

# Guernsey Queen

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evening, a Gemutlichkeit Nacht was held complete with an evening of German polkas. The Scandinavian and German ancestry of the people around Rochester was the reason this particular theme was chosen, but one could tell it suited Millie to a T.

Saturday morning, the girls went on a farm tour, and in the evening they drove to St. Paul and took a riverboat cruise down the Mississippi River with dinner and dancing. Sunday morning more tours, a pork barbecue and rehearsals were held, and Sunday evening after a prime rib dinner, Millie was crowned by Geraldine Carson, last year's queen. The crowning capped off the evening program in which the girls were interviewed and questioned.

Millie's question was "what if a stranger were to ask you what a Guernsey cow is — what would you say?"

Her answer was, "I would tell him that she combines business with pleasure. That she can consume all sorts of roughages and convert them into delicious milk. That in one quart of milk there is 19 percent more protein and vitamins than the average store-bought milk and that if everyone drank Guernsey milk they would be stronger and healthier. And if everyone was stronger and healthier it would be a happier world."

For her win, Millie received her crown, a trophy, a bouquet of yellow silk roses and her expenses will be paid during the coming year's official travels.

On Monday, the American Guernsey Cattle Club held a breakfast. Then a business meeting followed as well as a luncheon of wall-eyed pike which Millie described as delicious. The National Heifer Sale and Minnesota Convention Sale followed. Millie began her official duties at the breakfast and continued throughout the day leading the first heifer of the auction into the ring and running tickets back and forth. She also showed her parent's heifer a Deacon daughter due in July to Minnie's Choice. This production bred heifer brought \$2200. While her schedule this past week was hectic, perhaps the toughest part was the fact that she went from Thursday to Tuesday without donning blue jeans.

Among the things she noted during her travels were the different feed handling systems for the longer winters in Min-

nesota's colder climate. She said the tulips were still blooming there last week. She said that from a plane it looks big and flat and square and she was intrigued by how cluttered with buildings and trees and hills the Pennsylvania landscape looks by comparison. She also said that the average herd size is more like 80 milkers rather than the 40 average around here. But her feelings were evident when she said one of the nicest things about going away is "that it lets you appreciate so much more what you have right here at home."

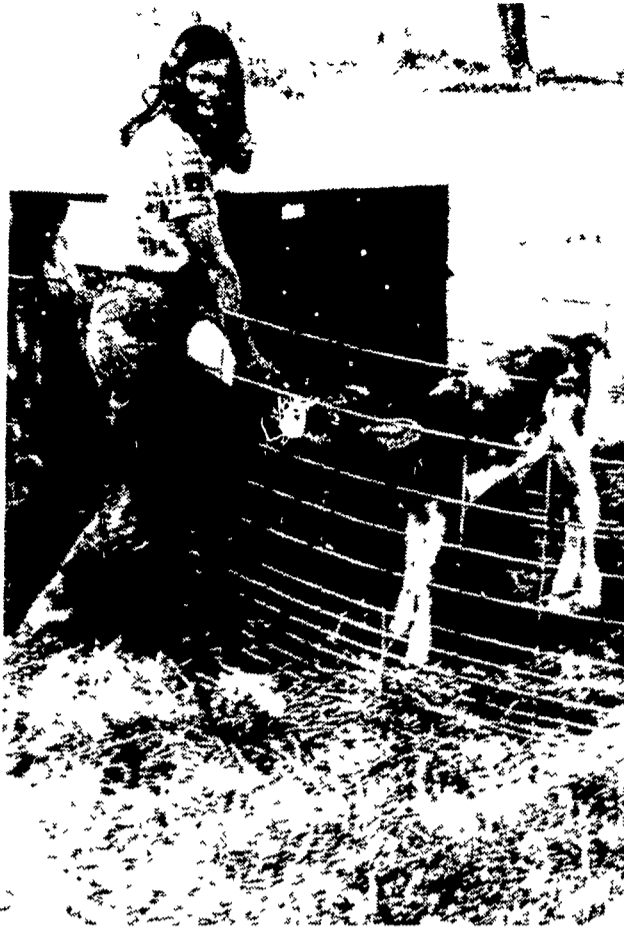
Getting to see different sides of people, different operations, and to learn more about her chosen breed are some of the advantages Millie expects to experience during the coming year. She said that her Pennsylvania reign has made her more outgoing and has formed a lot of friendships. "Now when I go to a Guernsey function, it's just like one big happy family," she said. The only problem she could think of was the traveling — and that only because she gets motion sick.

