

30 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

In Washington the Congress passed a new farm bill that "called for reinstatement of rigid price supports at 90 percent parity." Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson objected to the bill and called it "not acceptable".

Senator Lyndon B. Johnson (D-Texas) said he would keep the Senate in session Wednesday night to get a vote. Republican house leaders had sought support for a substitute bill, which they hoped President Eisenhower would sign.

In Des Moines, Iowa, former President Harry S. Truman called the opposition the most flagrant

example of political betrayal he had ever seen.

Earl J. Groff, Strasburg R1, has been named to his third term as president of the Pennsylvania State Association of Artificial Breeders.

One load of Prime 1270 lb. steers brought \$22.90 at the Lancaster Union Stock Yards as total number of receipts set a new record. The opening of trout fishing looks good for Sunday.

Penn State Inka Pathfinder Star became the first holstein cow in America to produce over 1,000 pounds of butterfat in each of five successive lactations.

Draft horse clinic set for May 3

Showing and working Draft Horses will be the subject of a clinic to be held May 3 at the Butler County Fairgrounds near Prospect, Pa. Sponsored by the Pa. Draft Horse and Mule Assn. the clinic includes topics of concern to both novice or experienced horse owners and people interested in Draft Horses.

Morning speakers include a local veterinarian discussion first aid and health and an extension specialist speaking on feeding. Afternoon sessions will be devoted to area horseman demonstrating harnessing, braiding, showing in halter and hitch classes, and breaking a colt. Clinic participants will be given the opportunity to take part wherever possible.

Cost of the clinic is \$10.00 per person and \$5.00 per person for a dinner to be held immediately afterwards. Registration will begin at 9 a.m. with reservations required by April 24 for the meal only. Additional information is

available by contacting Ed Johnston, R.D. 2, Box 152, New Alexandria, PA 15670, Phone (412) 668-2193.

Schuylkill Co. fair to hold auction

The Schuylkill County Fair Association, a non-profit organization, is seeking items for their annual fundraising consignment sale on Saturday, April 19th at the Fairgrounds. Fourteen new farm implements, garden and lawn tractors, wood stove, band meat saw, gun, craft items and

more are already on the auction block. However, the Association needs many more items as they have run into unforeseen expenditures.

Sale items may be delivered to the Fairgrounds from 8:30 a.m. till dark Monday through Friday, April 14-18. A loader will be available for heavy items. Con-

signment commissions are very reasonable. Items may also be donated but must be in working order or good condition. Dealers and crafters may also reserve table space. The Auctioneer will be George Blum.

For more information call Craig R. Morgan, Friedensburg, 739-2627.

Interest Rates on FmHA programs lowered

WASHINGTON — Interest rates were lowered on most loan programs of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farmers Home Administration beginning April 1, according to Vance L. Clark, agency administrator.

In farmer programs, the rates on operating loans will drop from 10.25 percent to 9.50 percent. The rates will go down from 10.75 percent to 10.25 percent on farm ownership, soil and water, and Indian land acquisition loans.

The rate for limited resource loans will go from 7.25 percent to 6.50 percent for operating purposes and from 5.25 percent to 5 percent for ownership purposes.

In housing programs, the interest rate will be reduced from 10.625 percent to 9.50 percent for

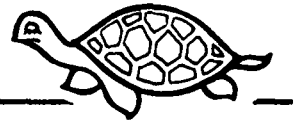
single family houses, rural rental housing and rural housing site loans.

For community facility and water and waste disposal loans, the market interest rate will be 7.125 percent, down from 8.375 percent, and the intermediate rate will be 6.125 percent, down from 6.625 percent. The poverty line rate

remains at 5 percent. These interest rates are calculated quarterly, based on the current average cost of municipal bonds.

Clark said the new rates reflect a decrease in the cost of money to the government and they should be beneficial to rural residents and especially farmers who depend heavily on credit.

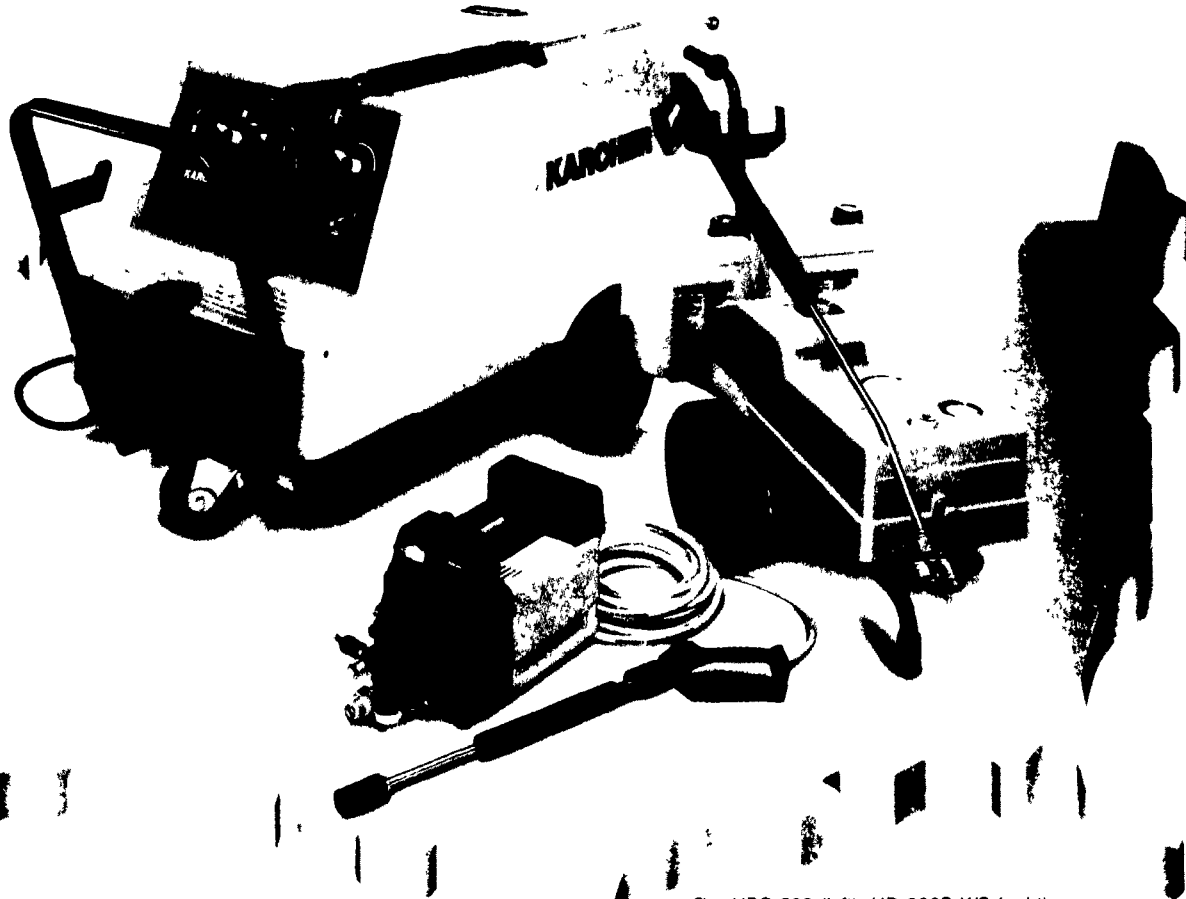
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