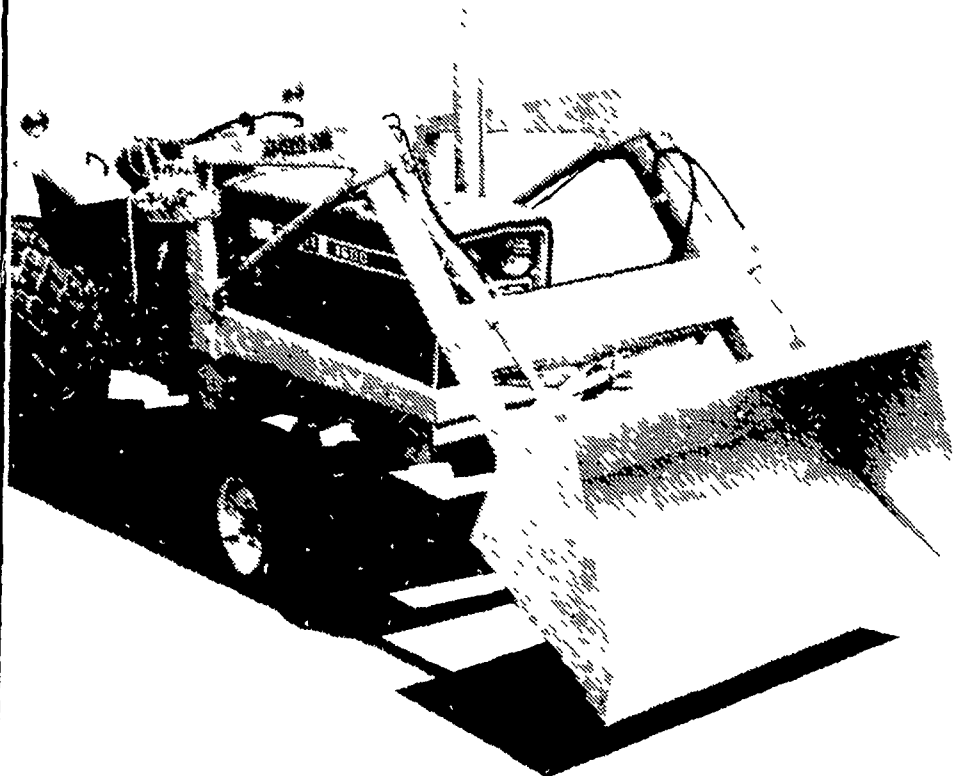
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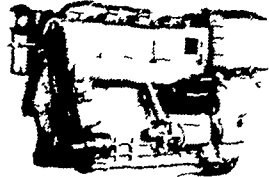
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