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CLOUD SEEDERS SIGNED

There are numerous drought disaster areas designated in the United States at this moment. In Missouri, and Iowa a contract has just been signed and generators put into action to see if rain can be squeezed or wrung from the clouds.

Eight counties are cooperating and expense is estimated to be \$52,000, under a 12-month contract. Vaporized silver iodide crystals are propelled from a generator to the clouds where a chain reaction would be set off.

Cost per farm is estimated at two cents per acre, far below first estimates of six cents per acre.

Officials of the Iowa Missouri Weather Modification Organization (IAMO) say the Water Resources Development Corp. of Denver calls the operation "Cloud seeding, with the possibility of increasing rainfall 40 per cent."

Lancaster County has been fortunate, compared to those who have had to live and suffer with drouth the past few years. Fortunately there is not need yet for such a move in this section of the country, for which we can be rightfully thankful.

AMAZING, IT IS

It wonders one—who is a recent newcomer to the Garden Spot—what a wonderful spot the Garden Spot is yet. Arriving late in July, the heat and drought (it was called) prevailing then seemed comparatively wonderful to the humidity and heat and dryness left behind.

Summer finally blossomed and faded into harvest; the snappy nights of fall painted the trees amazingly colorful hues. The nip of winter was not so bad, but it was strange to see snow so effectively curtail traffic. Out west, roads have been elevated on grades many places to permit snow to blow away. Drifting is more prevalent there, with clear spots between. But here there was snow in a solid blanket everywhere.

Spring came and went quickly, but there were blooms enough for more than one county. Summer's here, the roses are in bloom, pastures are green and abundant. Some minor mishaps have occurred cropwise, but prospects are good.

Couldn't one but look outside and say all's peace with the world?

MACHINERY AND HIGHWAYS

*This is the season when it's necessary to move farm equipment along highways. It's dangerous business, demanding constant care. It's so easy for a fast moving automobile to overtake a slower running tractor or team, and occasionally, unfortunately, tragic accidents occur.

Farm Safety Week is coming up July 22-28. But there's no reason in the world why farm safety shouldn't be practiced day and night. Especially must be heeded this warning from the Farm Safety Chief in the Pennsylvania State Department of Public Instruction:

"Obey highway rules and signs and use proper headlights at night. Whenever possible, keep off the highways at night with farm machinery."

MEASURING MOISTURE

There's a heap of moisture in crops, and scientific measurement today is piling up some interesting statistics. Pennsylvania State University reports 53 tons of chopped alfalfa and clover of 40 per cent moisture content were dried by a tiered duct mow drying system. In order to reduce the moisture to a safe storage level of 20 per cent, 13 tons of water had to be removed from the mow.

Seventy two tons of chopped forage with a moisture content of 38 per cent yielded nearly 19 tons of water. A gallon of water weighs approximately eight pounds, hence the hay above yielded about 3,250 gallons of water, the silage a thousand gallons more.

For more amazing figures, you might check on the number of gallons that fall on an acre of land during a one-inch rain!

50 Years Ago

This Week on Lancaster Farms

50 YEARS AGO (1906)

By JACK REICHARD

Pennsylvania agriculture organizations were interested in the report of an Ohio agriculture society, which gave prizes to persons raising the most and best stuff on a quarter acre in 1905. The contestant awarded first place came up with this score: Ninety hills of sweet corn. Between the hills of the sweet corn were grown 12 hills of squash, 87 poles of butter beans, 45 hills cucumbers, 27 tomato vines and 33 hills lima beans. The next row contained beets, radishes, salsify and carrots, while the next were green parsley, lettuce, parsnips, celery, peas and string beans.

Sunflowers Introduced In Iowa

During the season of 1906 sunflowers were grown in the state of Iowa for the first time in a five-acre tract. The seed was planted with a corn planter and cultivated the same as corn. The grower had contracted the entire crop to a seed house for from \$175 to \$2 per hundred. The seed was used as stock food and was fed to parrots.

Abraham H. Ebersole, employed on the Cassel farm, near Marietta, Lancaster County, was killed in the harvest field. Two mules hitched to the wagon on which Ebersole was standing became unmanageable and ran away, throwing the young man off. A doctor was summoned and pronounced Ebersole had died from a crushed chest.

Pony Devours Young Turkeys

A pony belonging to Lancaster farmer Parke Lutz, near Denver, devoured eight young turkeys before being caught in the act. The pony was left in an orchard to pasture and was beginning on the ninth turkey when Lutz came along and called a halt.

A news dispatch one-half century ago reported the forming of an offensive and defensive agricultural organization known as the Poultry Vigilance Association. "Strange enough", stated the report, "the news for this did not arise in Texas, Missouri or Kentucky, where chicken stealing is by some classes considered an art, but in prosperous north Iowa." The purpose of the organization was to detect and punish chicken thieves, with a standing reward of \$50 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of any guilty party.

Farmwife's Method Of Preserving Eggs

A western farmwife who had given the method a test declared that fresh eggs may be effectively sealed so as to keep them from late summer to the following spring by simply placing them in a wire basket and submerging in a kettle of boiling water for ten or fifteen seconds and then quickly removing. She explained the process cooked a very thin layer of albumen, which hermetically sealed the egg and insured its keeping properties.

David Bricker, of Lititz, who had been in Cuba for several years managing a large tobacco plantation, had arrived in Lancaster County, 50 years ago this week, and announced that he would not return to the island.

Back in June, 1906, a motor survey showed there were 23

automobiles in Elizabethtown, the largest number in Lancaster County outside the city and Columbia.

