



Pennsylvania's first Holstein fieldman, Clarence Lyons, second from left, was honored with induction into the Hall of Fame. Remembering the early days of Lyon's career are executive secretary Bill Nichol, Martha Lyons and Lilly Nichol.

Retain southeast summer show

Holstein members induct pair into Association Hall of Fame

BY JOYCE BUPP Staff Correspondent
 MONROEVILLE — Two long-time Pennsylvania Holstein activists were inducted into the Association's Hall of Fame during the breakfast awards program, held at last week's state

convention at the Al Monzo Howard Johnson Motor Lodge, near Pittsburgh.

William Conyngham and Clarence Lyons selection was announced as the finale of the awards presentations, wrap-up event for the annual confab of the largest state Holstein Association in the country.

Conyngham is secretary-treasurer of Hillside Farms, Inc., Wilkes-Barre. Born in 1920, Conyngham studied in Wyoming Seminary and Yale, then served a tour of duty with the Navy during World War II. He's represented Columbia-Luzerne counties on the state Holstein board and been a national director for 28 years, as well as serving a term as state president and

chairman of the executive committee.

Hillside Farms is a third-generation family dairy and breeding establishment, with some 150 animals in one of the state's oldest herds. Some of the 75 milking cows trace back to an original Dutch black and white that was shipped to America in 1884, and calved out in 1885.

"We have a better type herd now than ever before," reflects Conyngham of his many years at Hillside Farms. Current herd average is over 16,000 pounds of milk with 600 of fat. A major accomplishment of the herd is that it has produced thirty 100,000-pound producers and is well known on the show circuit as well.

Conyngham and his wife Cornelia reside at Shavertown R7. Their two sons are involved in the operation and run a dairy store at Hillside. They also have three daughters. Active in his community, Conyngham is associated with the Wyoming Historical Society and is a director of the First Eastern Bank in Wilkes-Barre.

For the Pennsylvania Holstein industry, 1920 was a banner year, for it also produced the state's first fieldman, Clarence Lyons. After spending his boyhood years on a Michigan farm, Lyons graduated from Grantham College, and later served a stint with the Army during the war years.

On January 1, 1941, he began his first day of work for the state's Holstein breeders. Organizing local clubs was one of his main duties, and he re-established the classification program, which had been expended in 1929. Under Lyons' leadership, the state sales program and the Garden Spot sale were begun, and the Pennsylvania Holstein News printed its first issue from an Ohio office.

"Clarence is responsible for really getting Pennsylvania's membership programs organized and where we have them today."

credits PHA executive secretary William Nichol.

But Lyons is especially remembered as the man who transferred some 2,000 animals registered with Harrisburg Association into the national registry at Brattleboro, Vermont. During the transfer process for those papers, Lyons spent hundreds of hours researching, updating and doing the bookwork on several animals in the pedigrees of each animal eventually transferred into the national Holstein book.

"Young people growing up in Lancaster County had a great respect for Clarence Lyons," fondly recalls Mowery Frey, Jr., who grew up under the former fieldman's leadership. "He meant so much to all of us."

Today, Lyons and his wife Martha reside at 321F Eden Road in Lancaster. Their son and daughter are both married, and the Lyons are proud of their three grandchildren. Clarence is now associated with Kingsway Realty and active in the Rotary Club.

Emcee for the breakfast awards presentations was Arthur W. Nesbitt, president of the Ft. Atkinson, Wisconsin, supply house, NASCO, International.

A former PHA executive secretary, Nesbitt is helping to spearhead Dairy Shrine Club efforts to construct an industry Hall of Fame near Ft. Atkinson. That museum is scheduled for construction, with the theme of "Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow."

Dairymen of all breeds are being encouraged to contribute toward the establishment of this memorial saluting their contribution to the American way of life.

The Rev. Richard A. Morledge, of the First Presbyterian Church in Bakerstown, spoke during the program. "This is the day" Rev. Morledge had titled his inspirational message, which stressed enthusiasm and positive

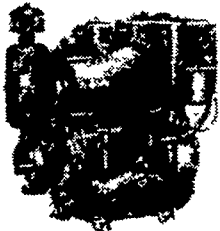
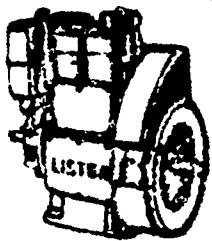
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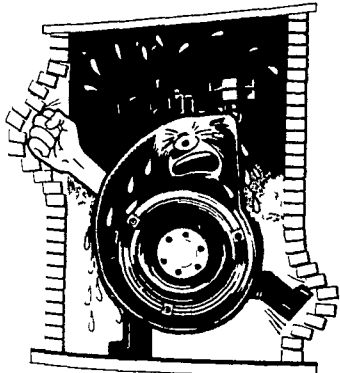
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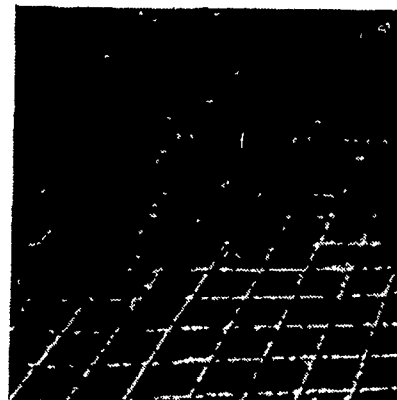


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