

Lancaster Farming

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Poultry and Lancaster County

Figures from the U. S. Department of Commerce show well how Lancaster County stands in the upper ranks of counties in poultry production. Here are a few highlights from various phases:

Chickens on farms: Lancaster County, second in the nation with 2,825,045, against a national Oct.-Nov. 1954 total of 375,800,447, or, in the leading 100 counties, 80,087,326.

Poultry and Poultry Products Sold: Lancaster County, third with \$20,381,000, against a national total of \$1,918,936,000, and among the 100 leading counties, \$674,003,000.

Chickens Sold: Lancaster County, 13th, with 8,481,868 sold, value \$7,080,258, still 13th in rank dollar-wise, with the U.S. figure 968,687,652 sold and a 100-leading county total of 506,278,441; national value \$698,014,240, for the 100 leading counties, \$349,115,718.

Chicken Eggs Sold: Lancaster County, 30,200,192 dozens, sixth in U. S. counties, with a value of \$11,951,975, against a U.S. total of 2,654,202,330 dozen, the 100 leading counties' 826,428,774; national value of \$916,737,387, and 100 leading county value of \$292,860,909.

Turkey raised: Lancaster County 40th in U.S., 236,466, with U.S. total of 62,755,842, and 100 leading counties 30,616,270.

Turkey Hens Kept for Breeding: Lancaster County, Oct.-Nov. 1954, ranks 87th in U.S., with 5,112, against U.S. total of 2,277,825 and 100 leading counties, 1,248,230.

The importance of the poultry industry to Lancaster County is apparent, more reason why continued, increased support should be given the new Lancaster County Poultry Exchange.

To The Women

Of every 100 industrial and office workers, there are 29 women. Women have always made up at least 50 per cent of the working force of the country, but their work was household and farm work without pay—except, as in the case of Lancaster Countians, where the chicken business was often mom's.

Why are women so prevalent in today's working force? William R. Gordon, extension rural sociologist at Penn State University, points out five reasons:

- 1, They have been released for other work because of the diminishing need for them on farms; 2, because changes and technical improvements make homemaking possible today with less time and effort put into it; 3, because 95 per cent of the energy used by us today is mechanical; 4, because women have demonstrated their competence for the many new tasks to be performed; 5, because they are at work due to necessity.

"As to the future, we may expect to see more women working. There will be more tasks women can perform. In good times, better wages and better job selection attract women. In poor times, women are impelled to try to earn money to supplement an inadequate income in the home. Some women, who might marry otherwise, stay on the job.

"Economic affairs in the U.S.A. will be more influenced by what women do and say," the sociologist advises. Whether that's new news or not, we can't say.

The hand that rocks the cradle today may also be a counterpart to wartime's Rosie the Riveter.

DOLLARS PER ACRE

New Jersey is reported leading the country in cash receipts per acre of farmland with \$195 per acre in 1955. Delaware was fourth with \$122, Maryland eighth at \$58, and Pennsylvania tenth with \$55.

On the basis of receipts per farm, Delaware, in this region, was first with \$13,969, standing third to Arizona and California. New Jersey is fourth per farm with \$13,542, Maryland 22nd with \$6,568, Pennsylvania 32nd with \$5,296. The national average is \$26 in receipts per acre and \$5,505 cash receipts per farm.

Lancaster County's comparison on this basis would be interesting.

50 Years Ago

This Week on Lancaster Farms

50 YEARS AGO (1906)
By JACK REICHARD

Back in 1906 the Lancaster County tobacco crop was estimated to bring growers at least three million dollars, a record high up to that year. An estimate placed the crop at 80,000 cases, grown on approximately 18,000 acres of land. Agricultural experts stated the 1906 Lancaster County tobacco crop was about one-fifth of the value of the entire wheat crop in the State of Pennsylvania, and twice the value of the wheat crop in the county.

Prices paid Lancaster County growers that were from 12 to 15 cents, which averaged about \$166 per acre.

