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FARM SHOW HISTORY

Today the 1956 Pennsylvania Farm Show — the 40th — is history. But in these pages of history, the high position of Lancaster County agriculturally remains on the record unchallenged.

Youngsters — young men, young women — tomorrow's showmen, tomorrow's farmers, from Lancaster County continued their enviable record. Who's to be credited with this record? It would be impossible to name everyone. First come the parents; Lancaster County's Agricultural Agent Max M. Smith, his assistants in farming and home-making, his staff; vocational agriculture teachers who trained some outstanding teams, who produced and guided a good handful of Keystone Star Farmers, all played major roles.

This agricultural echelon goes deeper, to the 4-H club leaders, to the Future Farmers of America presidents, to the Future Homemakers, the Farm Women.

Needless to say, this year's show was the greatest ever. It proved the part agriculture plays in the Keystone State. It proves present facilities are too limited for the vast expanse of space needed to properly show off and properly pit competitor against competitor.

Requests of State Secretary of Agriculture William L. Henning, Chairman of the Farm Show Commission, to expand exhibition facilities in a multi-million-dollar project should not go unheeded. Farmers — whose show this is — should back the plan 100 per cent, individually, collectively.

It was typical "Farm Show Weather" about all the weatherman could throw from his book, but it didn't diminish enthusiasm.

Here are extracts from the formal opening speech given by Governor George M. Leader:

"As Governor, and as a York County chicken farmer, I believe this year's farm show is the greatest ever. I've already seen many of the exhibits and would like to pay tribute to the men and women and the boys and girls of Pennsylvania who saved their most treasured products for this farm show.

"Nature blessed Pennsylvania with good soil and good farmers. The quality of farm goods under this roof is both testimony and tribute to Pennsylvania agricultural workers.

"However, in these days of surpluses and declining farm prices, we find ourselves in difficulty. When a man spends a year raising a crop or an animal, he expects to be paid for this effort. Will you agree with me — isn't it the right of every working man to receive honest pay for honest work?

"Unless something is done soon about this situation, many a farm family will be singing Tennessee Ernie's "Sixteen Tons, I owe my soul to the company store."

"In Washington we hear words. Words such as parity, farm price support, surpluses and other big words that mean nothing to a farmer struggling to make ends meet.

"Here in your Capital City we are taking vigorous steps to assist farmers in selling their crops and animals at a good price.

"Pennsylvania isn't the biggest farm State in the Country. But it is the best farm State. We have the best milk, the best chickens, the richest eggs, and the tastiest beef in the Country. In fact, almost any Pennsylvania farm product you care to mention can be described this way: "If grown or raised in Pennsylvania, it's quality."

"You know, the entire dairy surplus in the United States could be eliminated practically overnight if every American drank one extra glass of milk every other day? What can be done for milk can be done for other farm products. Advertising, promotions, expositions, and farm shows such as Pennsylvania's 40th Farm Show are a step in the right direction."

Farm Show 40 is history. Farm Show 41 is coming up, Jan. 14-18, 1957, and Lancaster County will be grooming its most choice agricultural products for that show, to hold high its reputation as one of the nation's best agricultural counties, and No. 1 in Pennsylvania.

50 Years Ago

This Week on Lancaster Farms

(This Week in 1905)
 By JACK REICHARD

It was Summer in January on the farms in Lancaster County January 20, 1906. The weather Bureau reported that Jan. 21 was the warmest on record. The warm wave extended all the way from the Mississippi River to the Atlantic coast. The crest of the wave was in Ohio where the highest official temperature was reported as 74 degrees at Cleveland. Other unofficial reports in the Boston area placed the temperature at 80 degrees.

A large attendance was reported at a meeting of the Octoraro Farmers' Club at the residence of Charles Thomas, East Sadsbury, Chester County, during the forenoon of Jan. 20, 1906. The majority of members had driven there by teams from distances of 8 to 15 miles to attend the meeting "over muddy roads that were almost impassable".

B. F. Good, prominent Lancaster tobacco dealer in 1906, suffered severe cuts and bruises when his horse suddenly took a fit and plunged over an embankment near Georgetown. The buggy was completely wrecked, and Mr. Good was thrown out. The horse, after freeing itself from the wreckage, ran away and disappeared.