25 Years Ago

25 YEARS AGO (1931)

Farmer R. Leaman, a Lancaster Farmer of Columbia R2, caused the arrest of Jack R. Wilders, of Lancaster, on a charge of breaking into a garage in the city and stealing the automobile of S. E. Cargas, a tailor. Wilders asked if he could store his car in the barn. Leaman, becoming suspicious, asked to see Wilder's driver's license and he replied that he had none. After Wilders left the farm Leaman went in pursuit and reported the case to police.

Willow Street Butcher Shop Burns

The butcher shop owned by William Hilderbrand, along the Willow Street pike, was destroyed by fire together with several smaller buildings, including a garage, woodshed and chicken house. Two automobiles in the garage also were

burned. The Lampeter, Willow Street and West Willow fire companies responded and prevented the blaze from spreading to the dwelling house. An overheated stove was believed to have caused the fire.

Dr. Stephen Moulton Babcock, prominent scientist, aged 87, was found dead at Madisca, Wis., 25 years ago this week. Babcock invented the standard buttermilk testing method which became the foundation of the dairy industry throughout the world.

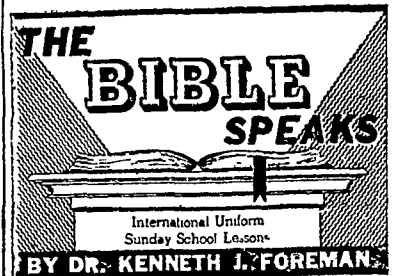
Morris Levy, prominent Lancaster tobacco dealer, died at his home at the age of 80. For 45 years he was engaged in the leaf tobacco business. The firm was known as Morris Levy & Sons.

Lititz R3 Woman Struck by Lightning

Mrs. Jonas H. Wikerd, Lititz R3, was struck by lightning while hoeing near her home. Her clothing was ripped, her shoes torn from her feet and one side of her face and body severely burned. She was reported in a critical condition. A son, Paul, who was nearby, was not hurt.

NITROGEN PRICES CUT

Allied Chemical & Dye Corp.'s nitrogen division has reduced the price on nitrogen solutions used in fertilizer manufacturing \$4 a ton.



Background Scripture: Luke 9:28-36; Hebrews 13:9, 18-25; 1 Peter 1:1-2, 2:19-25; 2 Peter 1:1-2, 15-18; Jude, verses 3, 17-25
 Devotional Reading: Psalm 20

Nine Letters

Lesson for July 1, 1956

THOUSANDS of Sunday schools for the next three months are going to be studying nine short but immortal letters. These letters are the forgotten parts of the New Testament, for many people. Out of the 27 "books" of the New Testament, all but five are letters.

These nine—from Hebrews to Revelation inclusive—make up about 50 pages or one-sixth of the whole Testament. It would be worth the reader's while to make a special study of these letters this summer.



Dr. Foreman Perhaps all the teachers in a Sunday school could chip in and buy a commentary or two.

Letters from ...

No two people write quite alike. All letters bear the mark of their writers even when they are unsigned. So it is with these nine. Some of them are signed, some are not. But the writers can be told apart without any trouble. If Hebrews and James were printed together without a break, a high school student should be able to notice the difference between them. The writer of the first letter is plainly a highly educated man, a man who is keenly interested in ritual and in the history of the Hebrew people. The writer of the second is less highly educated, but a more practical man all around. Not that his advice is any better, but he loses no time getting down to particular problems. The first man is greatly interested in theology, the second is so little interested in it that his letter has worried some people like Luther, for example, who wondered whether it really belonged in the New Testament. Or again, comparing Hebrews with the letters of Paul, the reader can see why scholars are for the most part quite certain that Paul never wrote this one. It

is obviously written by a different kind of man—one who used a different vocabulary, went at problems differently, constructed a letter differently, quoted the Old Testament in a different way; indeed while all of Paul's letters are carefully signed, Hebrews is not signed at all. . . . So one may go through the rest of these letters seeing the writers through what they wrote.

Letters to ...

Letters vary according to the persons to whom they are written. A woman writing to her mother, her husband, the tax collector and her boy at school will write four different kinds of letters. So these nine letters were written to different kinds of people. To be sure, some of them were sent to a pretty wide circle of readers (Peter for instance), but even so, that wide circle had something in common: in this case, suffering and persecution. Is it too much to suggest that the Christians John has in his mind's eye as he writes his letters, are much more mature than the Christians to whom James writes his plain advice? Now the interesting thing is that the various kinds of Christians to whom these letters were addressed are matched by Christian types today. That is why one Christian will sometimes get more out of one part of the New Testament, while another Christian finds more meat in another part. And yet for all the differences there are some important likenesses, and the noticing reader will find them.

Letters about ...

Few if any of these letters, or any others in the New Testament, are about "things in general." They usually speak to some particular problem, situation or trouble. The New Testament does not consist of a series of theological essays neatly arranged by topics. Rather, it consists of fairly short letters speaking to certain specific problems that had been distressing the readers. Some of these problems emerged in more places than one at the same time, just as happens today. In the short passages selected for special study in most quarters, two problems are highlighted, as the reader will find: false teachings, and persecution. In these times in which we live, with half the world in a ferment against Christianity, and even in the "Christian" part of the world, a bewildering jangle and wrangle of sects and "isms" soap-boxing all over the place—the Christian church threatened by enemies without and "crackpots" often-times within, who can call the New Testament's themes out of date?

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