

# Helping people help themselves

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D.C. (Delegates lived in tents on the mall in front of the U.S. Department of Agriculture building.) Through these experiences he got to know his county agents as well as specialists from the state university.

"That's what sparked my interest in an extension career," Gwinn said. "I liked these people; they were my role models. I greatly admired them because of their friendliness, enthusiasm, dedication and their deep desire to help others. And in the years since, I've never lost my love for extension or extension people."

He still keeps in touch with his 4-H agent. Now in her eighties, she has followed his career from the start.

After high school Gwinn earned

a teacher's certificate and taught for two years in a one-room school. Then World War II came along and he joined the Army, serving in the infantry in Europe as part of Gen. George S. Patton's famous Third Army. Back home again, he entered West Virginia University where he earned bachelor's and master's degrees in agricultural education. "While I was in college," he said, "I spent all my summers directing county and state 4-H camps for the university."

And then he came to Delaware. In 1948, agriculture in the state was more general than it is now, though broilers were already an important commodity. The vegetable industry was much larger, with far fewer acres of corn and soybeans. Most of the vegetables were grown

on contract for local canneries. Compared to now, there weren't many roadside markets; and there wasn't much beach development, certainly nothing like today's resort industry.

"Dairying was strong in all three counties, and milk was marketed in cans," Gwinn recalled. "This was before any development had taken place and most of northern New Castle County was dairy or general farms. There wasn't much of a nursery industry yet; in fact, greenhouses were almost unheard of — at least at Kent and Sussex counties. On the other hand, fruit production (peaches, apples and strawberries primarily) was quite important, with most of the orchards located downstate.

"Farming back then was less mechanized," he said, "though I

don't remember seeing any horses or mules being used except on some small farms in Sussex County. Standard equipment on most farms was a tractor, plows, disks, harrows, a one-row corn picker and a binder for wheat and barley. Silos were mostly wooden and filled by hand." All this gradually changed as improved equipment and technology became available and farms got bigger and more specialized. As farmers depended less on hand labor, they were able to become more efficient and productive.

Three years after his arrival, Gwinn became state 4-H leader. He also assumed responsibility for directing the extension service's agricultural short courses. These ranged from a 10-week general course taught at the university to one- to three-day events held either in Newark or out in the counties.

There was also an annual three-day conference on campus for young Delaware farmers.

"We covered everything except the kitchen sink," he recalled. The 10-week course focused on production — fruit, vegetables and grain crops, livestock and dairying. Instructors came from the universities of Delaware, Maryland and Rutgers, as well as the agricultural industry. Students came from Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania and New Jersey and lived on campus.

During this period Gwinn was also in charge of the agricultural college's Farm and Home program — a three-day event which took place on the Newark campus.

In the mid-1950s he took a leave of absence to attend the National Agricultural Extension Center for

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Hamilton Bank believes The Family Farm Is The Backbone of Agriculture. On behalf of all dairymen we are pleased to salute the success of the Robert H. Gochenaur Jr. family at 419 Penn Grant Road, Lancaster. Pictured (L to R) are C. Wayne Creasy, Assistant Vice President and Manager of the Hamilton Bank Manor Street Branch in Lancaster, Boni the Lancaster County Dairy Princess for 1983-84, Naomi, Vonda, Robert, Scott and Bob Gochenaur and Darwin E. Boyd, Vice President and Director of the Agri-Finance Department for Hamilton Bank. The Gochenaur's have a 54 cow herd and farm 250 acres. Their D H I A rolling herd average for the past twelve months was 20 263 lbs. of production and 718 lbs. of butterfat with a 3.5% test. Congratulations on a job well done.

## A salute to dairymen. Every month is dairy month with us.

In June a lot of people pay tribute to dairy farmers. It's National Dairy Month.

At Hamilton Bank, we feel you deserve credit a lot more often than that. Managing a successful dairy operation requires working capital all year round. So we're here to help you meet your capital requirements whenever you need us.

The total annual volume of dairy production for our six-county area is over \$407,000,000. This represents 31% of the yearly production for Pennsylvania. Now that's a record you can point to with pride, and we're proud to be able to help

— anyway, anytime. At Hamilton Bank, every month is dairy month.

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