

Lebanon farmers, businessmen swap jobs

BY SHEILA MILLER

LEBANON — How many times have you heard the expression "Walk a mile in someone else's shoes to understand what they're going through." The purpose behind this familiar saying is to try to get people to see the world from another person's point of view.

In Lebanon County, in honor of Farm City Week, three farmers and three commercial businessmen did just that — they swapped jobs for a day to learn what life is like on the other side of the fence.

Participating in the exchange were farmers Donald Bollinger, Albert Moyer, and Abe Hoover. From the city—side came Albert Murry, president of Lebanon Valley National Bank; Fred Kelly, manager of Sears Roebuck and Co.; and Dave Broderick, administrator of Lebanon's Good Samaritan Hospital.

Bollinger, Murry exchange

KLEINFELTERSVILLE — The first exchange in this experiment in communications found Al Murry at the Donald Bollinger farm. Said Murry, "I was here at 5 a.m. — I beat Donald to the barn."

During the morning milking, while the cows stood patiently in their stanchions and milk streamed through the

pipeline, Murry said he observed quite a number of things. For instance, he said, "I learned that cows have no teeth up front, and I know now you just don't mate any old cow with any old bull."

Murry admitted that when he arrived at the Bollinger farm, he knew absolutely nothing about farming. But by the time breakfast

was ready, Murry said he found out you "tend to get very dirty around the farm."

He beamed with pride when he remarked he knew the meaning of some numbers in the dairy business. "If a cow has a number like 6.24 on the card hanging over her in the barn, the 6 is her style rating, the 2 is a code for her height, and the 4 indicates her strength."

While spending the day at Willow Maple Farm, Murry

was introduced to a relatively new management tool — embryo transplanting. He also walked through Bollinger's broiler house, and got a second lick at feeding and milking.

The 44 dairy cows at Willow Maple are all registered Holsteins with a DHI record of 20,500 pounds milk and 698 fat. "Our cows have been the highest herd in milk production in Lebanon

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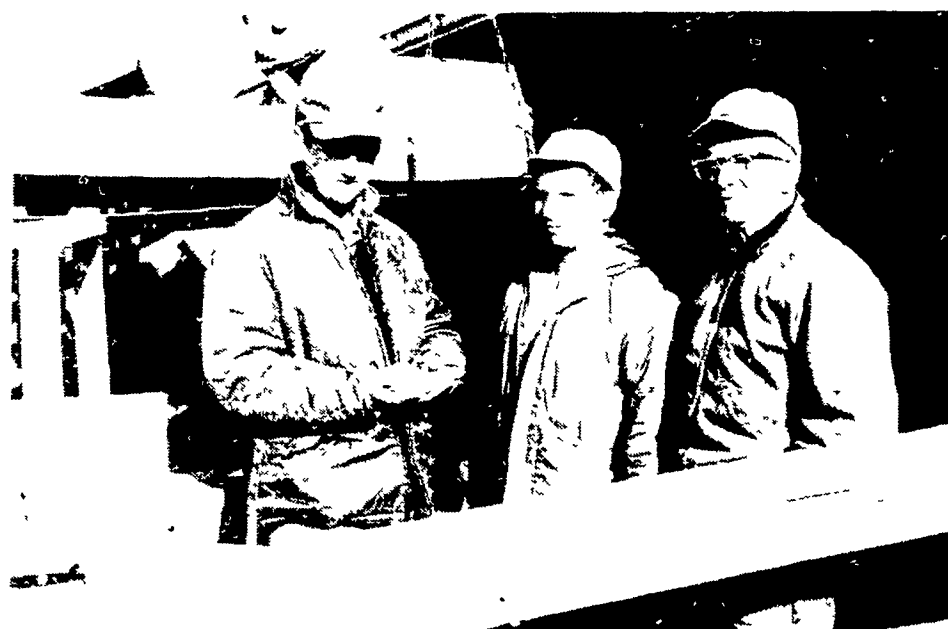
Moyer, K

LEBANON — Albert Moyer, dairy farmer, was the next to participate in the job exchange. He learned what it's like to manage a large department store when he sat behind the desk of Fred Kelly, manager of Sears Roebuck and Co. for a day.

Moyer had a pleasant surprise when his work d



Willow Maple Farm was the scene of the first farmer, businessman job swap. Albert Murry, president of the Lebanon Valley National Bank exchanged jobs for a day with dairyman Donald Bollinger.



Murry, left, has a real feel for farming — sampling the moist silage. Partners at Willow Maple Farm are Donald Bollinger, center, and father Harold Bollinger.



Albert Moyer changes from dairyman to store manager.

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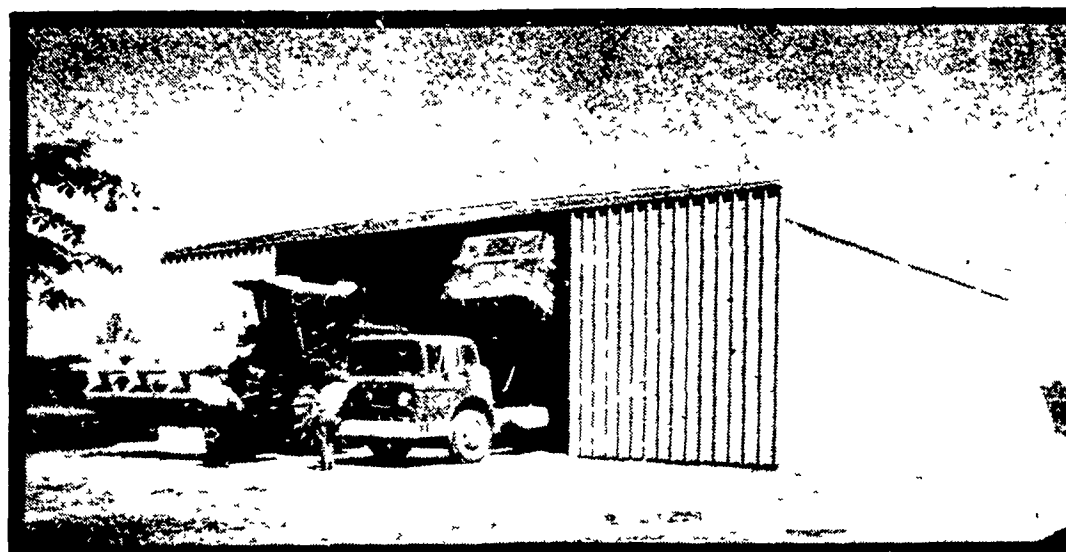
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