Credit for the good prices was given to Congressman Cassel from this district, who was a tobacco grower himself for a quarter of a century. He led the fight against the proposal to lower the duty on tobacco imported from the Philippines and was instrumental in its defeat.

The president of the American Tobacco Leaf Association, holding its annual meeting in Ohio, sent a telegram to Congressman Cassel, thanking him on his successful efforts in killing the proposed legislation.

On September 7, 1906, one of the most unusual sales of tobacco on record occurred on the Lancaster farm of Abram Kurtz, at Oreville, where the green leaves were stripped off the stalk, weighed green and paid for at the rate of 10 cent per pound. The patch was small, less than a quarter acre, but leaves were reported extremely large.

23,000 Acre Farm

In Northern Missouri

David Rankin of Taykio, Mo., was listed among the largest farmers in the world, a half century ago, possessing 23,000 acres which were under a high state of cultivation, 16,000 acres in corn, the remainder in hay and grain. He fattened and marketed 9,000 cattle annually and the same number of hogs.

Fifty years ago this week the heirs of John H. Brackbill, deceased, sold their Lancaster farm of 94 acres, west of the borough of Strasburg at the price of \$124 per acre.

Cattle Tick

Eradication

A half century ago Congress approved an appropriation of \$85,500 for carrying on the work of exterminating the cattle tick in the southern and some of the western States. Secretary Wilson, of the Agriculture Department, stated in addition to the money an extension of state authority also was given to the department officials.

Elsewhere in Lancaster County, on the farm of William Erb, in the Mount Nebo area, the owner was hauling in tobacco measuring 49 inches in length and 2 1/2 inches wide, 50 years ago this week.

THE WHOLE TRUTH

We have just learned of an editor who started from nothing 20 years ago and recently retired with a comfortable fortune of \$50,000. He said it was acquired through the death of an uncle who left him \$49,990.

25 Years Ago

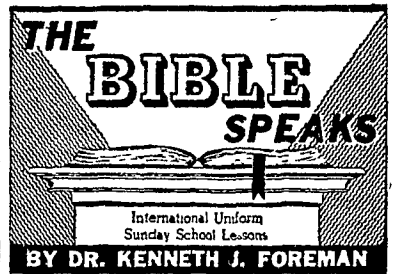
25 Years Ago (1931)

On the farm of Irwin Mummert, Paradise Township, York County, a young bull kicked a lighted lantern from the hand of its owner, resulting in a fire causing \$8,000 damage. A large barn, corn crib and chicken house were burned. Also consumed in the blaze were 550 bushels of wheat, 80 bushels of rye and all the hay and straw of the season. As Mummert was passing a large straw stack in front of the barn that morning, he yelled at a young bull blocking his path. Instead of moving, the bull kicked, knocking both the lantern and milk bucket from its owner's hand against the stack. The straw quickly burst into flames and immediately spread to the barn.

Humans Could Live Forever

Twenty-five years ago the learned Doctor Stoklasa, scientist and radium expert, told the congress of radiologists in Paris that rays may prolong human life indefinitely.

The serious scientist stated; "Alpha rays arrest this deoxidizing process, beta and gamma rays reoxidize the tissues, giving them new life"

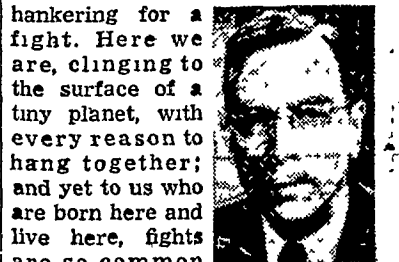


Background Scripture: Luke 22:31-34, 54-62; James 3-4
Devotional Readings: Psalm 34:13-22

Why Men Fight

Lesson for September 9, 1956

IF SOME angel who had never heard of this earth, or some man from outer space living on some planet never invaded by sin, should get acquainted with the human race for the first time, probably the thing that would astonish them most would be the human hankering for a fight. Here we are, clinging to the surface of a tiny planet, with every reason to hang together; and yet to us who are born here and live here, fights are so common they seem quite natural. People quarrel at home, they get into arguments on the street, congressmen have to be restrained from fist-fights, business men are always at one another's throats, labor and management are on opposite sides, and there is even talk about the "battle of the sexes." As for nations, a man the other day refused flatly to pay a cent of income tax, on the ground that he did not believe in war and he knew that most of his tax would be spent for war, past or prospective. Nobody wants the next war, but who really thinks it will not come?



