

Pest control expert helps protect Independence Hall

PHILADELPHIA — Peter F. Roughan, District Manager, of the J.C. Ehrlich Company, Lancaster, likes to think that he and his company made a contribution in preserving one of America's most revered shrines.

The local pest control company was called upon by the National Park Service to analyze a suspected termite condition which appeared at Independence Hall in Philadelphia.

According to Roughan, a resident of Lancaster, an infestation of termites did exist.

"Termites are no respecter of historic buildings, he related. They devour wood no matter whether in a million dollar building, a historic institution, a home, or a shack. It is a biological imperative for termites to eat wood in order to survive."

"Naturally, the officials of the National Park Service were extremely concerned due to the historic nature of Independence Hall. I was extremely impressed with the thoroughness with which they analyzed our proposal. A team of four government officials, including an individual known as a historic architect, was called in to scrutinize every detail of our contract specifications. Of course, we were proud to have been selected to do this work."

Making Independence Hall safe from termites took about two weeks for both exterior and interior treatment. Tours were not interrupted.

The exterior work consisted of treating the soil around the perimeter walls of the colonial building down to the footing. An EPA approved chemical, chlordane, was introduced under pressure into the soil. To protect the interior, the foundation walls were drilled and also treated with the chemical under pressure.

Termites live in the soil Roughan explained. They travel as far as necessary to reach wood, their source of food for the queen, the nymphs, and the entire colony.

They return to the soil about once every 24 hours for moisture. An active termite infestation can contain 250,000 worker termites.

"The treatment given Independence Hall should provide it with a minimum of five years protection," he stated. As part of the contract, they will provide periodic inspections through 1985.

"The termite control principles we applied at Independence Hall are identical to the processes we use in residences, institutions and business properties," Roughan pointed out. "Still, even though we have performed more than 40,000 termite control jobs in our 53 year history, this was one of the most exciting for us. It was a real professional challenge," Roughan said.

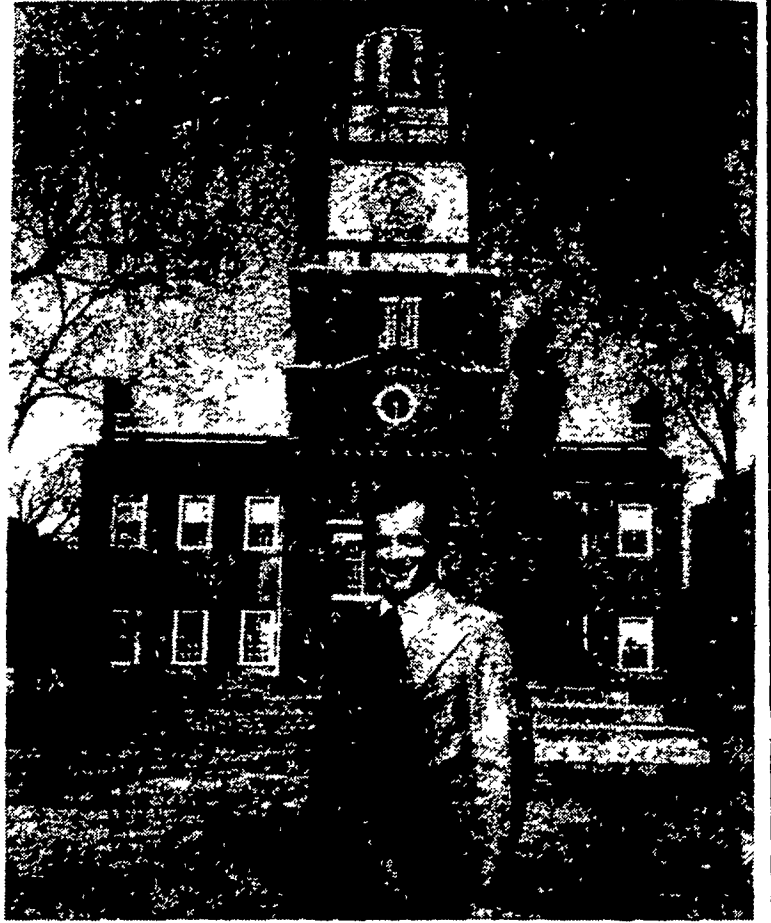
"Unfortunately the termite work at Independence Hall does enhance the myth that termites only attack old buildings. This is not true. In our area there are probably more termite infestations in newer

buildings than in old ones. This is because wood scraps are often buried on the site of new construction. This then attracts a termite colony which will begin to infest the new home. The same evidence of termites may become apparent to the home owner as was observed by the officials at Independence Hall.

Termites build mud tunnels from the ground to their source of cellulose, typically wood. At about this time of the year, the termite reproductive will perform a mating flight and drop its wings. This is sometimes referred to as "termite swarm."

The wings near a window sill or the basement floor are another sign of a possible termite infestation. Termites need only a crack crevice as small as one sixty-fourth of an inch to slip through.

The statistics have shown that termites attack more than five times as many homes as fires. Damage in the United States is estimated at more than \$500 million annually.



Guernsey meeting

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To Vaughn and Eileen Moore, Rockmoore Farm, for the high herd in the County for milk and fat; 12,932 milk and 629 fat.

To Rodney and Darlene Stuff, Walnut Lane Farm, for high individual cow lactation in the test year: Walnut Favvors Actress, 18,553 milk, 914 fat.

To Leigh Knepper, Montevue Farm, for high individual cow lifetime production who left herd in the test year. Robin of Montevue, 96,776 milk, 4689 fat, in eight lactations.

Wagner then presented awards for the outstanding 4-H work based on the project book. Receiving the Junior award was Nancy Myers, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Myers.

Receiving the Senior award was Doug Layman, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Layman.

Paul Benchoff, vocational agriculture teacher from Waynesboro, presented similar awards for the outstanding FFA Guernsey project in the County.

Receiving these awards were, Curtiss Knepper, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leigh Knepper; and Jeff Benedict, son of Mr. and Mrs. Marion Benedict.

The Franklin County Dairy Princess, Carol Hawbaker was introduced and gave a brief talk on the use of the "Real Seal".


New directors for the coming year were elected to a three year term. Serving in this capacity will be Harold Hoffeditz, Ken Myers and Dave Layman.

They will join John Moore, Glenn Mummert, Gerald Peckman, Rodney Stuff, Don McCullough and Don Bender to make up the Board of Directors for The Franklin County Guernsey Breeders.

The program for the evening was a fascinating slide presentation of the Isle of Guernsey given by Peter Witmer, Pen-Del Farms, Lancaster County.

The Guernsey Breed originated on this English Channel Island. Monks sent by the Duke of Normandy from France to colonize the Island brought with them the finest of French cattle. This was about the year 931 A.D.

Pictured in the slides was the monestary, still standing and several herds of the fine cattle developed by the Islanders. It is against the law to own any other breed of cattle than Guernseys on the Island.



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