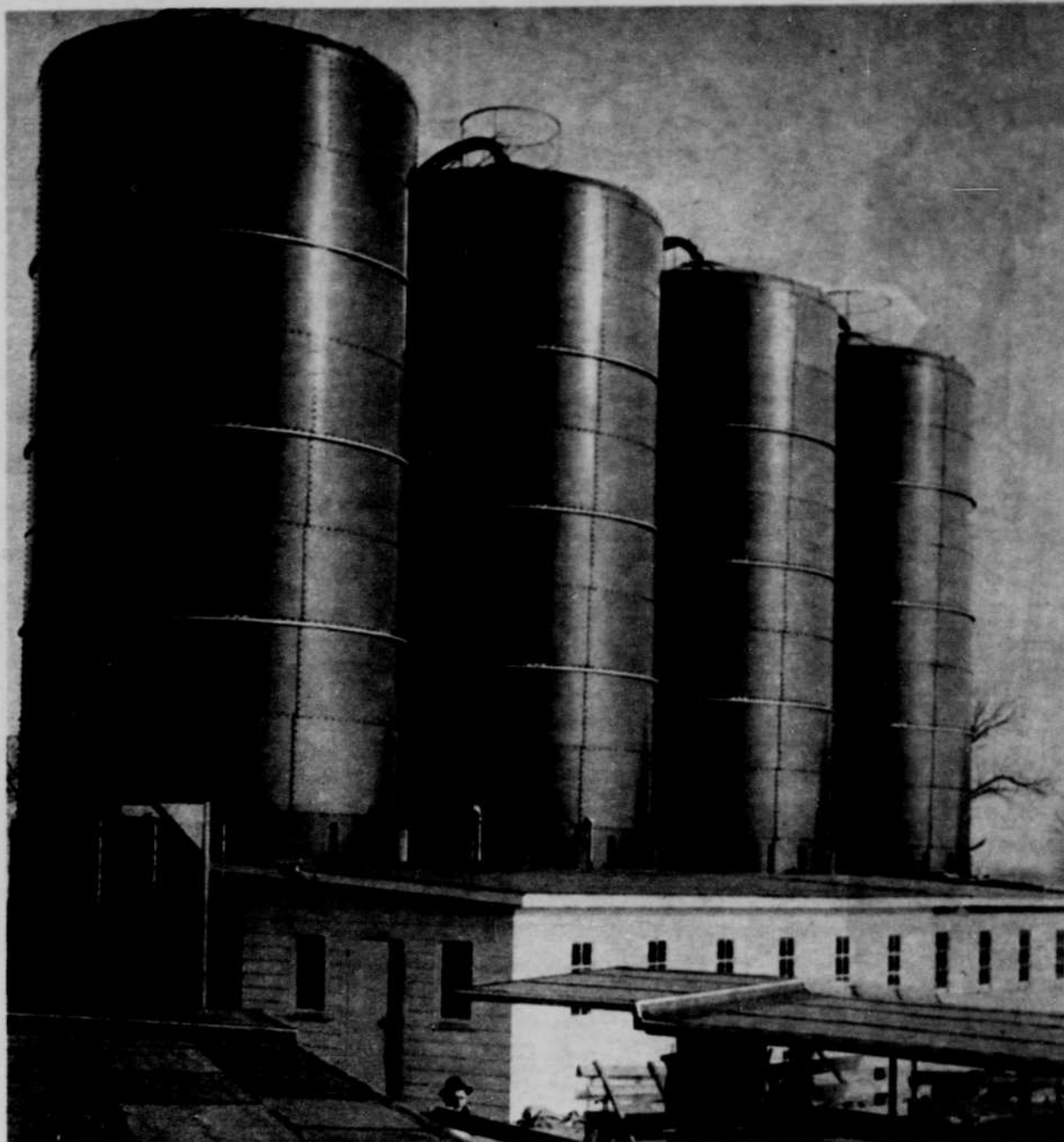


1961 — First two Harvestores erected — one for haylage and the other for corn silage. At the same time the first two automatically fed bunk feeders were installed. A push of a button does the feeding.

1962 — Erected two more Harvestores, extended one of the feeding bunks and built a third one, forming an arc around the central feeding auger.



PLANNING!

steers. Feedlots will become larger and "time-clock" feeding will take over. Cattle will be fed automatically, six to eight times a day. All rations will be premeasured and premixed as they are fed, providing a perfectly balanced ration. Low moisture grass silage, corn silage and high moisture corn will form the bulk of the feeding requirements in the Corn Belt. Sorghum silage and low moisture grass will be fed in the south. Trench or bunker silos in the south and southwest will be replaced by upright structures on all but the largest farms. Even then, the "silos in the ground" will be mechanized. Barn cleaners will become a common sight in feedlots as operators continue to mechanize every phase of their operation. Indoor feeding will become more prevalent as operators strive not only to control the feeding of their animals, but their environment as well.

Hogs

Confined feeding and farrowing of hogs will be stepped up greatly in the next couple years. Many operators will completely control the environment of these hogs. Inside feeding with climatic controls will be commonplace in the Corn Belt. Fewer hogs will be run with cattle as beef farmers turn to heavier silage feeding. Units for feeding out 5,000 head a year will not be uncommon. Average operators will turn out a minimum of 1,000 head annually. S P F hogs will probably become prominent as operators strive for greater efficiency. Pasturing or partial confinement on pasture will only be practiced by smaller operators. Silage feeding (corn silage and low moisture grass) to sows will be commonly practiced. "Limited feeding" is fast being adopted by hog farmers in an effort to produce leaner meat with a better feed conversion ratio. Putting hogs on limited feed results in a slightly longer feeding period but this is offset by a better market price and lower cost of gain. Manure problems will be greatly increased with these larger setups; however, we don't believe lagoons are the answer. More and more barn cleaners, and augers, are being installed in these units. Mechanical removal of manure into holding tanks looks promising. The manure is turned into a liquid which can be pumped out into a tank spreader, and from here it is spread on the fields to take advantage of its fertilizing value.

SYSTEMATIC FARMING

Some farmers, like Mr. Knute D. Knutson, Rt. No. 3, Janesville, Wisconsin, have a sixth sense for planning their own systematic operation that matches the best of them.

Like many successful farm operations, some of the basic improvements on the 375-acre Knutson farm came slowly over the years . . . but they all fit into one master plan that is now beginning to pay off in a handsome way.

"We're not trying to build a show place here," proclaimed the Norwegian-born Knutson. "We're directing our every effort and plan toward a business farming operation that will make money."

It was back in 1944, just after the Knutsons moved on their newly acquired farm that the step-by-step plans started falling into place. "Even though we have had a basic aim in our planning, we have always allowed for flexibility. This is essential in any good farming operation," observed Knutson. "Change is part of our business."

The past, present, and future as illustrated, shows why the Knutsons' operation is the success that it is.

Son Don, at right, has just obtained a degree in animal husbandry from the University of Wisconsin and is assuming a major role in the expanding farm operation. "He'll take over more and more as time goes on," his father exclaimed. "This is one reason we are planning and investing so strongly for the years ahead."

