

The Dairy Business

By
Newton Bair

Spring Cleaning Is Treasure Hunting

Spring housecleaning is a ritual usually performed in April and May by the head of the house. It is strictly a female chore, except for a few odd jobs that require more muscle, or some extra hand or leg power. It serves several purposes in our society, so I'll explore only one or two.

Why housecleaning got started in the first place, we can only conjecture. In the dim and distant past, the cave just got too clogged up with bones, trash, dead dogs, or last years mammoth hides. It was either dig it out or find a new cave. With inflation and population growth, caves weren't that easy to find, so spring cleaning became a necessity for survival.

But most housekeepers do it weekly now, so the annual spring

cleaning has become more of an instinct than a tradition, especially in the female of the species.

Now I'm sure that our modern houses can't be compared with a cave, and we might be able to live in the same house for several years without the kind of cleaning that Mama does every spring. But how would we find the little goodies that got lost during the past year, if the house didn't get torn around, everything that is downstairs moved up, and all things painted, scraped and dusted?

Nothing gets thrown out, but everything is moved somewhere else. Nothing is permanently lost, just shuffled and repacked. It'll turn up next spring if we forget where we put it.

Housecleaning turns up some long forgotten treasures that were carefully stuck away in the attic thirty odd years ago. Like the old DHIA books, and milk check statements that had to be saved.

In my case, they have been carried along on several moves since we quit the farm. With every flitting, they were carefully dusted off, packed in a fresh carton, and pushed way back under the eaves behind more substantial stuff in the ledges of the new cave, -uh, house. They turn up every spring, prompting the perennial question of why do we save this, and should it be pitched out with the bones and hides?

Well, the inevitable has happened. The check stubs and milk statements from 1953 have finally hit the garbage can. But not before I carefully sifted them for a few choice bits of nostalgia that survived thirty three years of housecleaning. Interesting stuff, but not World shaking.

For example, Ryders Dairy in Lemoyne Pa. paid \$4.73 for 3.6%

milk in August, 1953. That was the blend price for milk that was 57% class One, and 43% class Two. Hauling charges came to \$0.39, leaving a net price of \$4.34 a hundred pounds for 3.6% milk.

That looked pretty good then, considering that prices were climbing slowly but steadily. Farming was a tough job, but optimism was high and we took chances, knowing that things would get better.


That was the year that we put up a new Unadilla silo. It cost \$710.00 without the hoops. We salvaged the hoops from the old one which it replaced. The charge for erecting the structure came to \$105.00, making the total cost of the new silo \$815.00, which was paid for out of the next milk check.

So much for the trash and garbage from my attic. If it has any relevance to the present, it must be that, when we root among the artifacts and junk from the past we usually find that things are somewhat better now than they had been in the good old days.

The cost of the essentials we buy are still proportional to the prices we get for our products. Notice that I specify the essentials, not the luxuries. If we include the many things that once were luxuries but are now considered essentials, the income-outgo difference is somewhat tighter than it was. So maybe it is a matter of sorting the needs from the wants.

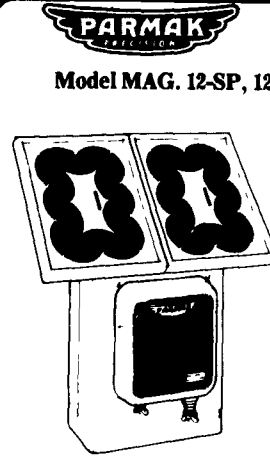
Maybe a little spring cleaning in the Barn or shop might turn up a few lost items. Or better yet, unclutter the work spaces and brighten the passageways that we walk and work in every day. Or sort the needs from the wants. Even our mind and spirit will benefit from a good dusting and cleaning occasionally.

