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RAIN HELPS SO MUCH

Although some of the rain came to Lancaster County accompanied by damaging storms, the moisture was welcome. This is much unlike the situation in parts of the midwest, where, we quote from a letter, a .70-inch rain — the first appreciable moisture — fell for the first time in seven months.

"We are still praying for more rain. Our house water situation is getting worse; we have tapped an old coal mine and have lots of water now for the livestock. Will tide us over the dry spell probably."

"We still have no garden in, it is so dry we hated to plant the seed. Our spring is so slow, three weeks behind; our trees are just now leafing out. We still have our oil furnace burning all day and night."

A look around at Lancaster County's beautiful spring makes one more conscious of how drab a Spring could be or did Summer arrive without Spring?

SOME SCHOOLS IN TIGHT SPOT

New school facilities are being constructed all over the country, and Lancaster County ranks among the best in this program. Yet some plants are inadequate before they are opened.

One near Philadelphia was constructed and opened just two years ago. It was built to accommodate some 850 students. Today it is serving more than 1,700. Intended as a junior and senior high school, it must accommodate several grades until construction can be started and completed on new elementary schools.

It's a rambling structure, on 60 acres of land. The old trees flanking the lane of what was once a beautiful farmstead, still stand. Corridors without end confuse the visitor.

After an expenditure of two, three or four million dollars, it has already been deemed inadequate, yet the designers knew this might arise. Separate buildings, linked with halls, provide grassed patios and room for expansion without altering the original intent of the architect.

Schools face a problem. With districts being merged and integrated under jointures, innumerable arguments have arisen on where the new buildings are to be situated. Workmen, finishing one building for September use this year, are ready to move equipment to a new site where ground is being broken.

The day of the one-room school is disappearing fast, and students of a decade, two or three ago, can but look on amazed.

DRAMATIZING THE MANURE STORY

Some timely reminders about the value of the barnyard manure crops are offered by a farm machinery manufacturing concern, which tells the manure story in these dramatic terms: Depending on how well it is managed and applied, manure on the average is worth from \$5 to \$10 a ton. . . Each time you trip the power manure fork into your spreader, just imagine you are handling two crisp dollar bills on that fork. . . The value of the state of Iowa's manure crop is estimated to equal the combined worth of the oat and hay crop. . .

Manure is just about as perishable as fruit, so handle it accordingly. . . Don't underestimate the value of the liquid part, it contains about 40 per cent of the nitrogen and 60 per cent of the potash found in manure. . . If purchased as commercial fertilizer, the urine from a single cow in one year would cost over \$10. . . If the manure from a litter of pigs was all returned to the soil, one might say that at least two pigs from the litter were raised free on the extra feed resulting from plant foods returned by the latter as manure, proving that animals pay part of their own way. . . Of the 1,000 or so pounds of nitrogen contained in 1,000 bushels of corn, some 750 pounds are returned to the soil in the form of manure.

Yet, it is estimated that farmers lose about half of the nation's manure crop every year through careless handling. . . Over a billion tons at from \$5 to \$10 a ton, divided by two. . . Well you figure the loss. (Corn Belt Farm Dailies)

50 Years Ago

This Week on Lancaster Farms

50 YEARS AGO (1906)

By JACK REICHARD

Shad Crop Complete
 Failure 50 Years Ago

The shad crop was a complete failure half a century ago, not only along the Susquehanna River, but wherever the most toothsome of all fresh water fish were known. It was claimed that not a single fisherman could be found in Delaware County who made a profit during the 1906 season. In former years it was an average day's catch to land from 10,000 to 15,000 shad at the Chester and Marcus Hook wharves, but in 1906 the entire season's catch fell below those figures. At a conference at New Castle, Del., May 19, 1906, between U. S. Fish Commissioner Titcomb and fishermen of Delaware, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, steps were taken to bring the attention of the shad failure to the Legislatures of those states and to Congress. The fishermen attributed the loss of the shad to disturbance of the waters by dredging operations, and the injection of sewage and poisonous chemicals from industry.

2,000 Persons Attend
 Ephrata Love Feast

The semi-annual love feast of the German Baptist Brethren Church was held at Ephrata. The all-day session, including dinner and supper, was held at the Mohler Meeting House, with approximately 2,000 persons attending. Many who came from distant points slept in the loft of the meeting house following the close of the evening service. A number of ministers of the denomination from Berks and Lancaster Counties were present. Following the washing of feet, supper was served and conducted as nearly as possible to the description of the Lord's Last Supper. The meal consisted of lamb soup, a yearling lamb having previously been killed and prepared in the basement of the building. When all had partaken, the leader broke bread and passed it around the table after which a cup of wine was passed.

Chicago merchants, through the Chicago Commercial Assn., announced a corn exposition would be held in that city for Sept. 29 to Oct. 13, in 1906. The association had voted to spend \$50,000 on the show.

In Lancaster County, R. D. Herr, of Refton, was showing a lemon he had plucked from a tree at his residence, which measured 14 and 16 inches in circumference and weighed one and three quarter pounds.

Made Pies, Cherries Picked
 52 Years Before

Mrs. Samuel Kauffman, Johnstown, Pa., made pies with cherries she had picked and dried in 1854. According to the Johnstown Tribune, the pies baked by Mrs. Kauffman, in 1906, were as delicious as though the fruit were but a seasons growth. The Tribune explained that it was customary to dry and preserve fruit before it was canned by housewives in the mid 1800's.

