

## Howe sewing machine given to Penn State's ag museum

UNIVERSITY PARK — An 1872 Howe step-feed machine has been donated to the Pasto Agricultural Museum of The Pennsylvania State University and will be on display Ag Progress Days August 20-22. Jane K. MacMillan, of State College, donated the treadle sewing machine that she found 25 years ago at her family's Crawford County farm.

Recently restored by Jerome Pasto, associate dean emeritus of agriculture and curator of the museum, the sewing machine is in working order and bears an original brass plate with a bust of its inventor, Elias Howe.

Howe is often credited with inventing the sewing machine. While other inventors had experimented with various sewing devices, Howe was the first to combine a grooved,

eye-pointed needle with a shuttle to make the lockstitch, which he patented in 1846. The recently donated 1872 Howe machine includes these features, a heart-shaped cam which moves the needle bar, and a continuous feeding device operated by a wheel connected to the treadle.

By 1872, when MacMillan's machine was manufactured by the Howe Machine Co., Howe had died and his two sons-in-law were carrying on the family business. In the 26 years since the first patent, Howe had gone from a penniless, bed-ridden tinkerer to a millionaire businessman receiving patent royalties from scores of American-made sewing machines.

Howe didn't establish his own factory until just before his death 20 years after his first patent. So,

although many sewing machines carried the Howe name in the mid-1800s, only those produced after 1866 with the brass bust of Howe were actually manufactured by the inventor's company. This brass plate and the inscription "Inventor and Make -NY USA" mark the machine on display at Penn State as one of the genuine Howe machines.

The treadle sewing machine will be displayed along with a collection of other farm and home implements at the Pasto Museum during Ag Progress Days August 20-22 at Penn State's Rock Spring Agricultural Research Center on Route 45, nine miles southwest of State College. Admission and parking are free at the event, which runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each of the three days.



A 113-year-old treadle sewing machine will be one of many farm and home implements on display during Penn State's Ag Progress Days. Jane K. MacMillan, whose great aunt probably stitched her family's clothing on the machine, and Jerome Pasto, curator of the Pasto Agricultural Museum, put the Howe sewing machine back to working order.

## Penn State names Snider to 4-H extension post

UNIVERSITY PARK — Dr. B. Alan Snider has been appointed professor of agricultural and extension education and assistant director for 4-H youth programs for the Corporative Extension Service of The Pennsylvania State University. He came to Penn State from Oregon State University where he was an extension 4-H youth specialist.

Announcing the appointment, Dr. W. Wayne Hinrich, acting dean of the College of Agriculture and director of the Extension Service, said "Dr. Snider's background in youth and volunteer development, including his work in training 4-H professionals, will be invaluable as we work toward shaping extension for the 90's. We look forward to working with him."

Dr. Snider is responsible for directing all 4-H youth extension programs in Pennsylvania. He will also serve as 4-H liaison with the assistant directors of the Extension Service's four administrative regions.

Working with an organization that is concerned about people is what drew Dr. Snider to the Extension Service.

"Also, the 4-H program is unique among youth programs because it is tied into the land grant university system. That means we

can build our programs on the expertise of the faculty," he said. In Pennsylvania more than 145,000 youth from all counties participated in 4-H programming last year.

At Oregon University, in addition to directing volunteer leadership development, professional staff development and the urban 4-H program, Snider was responsible for curriculum development in mechanical science, communications, creative arts and the leader dog program. Snider also served on the Michigan State 4-H staff, both as a county and a multi-county agent, and

before that was a vocational agriculture teacher in Ohio.

Snider holds both a bachelor of science degree and a master's degree from Ohio State University in agriculture education. He received his Ph.D in adult and continuing education learning systems and family studies from Michigan State University.

He is a member of the Adult Education Association of the United States of America, the national Association of Extension 4-H Agents, and Gamma Sigma Delta, an agricultural honorary society.

## Atlantic tests Juniata Co. bull

LANCASTER — J. Kevin Peoples of Mifflintown is the breeder of a young Holstein bull selected to enter the sire sampling program at Atlantic Breeders Cooperative. Will-Mae-Acres Mars-ET, known as 15H640 Mars, joins over 250 other bulls currently in the program at the Lancaster facilities.

Mars' sire, Cass-River Select Delegate, carries January 1985 statistics of +907M +46F. The maternal side of this pedigree

shows a VG-89 Arlinda Jet Stream daughter with lactation credits that include 4-3Y 305D 23,150M 3.9% 895F. Her January 1985 Cox Index is +883M +27F.

15H640 Mars is available to local dairymen by calling Atlantic's 24-hour, toll-free number 800-732-0391.

## Adams Beekeepers

GETTYSBURG — Adams County beekeepers will meet in regular session on Monday at 7:30 p.m. at the Penn State Fruit Research Laboratory, Biglerville. The program, under direction of Albert Muenzfeld, will deal with extracting honey.

Members are also urged to

remember that the Beekeeping Short Course will be offered August 5-7, at the main campus of The Pennsylvania State University. The 31st annual conference of the Extension Apiculture Society also will be held at Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, Aug. 8-10.

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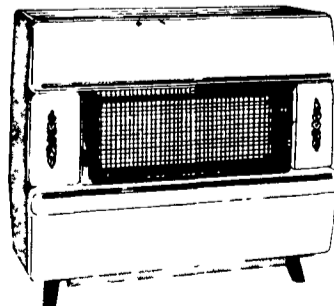
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