Smith profile

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recalls, "I helped Max plant some of the first corn plots he planted and he was a leader even then. Max had a lot of drive and he helped parents as well as kids. He had a knack for getting along with people."

It was Smith's personal interest in youth which helped to create winners, according to Walter Dunlop of Walter M. Dunlop and Sons at the Lancaster Stockyards.

He said, "To begin with, he was a very dedicated person. He took a real personal interest in every 4-Her and taught them what to feed and what kind of steers to buy. It was his personality, his interest, and his knowledge of cattle that they looked up to.'

In Dunlop's opinion, Smith also kept abreast of the times. He said, "Times have changed and they now look for lean cattle. He provided them with the kind of cattle that would win in Harrisburg I was very much impressed with his work.'

Tony Eberly, Denver R2, is now in partnership with his father and brother, but he spent eight years in the Baby Beef Club and expresses appreciation for what he learned from Smith He states, "Max had so much enthusiasm He had a way of giving it to youth and making

them strive for the best. He often told us 'you only get out of 4-H what you put into it.

Recognizing that he was involved in just a short part of Smith's long career, Eberly notes, "If he did for others what he did for me than I'm sure he did a lot of people a lot of good. He was always a man to look up to. I respected his opinion and I admired his love for youth and the time he spent with

Although he is now involved in poultry, Eberly, says, "When I started in 4-H he got me interested in livestock and I am really grateful for that. I went along with the team to the national livestock judging contest and I attribute our success to him."

Ray Brubaker was also a Baby Beef 4-H member for eight years and now works with Smith professionally in his capacity as County Executive Director of the Agriculture Stabilization and Conservaton Service.

Brubaker says, "His work with youth was his greatest contribution. He had such an interest in them. He enjoyed working with young people and was concerned about their maturing and become mature adults. He created a stronger interest in agriculture for young people and I'm sure influenced me and created an interest in me for attending Penn State.

'He had an interest in his job and was very straight torward He had established the confidence farmers. When people think of a county agent they think of Max."

Mrs. Harold Fry, Stevens R1, was a 4-H leader for 39 years. almost rivaling Smith's tenure as county agent.

She recalls there was a different emphasis in 4-H in those earlier days, saying, "He came to every 4-H meeting, and corn was the big thing then. They were experimenting with hybrids and the topic was often crop rotation, cultivation and weed control."

Some things haven't changed however, as she continues, "Max wasn't a strict disciplinarian but he always meant business. He was a firm believer in letting the kids take over the business end of the meeting and learn parliamentary procedure. Whatever he told the kids was true. Then they succeeded and that built their confidence.'

She feels his success in 4-H was built partially because adults thought so much of him that they insisted their children be in 4-H. When these 4-H'ers became parents their feelings were the same. She stated, "Parents and grandparents were supporting those kids in 4-H."

Dorothy believes he was well accepted because, "He can talk to almost anybody. Being a good

conservationalist is a great asset because when you want someone to accept your ideas you talk with them and soon can instill your ideas.'

His greatest contribution according to Dorothy is in his broad view. She says, "I think his interest in saving farmland and his teaching farmers to be husbandmen was most important.'

Mrs. Harold R., Columbia R2 shares some teelings expressed earlier. She recalls, "Max was always interested in everybody. He made it appear that no question was too small. He never laughed at questions. He loved children and they seemed to want to do their best for him. If Max told them to do something, his work was law. He was so interested in each one; they wouldn't let him down and they worked hard for him. He got the best out of all those kids.'

Grace inherited an interest in the Extension service from her father and she served as secretary of the Extension Board and as a 4-H leader. She noted that Smith seemed to take the changes which occurred in extension programs in his stride.

"He adjusted to them as though he were in favor of them all along. He considered his work with young kids his most important work. I think he really liked it."

Another 4-H leader who had a close association with Smith was Fred Linton, Kirkwood Road, Quarryville. Linton was a Baby Beef Leader for 36 years so speaks with experience and authority when he says, "He was very good with the children. He was definitely well respected and everyone seemed to accept his programs."

About Smith's retirement, Linton, who is himself a retired farmer, says, "He'll enjoy it."

And that is a sentiment echoed by all those who respect, admire and will miss him as county agent.

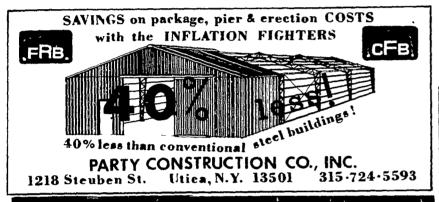
Vet science project planned

NORRISTOWN - All teens interested in learning about veterinary science are invited to take the Vet Science Unit II 4-H Project to start on Wednesday, April 15, from 7:30-9 p.m. at the Montgomery County 4-H Center near Lansdale.

The shortcourse will continue every Wednesday evening up to and including May 27. Leading the project will be Dr. James Prier and Steve Prier of the Centre Square Veterinary Clinic. There's

no cost for the course and materials will be provided.

Although the program is aimed at youth ages 13-19, anyone may attend. Teens do not have prior 4-H experience. For more details contact County Agent Nancy M. Kadwill at 277-0574. Advance registration is requested. Please leave your name, address, phone number and age when enrolling, or mail the above information to Kadwill at 400 Markley Street, Norristown, Pa. 19401.



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