

# Chinese ag group

(Continued from Page 1)

middle sized herds and small dairies."

Liu said that problems are similar in dairy herds in China and in the United State, but he acknowledged that "the United States has advantages. Conditions for feeding are somewhat ahead and more convenient."

Lau pointed out that their cows are fed corn silage,

hay, sorghum grain, soybean cake and wheat bran.

Acting as a local host and interpreter for the group was Bill Hinton, Fleetwood R2, author of five books on China and a frequent visitor there. Hinton, who went first to China at age 17, returned there during the War and again as a tractor technician for United Nations Relief for seven years before returning

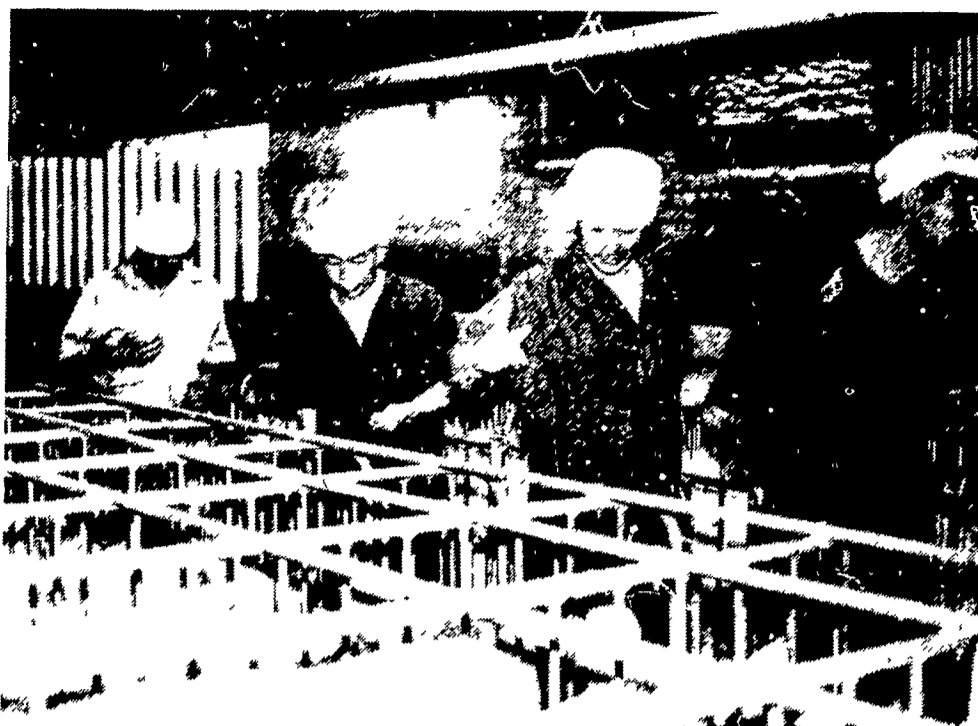
home in 1953. He said that while the group is here primarily to see dairying, "They are interested in all kinds of farming. They are interested in making a few breakthroughs in dairy mechanization. They do some very sophisticated farming, but it is labor intensive and they expend more labor to do it. China's been farming for 4,000 years."

The group was accompanied from China by Hinton's sister Joan and her husband Irving (Sid) Engst, who have lived and worked with the Chinese for 30 years.

Engst, who is presently with the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture organized the trip with contacts in this country. It was paid for by a budget from Lau's office, and hosted, in part, by the U.S. - China People's Friendship Association, of which there are chapters across this country.

Joan said, "This is to learn about dairy mechanization at the grass roots level, and to see farmers work. They have stayed in homes and took part in milking."

Engst added, "We will try to get model farms going when we return; farms which are far advanced over the average. Our purpose is to study the best of what the United States has." He



Visitors toured the Pennfield Hog Research Facility at Mountain View Farm, Frystown, as part of their visit in Southeastern Pa.

explained that they will purchase some American equipment and will make some equipment to help move toward more mechanization.

At each stop the Chinese showed great interest in the farming operation. They were courteous and friendly, and despite the language barrier, seemed genuinely pleased with the hospitality of their hosts.

Xing said, "Our American friends were extremely warm. We are eating well and enjoying it. The first 20 days went very quickly." Xing added, "It is all interesting - not just the cows, but the whole agricultural scene."

It is not difficult to understand why the time is going quickly. The group arrived in the United State on August 9 and will depart September 18. They have already spent one week in the Ching Valley in California, and one week in the Madison, Wisconsin, area. They are in Pennsylvania for nearly one week and will travel to New York state, the home of Engst, and spend two weeks living with four farm families there.

They have managed trips to Disneyland and Philadelphia and will see New York City before returning to China. They will not return empty-handed. They will have their ever-present notebooks filled to over-

flowing with facts, statistics and figures.

Most of the visitors were technical workers, including dairy equipment technicians, animal husbandry workers, forage technicians and engineers. Twelve of the group was from the Beijing city leadership, one is from the city of Sian and one is in the Ministry of Farm Machinery, working on its research farm.

Liu explained that the city of Beijing includes an eight-county area surrounding the city which makes up a large portion of a province. There are 3,800,000 peasants in the outlying district and 5,000,00 city residents. There 280 communes, or farm cooperative units in this geographical area, with 16 state-managed and under his directorship.

At Fernhost Farm, operated by Albert Moyer, in Lebanon County, the visitors were enthralled with each piece of large equipment. They watched demonstrations of it being operated and asked specific questions including the cost of the equipment.

Moyer told about his 80-cow milking herd and showed the group some outstanding cows. Perhaps the thing which stirred the most attention was his mention that they just successfully transplanted two embryos from a cow. This generated a

lot of questions from the Chinese, with one man taking a specific interest in the details involved. Hinton explained, "They don't have the genetic background to choose from." The interested Chinese later with County Extension Agent Newton Bair and questioned him more thoroughly, through Engst, on the procedure. All cows are currently bred with artificial insemination.

Moyer also hosted the Chinese to a chicken barbecue lunch, which they seemed to eat with gusto.

At the Hershey Bare farm at Lebanon R2, the visitors took the opportunity to drive a tractor. One of the women in the group is a tractor driver with the commune.

They also visited the Dutch Country Egg Factory and Pennfield's Hog Research Facility at Mountain View, Farm, Frystown. There, the Chinese visitors gamely took the required shower and changed into the coveralls and sneakers provided for disease prevention. There was much laughter and good-natured joshing about their appearances.

After touring the facilities which produce 9-10,000 fat pigs a year, they asked extensive questions of Melvin Huber, farm manager. They wanted to know how much feed it takes

(Turn to Page 22)

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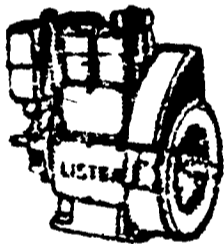
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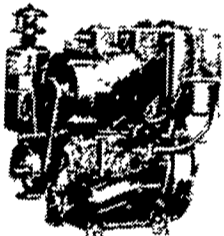
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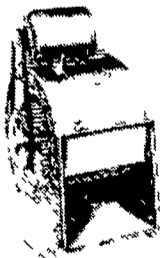


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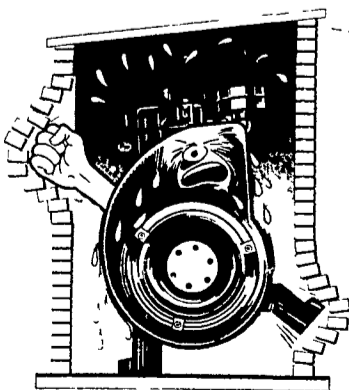
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