

Smith to retire

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when Smith informed him of his decision. "I sure hate to see him go," Beattie said.

Beattie expressed similar sentiments to Smith in a letter mailed Thursday from State College.

Smith was well known for taking every opportunity to help farmers and used many forums to do so.

In 1957 Max Smith began his popular "Now is the Time" column for LANCASTER FARMING. Originally presented on page 1, the column later was moved to the page 10 along with the editorials and has been a permanent and well-read fixture of that page ever since.

During his career, Smith earned enough honors to fill a good-sized Pennsylvania Dutch bank barn.

His most recent major award came last year when he was named Pennsylvania Livestock Association's Livestock Man of the Year.

As early as 1956 he was honored as one of the top 10 county agricultural agents in the United States by the American Hereford Breeders Association.

Smith received the Distinguished Service award from the National Association of County Agricultural Agents for his service the Lancaster County Agriculture.

In 1965 the same group recognized him as the winner of the Northeast Regional Animal Science Achievement Award.

In 1975 he was named Distinguished Alumnus by the Department of Animal Science at Penn State.

Locally, as well as statewide, Smith has been recognized for his strong stand in favor of farmland preservation and for his important contributions to 4-H and youth organizations.

Dean Beattie called Smith "a darn good generalist."

"He knows agriculture frontwards and backwards," Beattie said. "He is a broadly trained county

agent. As a result, he has qualities of leadership and organization which make him unique."

A native of Washington County, Pa., Smith was graduated from Penn State with a degree in animal husbandry.

He is married to the former Virginia Ruth McCalmont, also from Washington County.

Both are members of the Bethany Presbyterian Church of Lancaster.

The question of Smith's replacement is likely to remain open for at least two to three months.

The Extension Service said there is no way to speculate whether the appointment will be made from within Lancaster County or even from in Pennsylvania.

Regulations require an equal opportunity search be conducted for the best qualified candidate for the position.

Between March 28 and the appointment of the County's third County Agricultural Extension Agent, an acting county agent will be named.

In the meantime Smith will bask in the warm praises of those with whom and for whom he worked.

M.M. Smith long will be remembered as a fixture of Lancaster County agriculture.—CH



Max Smith, retiring Lancaster County agent, and his wife, Virginia, were honored in November, 1979, when Max was named Livestock Man of the Year by the Pennsylvania Livestock Association.

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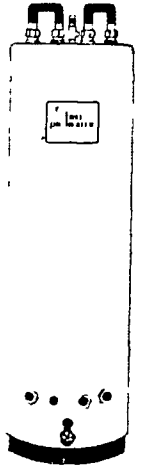
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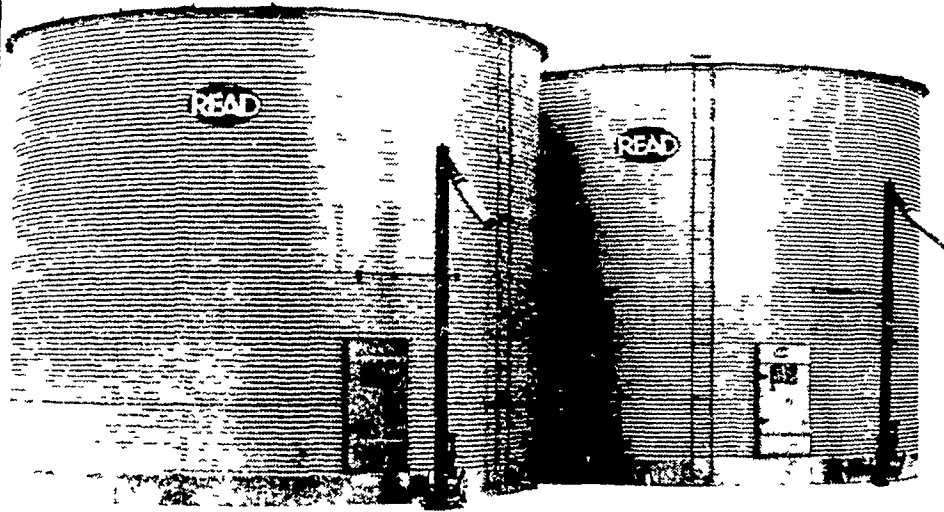


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