

James Price, second from left, of the Beacon Milling Co., is the 1981 chairman of the Pennsylvania Poultry Federation. Price replaces out-going chairman Clarence Mitchell, left, who assumes the leadership of the Pa. Turkey Council for 1981. New presidents of the Pa. Egg Council and Pa. Broiler Council are S. Richard Moyer, Winfield, Union County, second from right; and William Dickinson, R3 Manheim, Lebanon County.

Poultry Federation has new leaders

LANCASTER — The new leaders of the Pennsylvania Poultry Federation performed their first duties on Thursday during the poultry producers' annual conference and banquet held here at the Host Farm.

Presiding over the council meetings and management sessions were Chairman James Price, York; Broiler Council President William Dickinson, R3 Manheim; Turkey Council President Clarence Mitchell, Mifflinburg; and Egg Council President S. Richard Moyer, Windfield.

Price steps into the chairmanship from the vice chairman's position which he held last year. He has been in the feed business for 29 years and currently serves as general manager for the Beacon Milling Co. He has been affiliated with the Pennsylvania Poultry Federation for over 10 years.

Bill Dickinson moonlights as a broiler producer and admits most of the work in the family's two 50,000 bird houses is done by his

wife Jean. The Dickinsons raise roughly a half million birds a year at their 53-acre Lebanon County farm. They purchased the farm in 1977 and constructed their first broiler house the following year. Bill, who is regional assistant vice president for Farm Credit, is the father of two children, Billy and Barbara.

Giving up the chairmanship of the Poultry Federation did not mean Clarence Mitchell was ready to retire. He is this year's Turkey Council president, a job he easily qualifies for because of his 15 years of experience in the business. Mitchell raises 120,000 turkeys on two farms, one in Union County and the other in Snyder County.

S. Richard Moyer's Pleasant View Egg Farm is a partnership operation run by Moyer, his wife Mary, and children Elaine and Joe. The family keeps 70,000 laying hens on their 600 acre Union County farm, where they wash, candle, package and deliver eggs.—SM

Wool everywhere at Cumberland County pool

CARLISLE — Wool piled to the rafters in the buildings of the Cumberland County fairgrounds was everybody's startling introduction to the annual Cumberland County wool pool.

But what happens to all that wool after it leaves the trucks at the pool?

According to Anthony Dobrosky, York County Extension agent and a worker at the pool, the first thing that happens is the wool is graded and weighed.

The wool grader looks for many things in a fleece by touching and stretching the fiber. For example the grader looks for the amount of moisture in a fleece, amount of manure and straw, brittleness, and length and strength of fiber.

According to Dobrosky, the most abundant grade of wool pooled at the Cumberland pool is medium. It is found on many breeds of sheep called the medium wool breeds.

The price for medium wool at the pool this year is 85 cents. This wool is used basically for the manufacture of carpets.

Another type of wool is "fine." This is found primarily on Merinos and Rambouillets.

This wool is smaller in fiber diameter than any of the other grades. It is easy to identify because it has many closely spaced waves or kinks in the

staple.

Fine wool is the highest quality and is used in making the finer wool suits and sweaters. The price of this wool is 88 cents.

Fine wool is not as prevalent around this area as it is in the western part of Pennsylvania.

The brown or black hair in the wool is known as "karakul."

"It is not wool," Dobrosky stressed. He further explained karakul is a poor quality wool that will bring a lower price. The poor quality wools are used in felts and in rug backings.

Once the wool is weighed and graded it is placed in large burlap bags about six feet long. It is then weighed again and numbered.

After numbering, the wool is placed in trucks and taken to the mill where clothing and rugs are made.

According to Donna Duncan, secretary-treasurer of the Cumberland County Cooperative Wool Growers, Cumberland's wool was sold to A.H. Helmig and Co. in Jamestown, SC.

Mrs. Duncan said the pool will be bringing in about 80,000 pounds of wool.

There were over 600 poolers from as far away as Juniata County and the line waiting to deliver wool often stretched to a quarter of a mile in length.



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