



Lancaster County's Own Farm Weekly Newspaper  
 Established November 4, 1955  
 Published every Friday by  
 OCTOPARO NEWSPAPERS  
 Quarryville, Pa. — Phone 378  
 Lancaster Phone 4-3047)

**STAFF**

Alfred C. Alspach ..... Publisher  
 Ernest J. Neill ..... Editor  
 C. Wallace Abel ..... Business Manager  
 Robert G. Campbell ..... Advertising Director  
 Robert J. Wiggins ..... Circulation Director

Subscription Rates: \$2.00 Per Year  
 Three Years \$5.00; 5c Per Copy  
 Application for Second Class Mailing Privileges Pending

**MID-WINTER DROUGHT**

Mid-winter drought is discouraging. Recent snows in the Garden Spot have made the outlook somewhat brighter, but the prospects of facing another dry season are not considered impossible. Such things are discouraging to report, especially when the local situation and that of other neighborhoods is considered.

Let's take a look around the country. Reports are that in the normally arid regions of the Great Southwest, there has been more than ample rainfall. In fact the deserts are blooming as the rose, to quote an anthem. Where it should be dry, it's wet. Where it should be wet, it's dry.

From St. Louis comes word that snow — two inches — fell after 47 days of drought had charged the city and people with static electricity. Napped carpets set up such charges that tingling shocks were common when a person touched metal. Weather Bureau records indicate no other period on record (since the 1870s) had been so dry. Concrete could be poured in temperatures that would normally prevent it. Dry winds carried away the vulnerable, dry topsoil.

A headline in the Adams County (Iowa) Free Press reports: "Sale of Water for Livestock Is Discontinued." For some time a number of farmers had been purchasing water from the city for their livestock, but now they must turn to some private source other than the city. Car washing has been halted by some service stations.

Another nearby town too discontinued sale of water to farmers, since the level of the reservoir lake is so low that sale must be stopped to conserve the water for city use. Water users who had been selling to people outside the town were ordered to stop such sales at once.

Back in the dry, dusty, desolate thirties, we well recall the water trains that passed along the Burlington Route from Omaha to Creston, Iowa — a railroad town of 8000, whose huge lakes had gone dry, whose water supply was naught. Only by pumping water from the muddy Missouri River, hauling it 80 or 90 miles by train tank cars could the city survive.

Rain makers are being discontinued, irrigation is coming into its own — as shown by conferences and conclusions at the recent Pennsylvania State Farm Show — but the ever-present or ever-possible problem looms constantly to challenge man's resources, man's disposition, man's plans.

**RETROSPECT**

Once in awhile, it's good to look over your shoulder and see what has gone before. Here at Lancaster Farming, we do that often. We've tried to offer sincerity, and perhaps one of our most distant readers has given us one of the best boosts we've had in many a moon:

"Mr. Editor: Thank you for the issues of Lancaster Farming you so graciously sent to us. I particularly enjoy the Bible comments, the ladies' household suggestions. The children — and there are five — were delighted with the coloring section at Christmas. All in all we think it's well done and that you're doing a good job. God bless you."

Our thanks to Tim and Mrs. Cronin, their Timmy, Mickey, Nora, Dennis and Terry.

**TELEPHONE EXPANSION**

Today the nation is in the midst of one of the greatest expansions in the telephone industry history has ever known. More and more rural families are enjoying for the first time the advantage of a farm telephone.

In Pennsylvania, 70 per cent of the farm homes have telephones. In Lancaster County, 5,627 farms — of the county's total 7,952 — reported telephones in 1954, against 4,551 in 1950. By the end of 1956, more and more farm homes in the County will have this convenience.

Throughout the Southern end of the County, this expansion has been more marked. Modernization of the entire system is underway, and eventually dial will be available everywhere

But there are many parts of the country still chugging along on their one-cylinder crank phone, sharing the line with a score or more neighbors. Lancaster County is sharing the lead, however, with construction of new exchanges, conversion to dial, modernization. In this respect, we might consider ourselves mighty fortunate.

**50 Years Ago**

**This Week on Lancaster Farms**

(This Week In 1905)  
 By JACK REICHARD

The largest field of corn on record in the United States, if not in the world, was harvested on the farm of Jacob Adams, in Sac County, near Odebolt, Iowa, according to a report in the St. Paul Dispatch, 50 years ago this week. The amount of acreage planted was not given, but 105 men working 200 horses and 37 corn cutters had shucked corn in the estimated amount of 300,000 bushels.

