

4—Lancaster Farming, Friday, Sept. 14, 1956

Lancaster Farming

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

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Subscription Rates: \$2.00 Per Year
Three Years \$5.00; 5c Per Copy
Entered as Second-Class matter at the Post Office,
Quarryville, Pa., under Act of March 3, 1879

SEPTEMBER

September sings a somber song of leaves ready to fall, but this shaded mood is overpowered by the produce of field and farm that rolls into the granaries and cellars in an array of never-equalled hue.

Here are a few leaves already giving up their lease; blight has given premature autumn coloring to others. But the pumpkins are as round and as orange and as big as you could ask. Tomatoes are plump and ripe and red. Whites of sweet corn ears contrast sharply with the green of stalk.

Tobacco drying in Lancaster County barns puts into action colors man can't faithfully reproduce, a transition from green to brown that is imperceptible. Nature is careless in her combination of colors at this season, but there's no clash. No lady would adorn herself in some of the strongly contrasting shades that Nature employs — but Nature gets by with it — beautifully.

Not all's rosy in this multi-toned pattern. Tomatoes, in row upon row of red-filled baskets, have moved to market. Some are still moving to market, finding many canneries taxed to capacity. Other outlets must be found instantly. Sweet corn prices have tumbled, as greater amounts of the 1956 crop move into trade channels.

There's a fading in the crisp greens. Night air's a bit more chilling. An undershading of purples has been brushed across the mountainsides. Some sumac is already attired for Fall, with brilliant crimson and livid yellow, cushioned against the green of pine.

It has been a good year, the harvest is bountiful. Props have been knocked from some prices, but there's always a bright tone in the autumn canvas, like a white stream reflecting the coming colors of Autumn . . . a pleasant peace over the Lancaster County countryside that hides only the feverish activity of Lancaster farming at harvest-time.

25-HOUR DAY

We were rather amused by a recent report from the Lancaster County Society of Farm Women No. 11, where members responded to roll call "What I would do with a 25th hour in the day."

The majority said — "Sleep."

Here we take issue with Society of Farm Women 11. Give a farm wife a 25-hour day and we'll bet that extra hour won't be spent in sleep. Man, who works only from sun to sun, knows woman's work is never done. In Hour No. 25, she'll be dusting, sweeping, cooking — or perhaps sleeping.

To prove our point, we refer to two days of the year that are unusual — the 23-hour day when Daylight Savings Time begins, and the 25-hour day when Daylight Savings Time ends. After all's said and done, the same routines, the same amount of sleep is attained — or lost — whether the day is 23, 24 or 25 hours' long.

There's a 25-hour day coming up sometime in October. That's notification to those who farm from 5 a. m. to midnight, that, when Daylight Savings Time is ended, you can stop the next day and see how much more you accomplished in that 25th hour.

Chances are, most housewives will be too busy — except for that moment it takes to turn the clock back one hour.

Cure for Dwarfism?

One of the primary problems facing the producer of dairy and beef cattle—purebred and commercial—is dwarfism, a subject kept under covers for awhile, but now in the open, the subject of one of the most intense campaigns ever.

Purebred beef cattle producers may soon be able to detect culprits in their breeding herds responsible for dwarf calves with a comparatively simple and inexpensive test, the University of Missouri college of agriculture reports.

Insulin injections are used, and, although the tests have been most encouraging at Missouri, further, extensive field work in other herds is necessary.

50 Years Ago

This Week on Lancaster Farms

50 YEARS AGO (1906)
By JACK REICHARD

Mrs. Kate Pavitt, wife of Edward H. Pavitt, was found murdered in the kitchen of her home in Marple Township, near Media, Pa. Mr. Pavitt, a farmer, was away from home from early morning until noon that day, and upon his return from Chester, where he had gone with a load of market produce, reported to the coroner the finding of his wife's mutilated body.

A Great Duck Farm, Ships 20,000 Annually

Fifty years ago the Lancaster farm of George Woods, between Kinzer and Intercourse, was noted for its ducks. Although the property was located along the Pequea Creek, water from a strong spring was run through a spillway into wooden compartments for use of the various sized ducks which were of the snow-white breed Woods stated he shipped 20,000 ducks annually to New York markets, and the demand was greater than the supply.

A census report in 1906 showed there were 3,404,016 mules in the United States that year, valued at \$334,680,520.

Freight Rates Reduced On Lima Beans

The Lima bean crop was greater in supply than demand in 1906. In California, where rainfall was scanty, thousands of acres had been planted with lima beans. The production was so abundant that special freight rates were granted to ship the product from California to the Atlantic coast.

A farm wife in Ohio told how she kept her cabbage patch practically free from worms with the assistance of four young turkeys. When they were but a few weeks old she had taken them with her and held them up so they could pick the green worms from the cabbage leaves. She continued this until the turkeys formed the habit. At her call, they followed her to the patch, stood at her side as she opened the loose heads, and nabbed every worm in sight.

Another farmwife had a way of freshening nuts by soaking them in lukewarm water. She declared: "This applies to all sorts of nuts, and it is surprising to see how they are improved!"

