

National 4-H week observed

The week of October 7-13 is being observed as National 4-H Week. Since 1927, this week has been a time for 4-H'ers, their leaders, and friends to take stock of the past year's accomplishments and achievements.

In Penna., the 4-H membership is about 90,000 strong. The groups range in age from 8 years to 19 years old. Approximately three-quarters of the state enrollment comes from large cities, middle-sized

towns, and small villages. The rest of the membership is composed to farm youths.

When 4-H was first started, it consisted of livestock, crops, cooking, and sewing clubs. These activities were designed to improve farm and family living, through practical, out-of classroom education. That was 61 years ago.

Today, 4-H activities include areas like arts and crafts, automotive safety, small engine care, home improvement, babysitting,

photography, clothing, geology, electricity, conservation, veterinary science, nutrition education, and indoor gardening.

Nevertheless, the "citized" projects have not pushed out the old ones. In fact, the traditional projects are gaining new popularity. 4-H members are still sewing, cooking and raising prize livestock, along with growing ribbon-winning crops. Today, however, the members are using more sophisticated technology.

Dr. Thomas B. King, associate dean for extension at Penn State, has commented, "The educational projects and learn-by-doing activities of 4-H clubs are assisting young people in assuming roles of leadership and citizenship which are of value now and in the future." He pointed out that the 4-H program is conducted by Penn State's agriculture staff members. These people are located in each of the 67 counties and at the university.

National 4-H week is helping to point out the benefits to youth that being a club member brings. The

young people learn leadership, citizenship, and public speaking. They gain poise and confidence in themselves, and they have fun through games, music, camping, sports and talent shows.

These talented young people actively pledge their heads, hearts, hands, and health to better their clubs, communities, country and the world.



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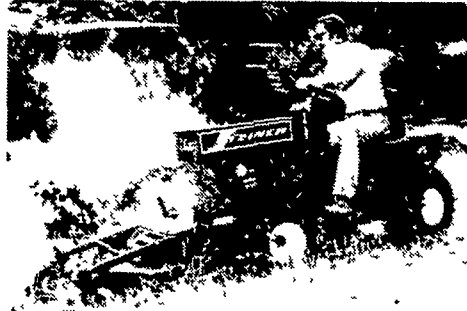
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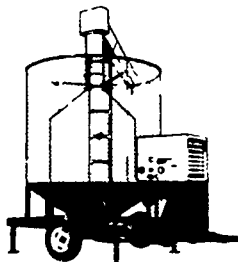
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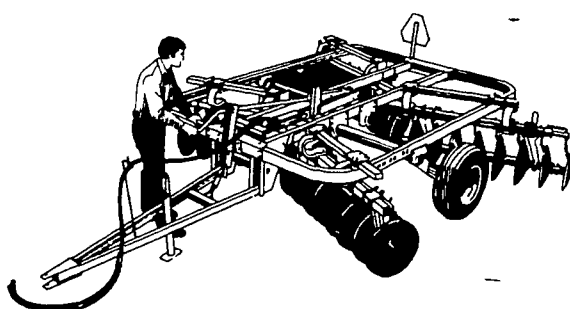
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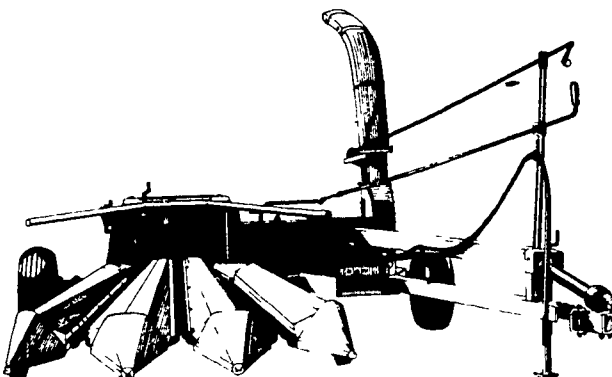
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