(Editor's Note: The "Adams Ranch" was one of the largest "spreads" in the State where Corn is king. Its thousands of acres were most unusual for Iowa, and its fame has been long lived. E.J.N.).

What was believed to be the record price paid for a hen in this country up to 1906, was a buff Plymouth Rock hen purchased by Drevenstedt & Hutchins, New York fanciers, at the Boston Poultry Show, for \$750, fifty years ago this week.

In the western section of the nation a German, said to have been an illiterate, purchased a tract of 70 acres of cut-off timber land in the Hood River sector in the state of Washington, in 1896, at \$10 per acre. This he planted with Spitzenberg and Newtown Pippin apples. Ten years later, during this same week of January, 1906, he was offered \$70,000 for the tract.

The Farm Bureau Commodity Division of the Lancaster County Farm Bureau, announced the appointment of Christian G. Landis, of Nottingham, as representative for the southern section of the county for 1931.

The Friendly Farmers' Club held their annual meeting at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Eben Crowl. Officers elected for 1931 included Eben Crowl, president; Lester Gallagher, vice president; and Ida W. Coates, secretary-treasurer.

**Voice Of Lancaster Farms**

AND FARM FRIENDS

(Readers are invited to write comments on Lancaster Farming, about current events, or other topics. Letters should be brief, and must be signed. Names will be withheld if requested. — Editor).

**TO ARIZONA**

HONEY BROOK — Am enclosing \$1.00 and ask you to send Lancaster Farming to my daughter who is an arthritic and has been living in Arizona several years. She enjoys reading about Lancaster County and I know she will enjoy the recipes, etc., on the women's page. We enjoy your paper very much, find lots of interesting things in it and have tried some of the recipes. My daughter is Miss Dorothy B. Kern, Tucson, Arizona. I know she will be pleased to receive Lancaster Farming — Mrs. John A. Kern.

**GOOD WISHES**

LITITZ — With good wishes, — Hopeland Farms.

**WISHING SUCCESS**

LINCOLN UNIVERSITY — Enclosed find \$1.00 for one year's charter subscription. Wishing you great success. — Mrs. Marshall B. Golt.

**FOR NEW SUBSCRIBER**

LINCOLN UNIVERSITY — We enjoy your Lancaster Farming paper very much, so I'm enclosing \$1.00 for a new subscriber, whom I am sure will also enjoy it. — Arthur H. Bidwell.

A colony of Swiss farmers who had moved into Missouri announced that starting early in 1906 they would start the manufacture of genuine Swiss cheese, the first of that product to be made in this country.

A large barn on the farm owned by F. H. Manahan, Glen Roy, Chester County, and occupied by Michael Reinhart, between Bartville and Kirkwood, in the southern section of the county, was completely destroyed by fire. Reinhart was away that day with his team. Some straw, hay, and farm implements were burned but all livestock was saved. The origin of the blaze could not be determined.

**25 Years Ago**

Twenty-five years ago this week a fire destroyed the farmhouse of Nelson Barr and family in the Mt. Hope Methodist Church area, near Quarryville. The fire, said to have been started by sparks from an outside kitchen stove pipe, occurred while the men were in the cellar sorting potatoes. The Quarryville Fire Co. was called but before the firemen could arrive at the scene the entire house was enveloped in the roaring blaze. Most of the contents including clothing were burned.

The barn and other out-buildings were saved with great difficulty, since a strong wind was blowing that day.

Over in Chester County

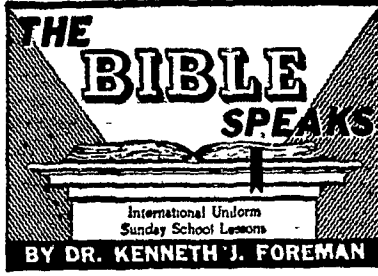
nearly 1,000 chickens were burned on the farm of Max Brook, West Brandywine Twp. Coatesville fire companies brought the fire under control.