A daring daylight robbery occurred at the farmhouse of Harry Dombach, south of Columbia, while the family was stripping tobacco in a nearby shed. The thieves entered the house and carried off a suit of new clothes, watch and chain, and a number of other articles.

A committee of the Business Mens' Assn, and representatives of local granges in the West Chester area, called upon Gov. Pennypacker at Harrisburg, and urged the enactment of legislation permitting trolley cars to carry freight.

Down in Smyrna, Sadsbury Township, 50 chickens were reported stolen at the farm of Wesley W. Althouse.

Elsewhere a successful hog raiser reported planting sweet corn in rows five feet apart, a row of pumpkins in between. When pumpkins began to ripen, he turned his hogs into the field and let them harvest the crop, which he claimed they did in fine style to his and the hog's profit.

The bushel box was rapidly displacing the old fashioned wood barrel as a container for marketing apples in 1906. It was pointed out that the box better met requirements of the average family.

Tractor Driving Contest Winners At Show Listed

HARRISBURG, — Placings in the annual 4-H Club and Future Farmers of America state championship tractor driving contests at the Farm Show are:

- 4-H Clubs:
1. Willis Kreibel, Landsdale RD
 2. Montgomery County
 3. Daniel Reitz, New Bethlehem RD 3, Clarion County
 3. Dean Harper, Pennsylvania Furnace, Centre County
 4. Jack Hemminger, Somerset, RD 6, Somerset County
 5. Lloyd Kildoo, New Castle, RD 4, Lawrence County

Future Farmers of America Contest

1. Harvey Beverlin, Mifflintown, Juniata County
2. Donald Brunner, Homer City, Indiana County
3. Morris D. Otten, Wyalusing Valley Jr. High School, Bradford County
4. Robert Derrick, Hughesville, Lycoming County
5. William Layman, Ruffsedale, Westmoreland County

25 Years Ago

Secretary of Labor Doak recommended to Congress that his department be given more authority to deport undesirable aliens and "to under the red tape that now enmeshes so much of the process". Under the Doak plan, any unnaturalized citizen who committed a crime involving a sentence above certain stipulated minimum would be shoved off the dock into a steamer without further ceremony. It was pointed out that of the more than 400,000 unnaturalized foreigners in this country, in 1931, one-fourth of them deserved instant dispatch to their homeland. Several Congressmen questioned Doak's opinion, pointing out that "we have aliens in our midst who contribute greatly to the arts and business and social life in this country".

Lancaster livestock range of prices reported January 17, 1931;

Steers—Good, \$9.25 to \$10.25; medium, \$8 to \$9.25.

Vealers—Good and choice, \$12 to \$13.50; medium, \$10.50 to \$12.

Feeder and Stocker Cattle—Good and choice, \$7.75 to \$9; medium; \$5.50 to \$7.75.

Hogs—Good and choice, 160-180 lbs., \$8.75 to \$9.25.

Farmer George Cramer, near Mt. Nebo, in Martic Twp.,

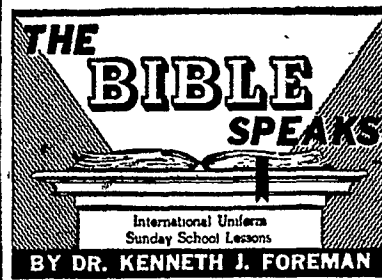
butchered a porker which dressed 696 lbs., this week 25 years ago.

.....Jan. 31, 1931, was the date set for what was believed to be the first observance of Milk Day in America. The event, sponsored by the New York Dairymen's League Cooperative Assn., expected more than 45,000 dairy farmers and their families to attend and partake of the 100,000 half pints of creamy oyster stew provided.

At Harrisburg, a record attendance was reported at the Pennsylvania State Farm Products Show, held during this week in January, in 1931. The event, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Farmers' Protective Assn., included the holding of 14 organizational meetings during the week. Lewis C. Creamer, Lancaster R. D. 1, was re-elected president of the association.