25 Years Ago

25 YEARS AGO (1931)

Over 225,000 Seedlings
 Planted in County

According to District Forester E. L. Brouse, Orrstown, Pa., more than 225,000 seedlings and transplants were secured from the State Department of Forests and Waters for reforestation in

Lancaster County during the 1931 Spring planting season. It was reported that 57 persons, firms and organizations in all sections of the county planted trees on waste areas and poorly stocked woodlands that year. Most of the trees averaged six to eight inches in height and were largely white pine, red pine, pitch pine, Scotch pine, Norway spruce, Japanese larch which ash and black locust. The largest number of trees shipped into Lancaster County was received by the Pennsylvania water & Power Co., Holtwood. Nagle and Hertzog, Ephrata, who owned a farm in West Cocalico Township, set out 22,000 trees, bringing their total during a four year-period to more than 100,000 trees. Christian Herr, Elizabethtown, planted 15,000 and Marvin Bushong, Quarryville, planted 8,000 on his property in Eden Township.

According to Dr. F. P. Weaver, head of the Pennsylvania State College Dept. of Agriculture Economics, taxes paid by Pennsylvania farmers in 1930 amounted to 38 per cent of their net income. Dr. Weaver stated: "Much of the excessive taxation borne by farmers is the result of real estate carrying too large a share of the total tax burden".

Forest Rangers Kill
 Off Wild Horses

In New Mexico forest rangers were enlisting the Jennez Indians to kill off wild horses in the Cerro del Pino and Bear Springs regions. But to gain their cooperation, the rangers also had to educate the Indian as to the advantages of horse meat. Some of the "educated" Indians did not take kindly to the idea. Up to 1931 the hunt had not been successful, because the horses had to be hunted on foot and were wilder than deer. However, the governor and council of the Indians agreed to cooperate.

Farmers Suffered Record
 Fire Loss In 1930

According to the National Fire Waste Council, during 1930 farmers suffered the greatest fire losses in agriculture history up to that time. The total loss was reported about \$125 million, as compared with an average of \$100 million in normal years. The unusually heavy fire loss that year was attributed largely to the drought, which increased the common farm hazards such as highly combustible buildings, isolation from the protection of adequately equipped, fire companies, and general lack of fire-quenching facilities.

The A. F. L.-C. I. O. Executive Council has called for a new round of "substantial" wage increases this year to expand purchasing power.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS
 International Uniform Sunday School Lessons
 BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

Background Scripture: Acts 11:19-12:24
 Devotional Reading: Galatians 6:1-10.

Problem Church

Lesson for May 20, 1956

THERE are two different kinds of problems with children, as every father and mother know. One is the kind of problem you have with a sickly child, who has allergies, won't eat, play or sleep the way a healthy child should; perhaps a retarded child. The other is the kind of problem you have with a child who seems sometimes to be altogether too healthy; growing too fast to keep up with, noisy and hungry; perhaps ahead of his grade in school. The problems of growth may be even more difficult than the problems of illness; but all the same, the problems of development are more to be desired than the problems of decay.



Will the World Swallow the Church?

The Christian church at Antioch, one of the great cities of the world at that time, had its problems; but they were all the kind of problem that goes with growth. Dr. C. R. Eldman in his book on Acts points out that in this church we meet with four new things: a new name for the believers (Christians), a new kind of church (of which more presently), a new leadership, and a new center of missionary activity. Another new thing, which indeed was the mother of the others, was the new kind of city in which the church there found itself. Up to the time the church began in Antioch, the largest city where there were sizable groups of Christians was Jerusalem. That was a city which, so to speak, made religion a specialty. The long-time religion of Jerusalem led right up to Christianity. But what about Antioch. That was a pagan city, religions of many kinds flourished there, and none of them led up to Christianity at all. If the environment at Jerusalem was partly favorable to Christian-

ity, the atmosphere of Antioch seemed more than likely to smother it. Religion in that city was what it is for some cities today—not by any means the most important interest. Antioch was a big business town, a central city for trade and transportation. People were much more interested in getting rich than they were in religion.

Uncongenial People

One of the problems, new at Antioch, was whether it would be possible to include in the same church groups of persons so different as the Greeks and the Jews. That had not bothered the Palestine church, because there the various races and nationalities kept to themselves. The Jerusalem church was all Jewish, the Samaritan church all Samaritan, and so on. But in big cities people mix and mingle pretty freely, and so it was in Antioch. Would different races, backgrounds, and so on, mix in one church? Somewhat to Barnabas' surprise, maybe, they did. When Christians are really what they aim and claim to be, the church becomes the "fellowship of the uncongenial." People who ordinarily have nothing in common, discover that if they have Christ in common, they are bound by a tie stronger than any other in the world.

Leadership

When Barnabas went up there to Antioch, commissioned by the church in Jerusalem to look around and use his judgment about what to do, we read that he "saw the grace of God and was glad." But the grace of God, in man or church, does not iron out all the problems. We have to think. And Barnabas must have thought long and hard about one problem which concerns every church large or small: leadership. Barnabas could easily have taken on a smaller church; but that one at Antioch was just too big for one man, any one man. He could have picked up some assistants there, no doubt, and stayed as top man; or he could have invited in one of the Jerusalem leaders. But he needed more than raw "chaplain's assistants." And the Jerusalem leaders would have felt pretty strange in an inter-racial church. So Barnabas took a rather difficult trip, all the way to Tarsus in Cilicia, just to get a man he had never forgotten; the then unknown (or, if known, suspected) Saul. The future of a church depends on its leadership. Blessed is the church with a pulpit committee as wise and far-seeing as Barnabas!

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