

Retired Lanc. DHIA supervisor shares two decades

BY SALLY BAIR
Staff Correspondent
QUARRYVILLE — When Robert J. Brinton first tested milk for the Dairy Herd Improvement Association, herds were smaller, milk was shipped in cans, roads

were not paved and the samples were run on the farm. Twenty-one years later, Brinton has retired. During those two decades Brinton experienced many changes in the work which was a large part of his life.

Brinton, 227 Circle Drive, Quarryville, has lived in Lancaster County nearly all of his life and at one time owned two farms. He had to leave dairying because of back trouble and chose being a DHIA supervisor, something which kept him close to the life he knew and loved. He also kept one herd of about 60 cows which he recently

sold. Brinton first took over the circuit on which Curtis Akers had worked when Akers left to become a dairy farmer. Brinton recalls, "I didn't know what to expect, but it worked out all right. I enjoyed doing it. When we first tested, we kept the books and ran the samples." Brinton also remembers that,

since many testers were single, they also boarded with the families for whom they tested. The testing program was eventually changed so that the actual running of samples was done at the supervisors home, cutting into the time the tester

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Now that his daily routine doesn't find him on the road or in the barn, Brinton finds time to relax and catch up on the odd-jobs around his home near Quarryville.



It's a common sight to see a DHIA Supervisor hard at work at a desk and even though Lancaster's Robert Brinton retired in October after 21 years of service to county dairy producers, he still finds plenty of paper work piling up.

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