Dr. Foreman

Why do men fight? Let us admit that there may be times when it is good to give battle. There have been evils, and there still are evils, which are not going to fold up and go away without a fight. But all the same, everybody with sense admits that a vast amount of the fighting we do, whether in our homes or in politics or business or in the mighty struggles between nations, simply gets nobody anywhere. Most fights are a sheer waste of energy no matter who wins; and many fights (like our present and future wars) are such that nobody wins. What starts all this mess? One reason is, people talk too much. James, the salty saint who wrote the letter in the

The Tongue Is a Fire

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Was It Hot?

25, Years Ago?

Yes, it was hot, on Lancaster farms that Thursday, September 10, 1931. The mercury reached 97 degrees, the highest recorded during the month of September for 45 years.

A fire believed to have started from a spark from an overheated stove, destroyed a brick house on the Lancaster farm of Peter Gish, Elizabethtown, R. D. 25 years ago this week.

On the Lancaster farm of J. L. Schmidt, near Green Tree, was grown a cantaloupe weighing 12 pounds and measured 32 inches around it lengthwise and 25 inches around it the other way.

Schmidt was an extensive grower of watermelons and cantaloupes, 25 years ago.

Buttonholes Point

Out Suit Quality

Neatly pressed, smoothly shaped, evenly stitched — the fall suit that fills this bill is a good buy.

Bernice J. Tharp, extension clothing specialist of the Pennsylvania State University, says buttonholes point to another mark of quality. They should be cut with the grain of the fabric. Bindings of bound buttonholes should be narrow, squared off at the ends, and finely stitched. Worked buttonholes are satisfactory if made well.

New Testament which bears his name, put his finger right on it. The tongue, he says, is a little thing, but it's wild. Nobody has ever quite tamed it. The tongue is a fire, it can set the world on fire. It is a flame from hell. Of course James does not mean that that all talk is wrong. He recognizes happily the good the tongue can do. But the tongue does start fights. How many family quarrels would have died a-borning if only he and she had done one single simple thing: shut up! How many quarrels had started, and how many made worse, just by people who can't keep their mouths shut! When Hitler was about to set the world on fire, he started by talking, long before his armies took the field.

Wanting Too Much

Plain-spoken Admiral Sims once told a feminine audience in Boston that they were the chief cause of war. You have no limits to your wants, he said. Your husbands have to keep working harder to satisfy you, manufacturers have to keep looking farther and farther for the raw materials to make the things you want, and presently we get into quarrels with other nations that either want the same things or don't want us to have them; and then you have the makings of a war. Admiral Sims might have been reading the letter of James. Wanting what we don't have, wanting what we actually don't need, he says is a major reason for quarrels and fights among men. Even among Christians, because he is writing to Christians. Was the Admiral right? The reader who feels like arguing with him will have to argue with the writer. James no less.

Cure for Quarrels

James no doubt knew as well as the Apostle Paul did that it is not always possible to live at peace with all men. But it is possible to cut down the quarrels. The secret is to see things as God sees them. Let no one say this is impossible. We not only can, but if we are to survive we must have what James calls "wisdom from above." What he means is nothing weird, out-of-this-world, impractical. "The wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, forbearing, conciliatory, full of mercy and wholesome fruit, unambiguous, straightforward." (Moffatt's translation) If Christians would begin by setting the example, both in our homes and in our nations, of clamping down on our quarrelsome tongues and typewriters, and living by God's wisdom, the reign of peace would be at least much nearer.

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