Eliminate Fencing Problems with ARC 12 Solar Fencing High Tensile Wire



- Eliminates fence sagging
- No staples or wire clips
- Adjustable enclosed spring assembly for each wire
- Optional site rails™
- Optional Arc 110 Volt multi wire unit
- Installed by trained dealers
- Fully guaranteed by warranty

SOLAR FENCING CO.
1-800-247-8150
or
KEYSTONE SOLAR FENCE
RD 2, Box 148 Watsontown, PA 17777
717-649-5321



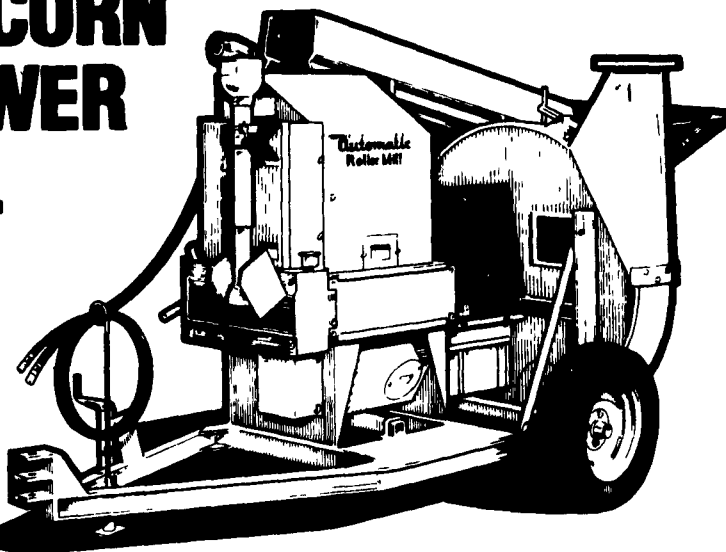
PARMAK
MAGNUM 12 SOLAR-PAK
Model MAG. 12-SP, 12V. Battery Operated
Solar powered, uses free energy from the sun. Low impedance for maximum power, longer life, no operating costs. America's first solid-state solar powered electric fencer. Solar-Pak has all the great Magnum 12 features plus solar-power. Complete with sealed 12-V. Gel battery. Weather-proof, portable outdoor model. Charges up to 25 miles of fence. UL listed.
2 Year Warranty, Including Lightning Damage, With Prompt Local Service Available
• Other models available, including Hi-Line Fencers.

Made in U S A

— SALES AND SERVICE —
If Your Local Dealer Does Not Have It, Contact
PEQUEA BATTERIES
Ronks, PA 17572
Distributor & Warranty Station for Parmak

the one that keeps rolling when others quit!

Automatic EARCORN BLOWER MILL



Automatic pioneered the development of the unique crusher unit which shells corn and shreds the cob ahead of the rollers which crack the kernels and reduce the cob further. No troublesome screens to change or slow down the capacity. It comes with 8-foot hydraulic intake auger and 54-inch blower. Also available with an 11-inch tilting discharge auger with 10-foot reach in place of the blower.

- **UNIQUE CRUSHER ROLLS** shell the corn, crush the cob ahead of the rolls, no screens to plug.
- **FATIGUE-PROOF DRIVE SHAFTS**, ground and polished.
- **CARBON STEEL ROLLS**, hardened to a 56 Rockwell "C", out-perform other rolls in capacity and durability.
- **20-SPLINE**, 1 3/4-inch PTO shaft with shear pin protection.

Well Done!



KUHN GYROSTAR GRS 25 Rake/Tedder

A great rake ... and ... a great tedder. Two machines in one! KUHN'S advanced equipment technology comes through again

- Easy on the crop - minimum leaf loss
- Simple changeover from rake to tedder
- Side delivery raking for quicker dry down
- Easy maneuvering in the field.

Why buy two machines when one will do both jobs? See your KUHN dealer now. With the KUHN GRS 25, you'll know what we mean when we say "well done."

The Kuhn Connection!
Joining agriculture and technology for over 160 years

KUHN

Distributed By
HAMILTON EQUIPMENT, INC.
567 South Reading Road, P.O. Box 478
Ephrata, PA 17522
Telephone (717) 733-7951
Please Contact Us For Your Nearest Dealer



RYDER SUPPLY CO.
539 Falling Spring Rd.
P.O. Box 219
Chambersburg, PA 17201-0219
PH 717-263-9111