



The Miller Family, honored at the Reading Fair, includes from left, in the front row: Leon Blatt, Jeremy Gehringer, Brandy Gehringer; second row: Carlene Blatt, Bonnie Gehringer holding Melanie, Carl Miller holding Amy Walton, Marilyn Miller, Diane Dietrich, Candy Walton; third row: Nelson Blatt, Jeffrey Miller, Mike Gehringer, Danny Gehringer, Tammy Miller, Brian Blatt, Eric Blatt, Ginger Dietrich, Marlo Dietrich, Timmy Walton, Bill Dietrich and Donald Walton.

Miller family wins Reading Fair honors

BY LAUREL SCHAEFFER
Staff Correspondent
FLEETWOOD — Surely October 16th, 1980 will hold special memories for years to come for a certain family of Berks County.

It was on this evening during the Reading Fair Banquet that Carl Miller and family were named the 1980 Reading Fair Farm Family.

The Millers operate Mirl-Carl Farms, Kutztown, a family owned and operated

farm consisting of approximately 500 acres owned and 1300 acres rented, and a dairy in which 330 cows presently are being milked.

The Millers were selected as the outstanding farm family by the Berks County Pomona Grange.

To be eligible for selection the family must be an active member of a subordinate grange in the county. In the Millers case this grange is the Virginville Grange.

Miller has been with the grange his entire life, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Miller, being charter members. He and his wife, Marilyn, have earned all of the degrees with the grange as has his daughter and her husband, Carlene and Nelson Blatt. Miller has been an officer of the Virginville Grange for fifteen straight years and has also been a consistor at Windsor Castle United

Church of Christ for twenty years.

Carlene and Nelson were named the State Grange Outstanding Young Couple previously this year. Other children of the Millers are: Diane, wife of Bill Dietrich; Bonnie, wife of Michael Gehringer; Candy, wife of Donald Walton; Tammy 11, and Jeffrey, 23.

The Millers also have eleven grandchildren, six boys and five girls, in-

creasing the size of the family to 23 members. Miller remarked that the farm has always been a family operation since 1959 when he started farming with his grandfather. Miller rented a farm at first, purchasing the home farm in 1962, and gradually expanding the operation ever since.

Today the Millers have six family employees, other than themselves. His son, Jeffrey manages the dairy, three daughters also help and do the milking and two son-in-laws are employed full time. Walton as a shop

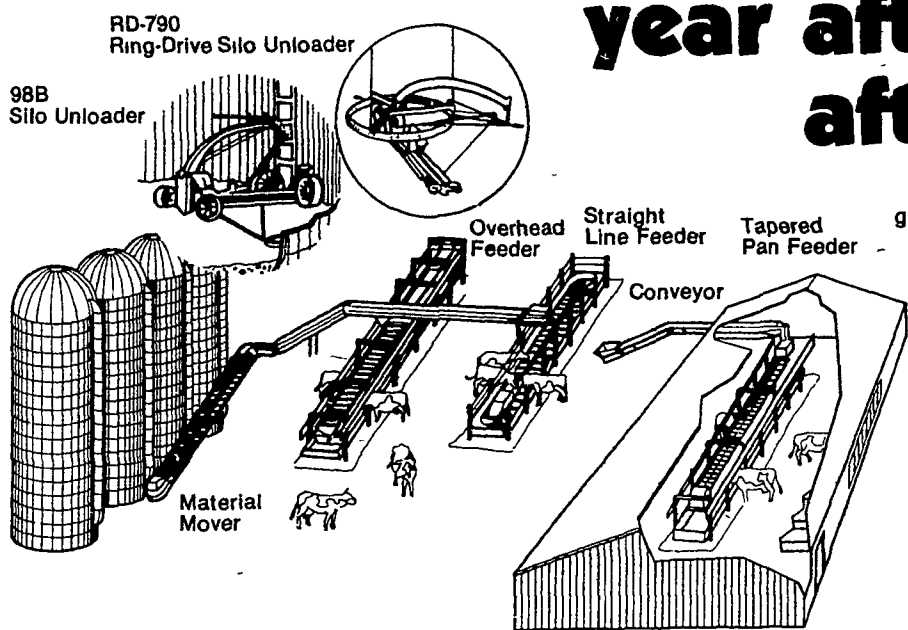
mechanic where 95 percent of the farm machinery repairs including overhauling is done, and Gehringer is a field hand.

Miller is general manager overseeing the entire family enterprise and operates the large machinery when possible and Marilyn handles the bookkeeping. Approximately 730 acres of corn are grown, 450 acres of alfalfa, and 200 acres of small grains.

All of the dairy feed is raised on the farm with the

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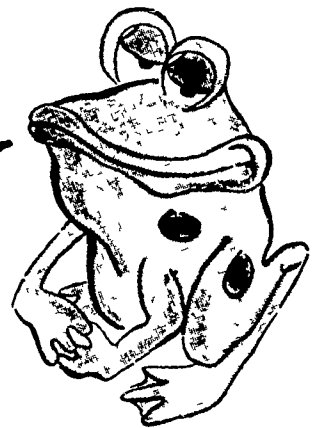
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