



Blood-testing kit shown by Ed McIlvaine was used back in the 1930's by the Delaware State Board of Agriculture in a program to wipe out deadly pullorum disease in broiler flocks.

### Oldest broiler grower

(Continued from Page D24)

The lower part of the state was full of small, independent broiler operations trying to make a go of it with practically no effective medications, and little knowledge of the nutritional needs of the chicken. What was needed was some organization to bring them all together, so that these and other problems could be dealt with more effectively.

One evening in 1938, McIlvaine and a number of other hatching egg growers were gathered around the stove in a farm kitchen in Lewes, talking about the need to improve the quality of hatching eggs and get year-round production. This was the start of the

Delmarva Poultry Improvement Association

From the start, the main purpose of DPIA was to improve the quality of all poultry production in the state, table eggs as well as broilers. McIlvaine recalls the monthly gatherings of locals in farmhouse kitchens or school buildings to hear speakers talk about disease and management and marketing problems. Sometimes he and other successful growers would be called on to share their expertise.

In 1941 he went to work for Townsend's, Inc., as manager of their breeder flocks. For a number of years he was also responsible for actually developing

## Order 4 milk price \$13.00 for March

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Middle Atlantic Order Market Administrator Joseph D. Shine Friday announced a March 1980 base milk price of \$13.00 per hundredweight and an excess milk price of \$11.49.

The weighted average March price was \$12.85 and the butterfat differential for the month was 15.0 cents.

The March base milk price was down five cents from February 1980 but was 73 cents higher than last March.

the strain of birds they used as broilers. There were many changes in the broiler bird, as poultry began to be processed on the peninsula. The early birds had dark pinfeathers which showed up much too well on a freshly plucked carcass. So he and other breeders worked to develop lines that had white ones instead.

Anyone who's lived through the last 50-odd years on Delmarva and has been active in the poultry business has seen some dramatic change.

"I doubt this era will ever be matched in terms of the rate of this change," he says. "I drove a horse to school. Now they're sending rockets to the moon and beyond."

Retirement doesn't seem to have slowed Ed McIlvaine down much.

"I'm much too active a person not to keep busy," he says.

This explains his present involvement with the farm museum. He looks at the work he's doing now — collecting and arranging materials for their poultry exhibit — as a kind of personal biography.

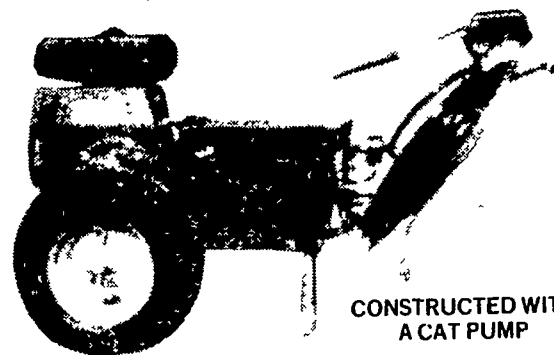
Order No. 4 prices are announced for 3.5 percent milk f.o.b. plant location within 55 miles of Philadelphia, and also within 75 miles from the nearer of Washington, DC or Baltimore, MD. There is a 6-cent direct-delivery differential applicable to producer milk received at plants located within 55 miles of Philadelphia.

Shine said producer receipts totaled 474.7 million pounds during March, an increase of 1.7 percent from the previous month on a daily basis, and 2.4 percent above last March.

Class I producer milk totaled 245.1 million pounds and accounted for 51.64 percent of total producer milk receipts during the month, down from 54.56 percent in February and well below the 57.21 Class I utilization percentage last March. Base milk accounted for 90.14 percent of total producer milk receipts in March, the same percentages as a year earlier.

There were 7160 producers supplying Order 4 handlers during the month and the average daily delivery per producer of 2139 pounds was up 35 pounds or 1.7 percent from February and was 3.7 percent above last March.

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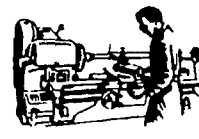
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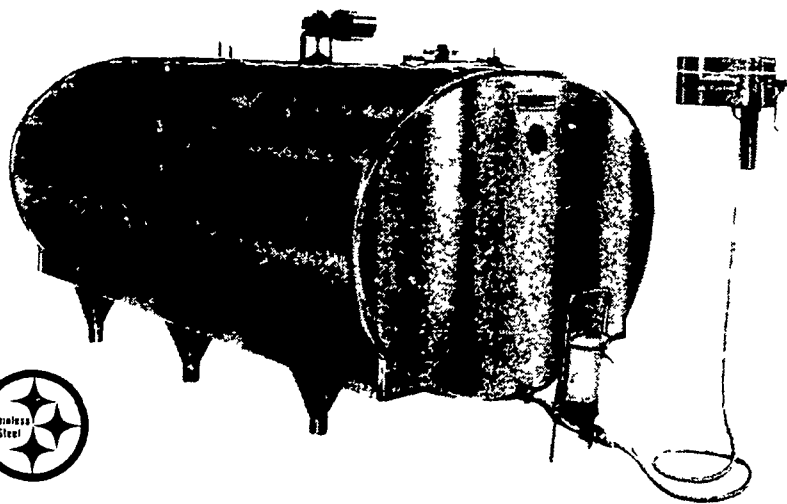
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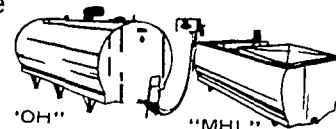
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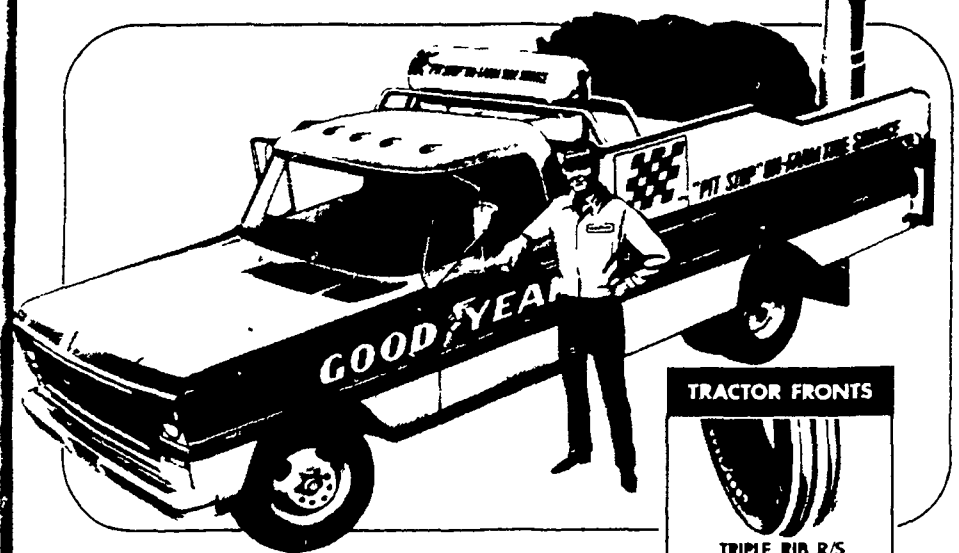


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