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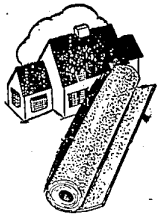
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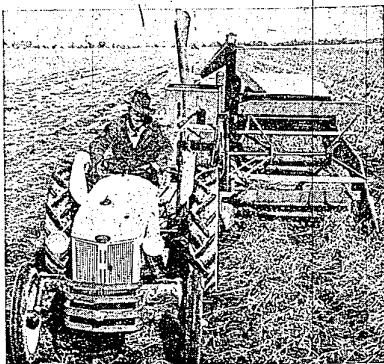
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# FARM FEATURES

## NEW COMBINE



Equipment hungry farmers, faced with record production goals for this country and Europe, got a major boost with the announcement of a new combine. The new machine has a full six-foot cut, is powered by a 20-horsepower engine, and as the above picture indicates, is the "straight through" type with low, streamlined design.

## County 4-H Plans Project Exhibit

1400 Oakland County boys and girls enrolled in winter 4-H Club work will exhibit their project work at the Pontiac High School April 10, according to R. Lynde Lewis, County 4-H Club Agent. The 4-H Club program is part of the Oakland County Extension Service with office at 1 Lafayette Street, Pontiac. The achievement is an annual event and this year will be the largest showing ever seen in Oakland County.

Boys and girls under the guidance of 125 leaders have been working at their projects including clubbing, foods, electrical, handicraft, tractor, knitting, and others. Exhibits will be on display Saturday afternoon, April 10, in the girls gymnasium of the Pontiac High School. 4-H Club members from the Walled Lake School District will conduct their own exhibit later in April.

The public is invited to view the exhibit and to attend the evening program Saturday, April 10, at 7:30 p.m., in the High School Auditorium. The feature attraction will be a style review by 350 4-H Clothing project members.

The climax of the evening program will be announcing of 21 county representatives to the State 4-H Club Week in East Lansing June 29 to July 2, and the presentation of leaders awards.

## Farm Clean-Up Urged To Cut Fire Loss

A neat, clean farm usually is a farm that is safe from fire. This observation is made by farm safety specialists at Michigan State college in conjunction with Spring Clean-Up Week, April 4-10.

Most of the approximately 60,000 fires which negligently attack U.S. buildings each year can be laid at the doorstep of "poor housekeeping," they point out.

Records of the National Fire Prevention association show that spring is a season when the danger from fires is great.

Ninety percent of all home and farm fires could be prevented by cleaning out rubbish and unnecessary combustible materials and by correcting other obvious fire hazards.

The safety specialists urge farmers to remember: a clean farm seldom burns. Spring Clean-Up Week is the time to do a thorough house-cleaning job.

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## SPECIALIST URGES TOP-DRESSING OF WINTER WHEAT

Application of a spring top-dressing for winter wheat is advisable at this time of year, according to A. G. Weideman, soils research specialist at Michigan State college.

Top dressing usually refers to the application of some form of commercial nitrogen or barnyard manure. To be effective, the nitrogen should be in the form of nitrates or ammonium (preferably nitrates) and be applied in late March or early April before soil nitrogen becomes available.

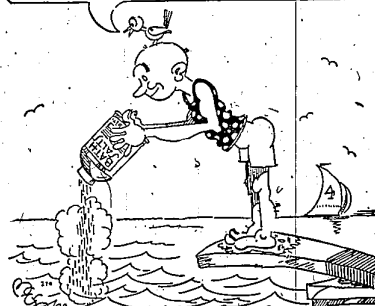
Ammonium nitrate is the commercial form available at present and is relatively inexpensive in comparison to other forms. Experiments have indicated that from 12 to 22 pounds of nitrogen is about the proper amount to use per acre on wheat that needs nitrogen. On sandy loam soil on the college farm, the ten-year average yield was 35.6 bushels where 12 pounds of nitrogen were top-dressed on wheat that was fertilized in the fall with 300 pounds per acre of 24-26. This was an increase of 3.95 bushels due to the nitrogen. Under the same conditions, a five-ton application of manure in early spring resulted in 33.7 bushels as a ten-year average or an increase of 7.1 bushels due to the manure. Not more than five tons of manure should be used per acre.

Not all wheat should be top-dressed with nitrogen or manure. If wheat is top-dressed on heavy soil it should be done with caution. If manure or legumes are used in the rotation, top-dressing may cause lodging of the crop. It should be done with caution if seedlings are to be made in the wheat as the heavy growth of wheat will rob the seedlings of moisture and may smother them. Wheat following clover sod should not need top-dressing.

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## CARE OF LAMBS IMPORTANT FOR TOP RETURNS

Prices for lambs to be marketed during the coming summer and fall will be determined largely by the management practices followed in the farm flock now, advises Graydon Blank, Michigan State College animal husbandry specialist.

Two practices which are especially important are docking and castrating. Ram lambs more than 3 to four months of age sell at a discount of one dollar per hundredweight. During the fall season, they lose flesh and retard the gains of other lambs. Long tailed lambs are discriminated against on the market. Feeders do not want ram lambs and those with long tails. Lambs should be docked and castrated between one and three weeks of age.

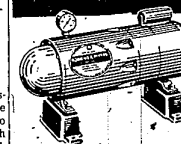
Details of profitable sheep management as well as instructions for docking and castrating will be

found in extension bulletin 242, "Selection and Care of the Farm Sheep Flock". The bulletin can be obtained from county agricultural agent's offices or by writing to the Bulletin Office, Department of Public Relations, Michigan State College, East Lansing, Michigan.

Body heat should be removed from eggs as soon as possible, advises Michigan State college poultry specialists. Best hatching temperature is 50 to 60 degrees F. Eggs should be cooled 12 hours before packing.

It is not economical to withhold grain from a good producing cow because it is high priced. She cannot eat enough roughage to keep up her maximum milk flow.

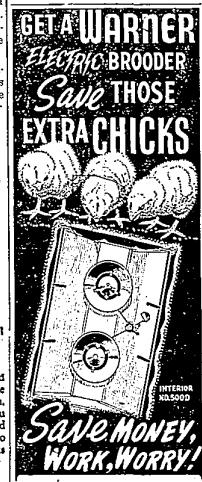
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## "NEVER AGAIN!"

... said BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

Benjamin Franklin's experiment with a kite to prove that lightning and electricity is one and the same could well have been his last!

And if old Ben were here today he would warn our youngsters not to try his foolhardy stunt.

"Fly your kites away from electric wires," he would say . . . "and don't run into busy streets on the take off."

"Never use kites with metal ribs or metallic wound strings. Even damp cotton strings may be dangerous if your kite hits a high tension wire."



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Reddy Kilowatt says: "Ben's right kids! Fly kites all you want but watch out for autos and don't tangle with electric wires!"