A bill authorizing the distribution for relief purposes in this country of 20 million bu. of wheat held by the Federal Farm Board, was passed by Congress and sent to President Hoover for signing

J. J. Stoltzfus, near Mount Vernon Hotel, was sentenced at Lancaster to the Eastern Penitentiary for a term of 1 year and 5 months to 2 years and 10 months, and a fine of \$500, for chicken stealing.

Officials of the Westbrook Dairy and Produce Co. in the lower end of the county were re-elected at the annual stockholder's meeting held at the residence of Edgar Kirk. The officers included Edgar Kirk, president and treasurer; D. Lester Gallagher, secretary; W. Scott Drenner, vice president; H. E. Spence, David M. Gallagher, Walter M. Grubb and Edwin M. Booth, directors.

Twenty-five years ago this week S. Edward Gable, president of the Lancaster Automobile Club, urged extreme caution be exercised when walking and driving on the highways at this time of year. He stated: "Walking on highways in rural sections in the dusk of evening and after dark, so prevalent at this season when days are short, makes extreme caution imperative on the part of the pedestrian and the automobile driver as well". No sounder advice could be given in this day!



Background Scripture: Luke 15:1-32.  
 Devotional Reading: John 3:1-11.

**Lure of Life**

Lesson for January 29, 1956

A coin, a sheep, a man—what do these three have in common? Jesus told a triple story using these three so different objects to bring out the same point. What the coin, the sheep, the man had in common was that each was lost. They were out of place, useless, in fact doing more harm than good. But the young man who went to a far country was different in an important way. He knew what he was doing, or thought he knew. He wanted life, and he got it, only it was the Dr. Foreman wrong sort. If you had asked him at first why he was going away, he would have said, "I want to live!" But he ended in a pig-pen.



**The Lost Are All Around**  
 Men and women get lost today for the same reason. They look for life in the wrong place. Victims of narcotics, or of alcohol, wanted something more out of life than they had, and they thought drink or drugs would help them. Every patient in an alcoholic ward is missing somewhere, — missing from payrolls, from homes they had or might have had, missing from the ports they might have reached if they had not made shipwreck of themselves. And for every patient in some alcoholic ward there are a great many others who, though they may not have gone so far, are just as lost. What ought a Christian's attitude to be, toward such people? Surely if Jesus taught anything plainly, it is that God does not despise or hate lost persons; he loves them and does not want them to stay lost. So the Christian who shares the mind of Christ will neither hate nor despise the lost people all around us today.

**Prevention is Better**

One of the commonest ways of getting lost is through drink. Everything is done in advertising, and in other ways to make it appear that you haven't really lived till you use "our old famous brand" of expensive alcohol. Young people need to have the other side of it shown to them, not in Don'ts but in Do's. Educator H. H. Hill (as adapted in "Listen") has put it something like this. What do you want from life? Topnotch health? You can't have it if you drink. A serene, satisfying, law-abiding life? Not with liquor for your companion! Life on the highest moral level? Not for drinkers and dopers. Do you want to wake up every morning with a clear head? Do you want uninterrupted success in a profession? Do you want to save money? To be a good driver? To form the habit of meeting your problems squarely without a fuzzy mind? Do you want to be able to enjoy a good time without the danger of flirting with a habit-forming drug? Do you want guaranteed immunity to one of America's four most damaging diseases? Do you want to be an example of good and not evil, for the young people in your community? All right,—that's living, and you can't have that kind of living and the alcohol habit too.

**Testimonials**

Maybe the main reason why the prodigal son went wrong was that he listened to the wrong people. Men can always be found who can be paid to pose in liquor ads. How about listening to some free testimonials on the other side? Ezra Benson, Secretary of Agriculture, says: "Knowing the infinite joy and peace of mind which result from never having used narcotics, smoked cigarette, or taken a drink of liquor . . . or knowingly profaning the name of Deity, I can sincerely recommend such a course to all." Dr. Kate Newcomb, written up in the Reader's Digest in June, 1954, says: "Naturally I do not use intoxicants. Why start a habit so many people must break?" Lewis Hoad of tennis fame speaks for many another athlete: "It is hard enough to get anywhere in life, without liquor or tobacco hindering one's chances for the future." Gil Dodds, the track star, says: "God has given me a body which I should not defile." Do you want to live? Such people know how. (Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Released by Community Press Service.)