Graybill B. Long, aged 71, residing near Neffsville, was killed by his own gun on his own farm while shooting pigeons. He had tripped over a pile of rails and dropped the gun, which exploded, sending the loaded charge into his chest near the heart. Long, one of the founders of Long & Davidson, shoe dealers, and a prominent worker in the Republican Party for many years, was also a director of the Lancaster Trust Co. and the Hamilton Club at the time of his death.

A large barn, 60x45 feet, was destroyed by fire of mysterious origin, on the farm of Dr. Theodore W. Gable, near Lampeter. Firemen from West Willow and Millersville saved the farmhouse and other buildings.

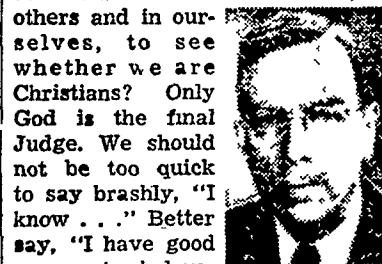


International Uniform Sunday School Lessons
 BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

Background Scripture: Luke 14.
 Devotional Reading: Matthew 10:24-42.

Christian Marks
 Lesson for January 22, 1956

HOW can we tell whether a person is a Christian or not? Is there anything that marks all Christians? There is faith, of course; but only God can see faith itself. Jesus said: "By their fruits ye shall know them." What kind of "fruits" should we look for, in others and in ourselves, to see whether we are Christians? Only God is the final Judge. We should not be too quick to say brashly, "I know..." Better say, "I have good reason to believe..."



So, what are the good reasons for believing that a person is a Christian? Sticking to our one chapter in Luke for this week, we can take note of three marks of a Christian, that is, of Jesus' followers, those who take his word as in order. They sound quite simple and ordinary; what is extraordinary about them, is the thoroughgoing quality Jesus expects.

Helpfulness

Three marks which we can readily see suggested, in this chapter of sayings of our Lord, are: Helpfulness, humility, and honesty. Everyday qualities, aren't they? In fact, you can't get along without them in the civilized world. Nobody likes a man who brags all the time. Nobody likes a man who never lends a hand to anybody in trouble. Nobody likes a man who can't be trusted. Helpfulness, humility and honesty are not in themselves specially Christian attitudes. Jesus certainly did not invent these qualities. They are found among people of many religions and of no religion. What Jesus did was to demand an extraordinary high degree of these everyday virtues. First, as to helpfulness: Not only in the words quoted in Luke 14 but in many other ways and places, Jesus em-

phasizes how far his friends are expected to go. Most people are willing to help others, if it isn't bothersome or expensive. Jesus' idea of helpfulness was of something quite costly, something that calls for effort, self-sacrifice. Helpfulness as he sees it is not just doing something for somebody who will do as much for you. It means doing for people who never can pay you back. You can't be sure you are helpful as Christ was unless you are willing, as he was, to put out more for others than you are going to get back.

Humility

We all expect humility from other people, and we even practice it ourselves, in the form of courtesy. For courtesy is a form of humility,—"After you!" "Please," "Thank you," "Pardon me," and the like, are humble expressions, when you come to think of it. But Jesus expects His disciples to be humble and not just to talk humble. Are you a Christian at this point? A few questions are in order, to ask yourself. Am I always thinking that other people don't appreciate me? Am I a little sore because I don't get the promotions I deserve? When I say, "What's he got that I haven't got?" Do I feel a little peevish, as if the answer I expect is "Nothing"? Have I often been able to forget my own interests on behalf of others? One of the most striking stories about Jesus is told by John, who records that Jesus, "knowing he came from God and was going to God," took a towel and did the "menial" service that every one of his disciples was too proud to do. The highest is the humblest.

Honesty

Everybody knows that honesty is a good policy. But one mark of a Christian is that he will be honest at two points where (strangely enough) most people are least honest: that is, with himself and with God. The parables about counting the cost are really about the importance of facing the facts, admitting to yourself where you come short. Human capacity for self-deception is astounding. Why a man takes himself for a sucker, in other words, is something hard to understand. But it is even more amazing that men will think they can "get by" with God. Those excuses made by the unwilling guests, in Jesus' parable,—did they feel their host? Excuses offered to God are worse than waste of time.

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