One of the things she did while in Minnesota was to compare the breeding in the West to the Guernsey breeding around here. Offspring from Quantity impressed her and she would like to try some of his breeding.

Millie has 11 animals of her own. Four animals are milking. She said that she received a heifer from her family for Christmas and that in January she bought a heifer at the Guernsey Barn in Lancaster which is due any day now. She has mostly Winston breeding and is breeding them to Minnie's Choice. She said she's aiming for production and type.

Millie said that her home farm was basically well managed before her studies in dairy science. The 143 acre farm has 80 head of Guernsey cattle and between 35-40 milkers. Fourteen separate lots are fenced so the family can practice pasture rotation. The herd is on DHIA test and the family only uses AI on their animals.

"Basically, my dairy science studies gave me a clearer insight into more of the details involved in dairying." Since her studies, she has adopted two new management practices, however. They are the use of the electric dehorner, which she now uses on all the calves, and the use of top-dressing of feed for the higher producing cows.



While Millie looks to the future with calves such as this, she sees possibilities that would make her breed even more valuable, such as component pricing.

While a change in DHIA computations recently makes it more difficult for her to compare whether the new feeding has increased production, she feels that it has. And additionally, she said, the cows seem healthier, their coats are shinier and coincidentally they are seeing far less cases of foot rot.

While she makes it clear she is happy with her life right now as a paid fulltime employee on her parents' farm helping with all the farm chores including

plowing and baling as well as all the feeding of the dairy animals, questions about her future elicit a pause. Then she says rather quietly that while her own future may include marriage and may hinge on what her brothers decide about farming, she definitely wants to remain in dairying and will do anything to see the home farm survive. She states with absolute determination that if a Holstein guy turns out to be Mister Right, "he'll have to understand that my Guernseys come along."

## Conestoga Valley Sewing Club reorganizes

WITMER — The reorganizational meeting of the Conestoga Valley Sewing Club will be held on Tuesday, May 27 at 7 p.m. at the Witmer Fire Hall.

Any youth 8-18 as of January 1, 1980, is eligible to join 4-H.

For more information contact: Nettie Bare - 717/393-0931, or Mary Strubel - 717/393-1060.



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Millie Linde, back home on her parents' Linden-hof Farm near Oxford looks forward to her year as 1980 National Guernsey Queen.

## Virginville Grange meets

VIRGINVILLE — At the recent meeting of the Virginville Grange, upcoming events were discussed.

On June 19, the youth of the Grange will be going to Hershey Park. The juniors are making first-aid kits to sell. State Jr. Grange Camp will be held July 13-19.

A dairy luncheon will be held June 4. The next youth meeting will be held June 3.

At the region camp, Brenda Miller was chosen the Youth Princess and Steven Mohn the Youth Prince.

PENNSYLVANIA AGRICULTURE

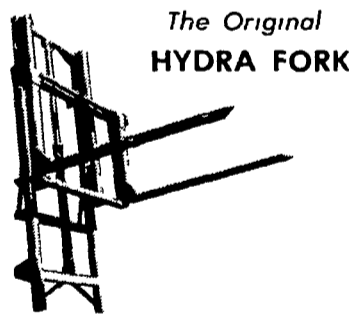


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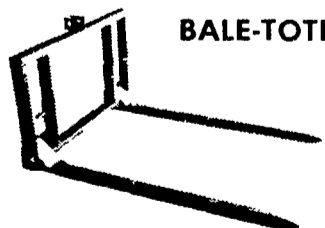
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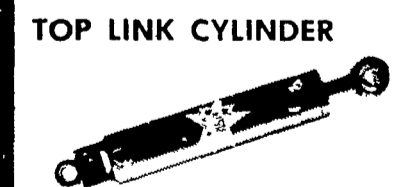
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