Voice of Lancaster Farms

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of The Secretary
WASHINGTON
Sept. 11, 1956

Mr. Ernest J. Neill
Editor, Lancaster Farming,
Quarryville, Pa.

Dear Ernie:

The Secretary and his wife thoroughly enjoyed my copy of Lancaster Farming — the one containing the terrific coverage of the Hershey appearance. Do you suppose you could let me have a dozen copies? They'd like to send some to members of their family.

Thanks again for all you've done.

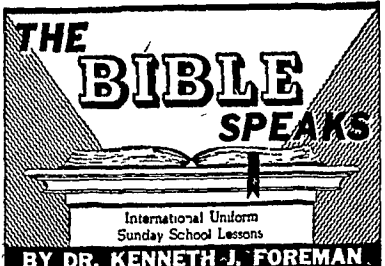
Sincerely yours,
Robert D. McMillen
Assistant to the Secretary

25 Years Ago

Five cows died mysteriously on the farm of Frank Redding, west of Gettysburg. Value of the animals was estimated at \$500. The cows had been in pasture all during the summer and were placed in the barn for the first time in months. All appeared to be in the best of condition when they were driven into the barn, but when Redding went to the barn the following morning he found all nine of his cows lying on the stable floor sick. Despite an effort to save them five died. It was believed that they ate some poisonous weed and, when confined indoors, were unable to throw off the effects of the poison.

Octoraro Farmers Meet: Study Home-Baked Bread

The Octoraro Farmers Club met on Saturday, September 12, 1931, at the home of George W. Jackson, near Nine Points, with a good attendance. Mrs. Emma Haverstick asked, "If women should bake their own bread would it cause the baker's price to drop?" Roy Ferguson asked,



Background Scripture: Matthew 18: 20, John 21: 1-14, Revelation 1-3.
Devotional Reading: Revelation 3: 7-13.

Revelation

Lesson for September 16, 1956

THE book of Revelation was several hundred years old before the whole Christian church accepted it into the Bible. Even after it became an official part of the New Testament, there were Christian scholars who questioned it. Saint James places it somewhere between the "canonical" and "apocryphal" books — that is, between Bible and not-Bible. Luther's first preface to his German translation of the New Testament said of Revelation that it did not seem to be either apostolic or prophetic. He came to think better of it, but he never did print Revelation except as an appendix to the New Testament. Zwingle, the Swiss reformer, considered Revelation "not Biblical"; and John Calvin, who wrote commentaries on almost every other book of the Bible, never undertook to write on Revelation.



Dr. Foreman

A Strange Book
One of the reasons why so many distinguished Christians have had difficulty with the book of Revelation is the simple one: it is extremely hard to understand. Its pages swarm with weird monsters; fire and blood flow through its scenes; it is loud with the agonies of a crashing universe. Literally hundreds of persons, fascinated by the puzzles here, have written out their answers in books and commentaries; but the very fact that these commentators do not agree among themselves is eloquent testimony to the fact that no one yet has found the key that gives an answer the whole church accepts. What makes the book so strange is that it is written in the language of symbols. As one eminent conservative scholar, Dr. Warfield, said (with some exaggeration), everything in the book means something else. The author as it were puts us on notice when he tells us himself

"Is it too late to plant alfalfa? It was thought to be too late. Asa Walton asked the proper time to plant winter barley two weeks earlier than wheat planting was thought to be the proper time.

Following the discussions, William Walton told of his trip to the Purina Mills at St. Louis, and their experimental farms where their feeds were being tested.

Hen Kills Eaglets Placed In Her Care

Two of the three eaglets hatched in the biological laboratory at the Western Reserve University, Cleveland, died, while the third was thriving. The two died of injuries inflicted by their foster-mother, a setting hen, who stepped on them. It was stated the three birds were the first eagles ever hatched in captivity up to 1931.

Frances Suttan, sixteen, Edmonton, Canada, told a story of how her dog three times pulled her from creek beds as she struggled, exhausted in treacherous swamps near Grassland, Alberta, 25 years ago. She had missed a trail and was hopelessly lost when night came. Thrice she fell exhausted into the stream. Each time the dog dragged her out. In the morning the dog guided her to a farm house.

that his "stars" mean angels, and "lampstands" mean churches, and "incense" means prayers. Even the numbers in this book are symbolic—that is, not to count with but to express ideas. Readers who wish to pursue the study of Revelation more fully should write to their denominational headquarters and inquire whether their church has authorized some particular interpretation of this book. So wide are the disagreements that this writer could not recommend any one book without raising objections from some part of the church or other.

Some Things Are Clear

Sunday school lesson planners seldom select from Revelation; but those who planned our current series, used in more than 80 denominations, wisely selected three studies based on parts of Revelation about which there can be little dispute. For some things in this obscure book are clear as day; and it is probably in gratitude for these things, rather than in hope of unraveling all the knots, that the church, in spite of its uncertainties, has kept this book at the end of the Bible all these centuries. One of the clearer and best-loved sections is in the first three chapters, where we have seven letters to seven churches of Asia Minor. There is obscurity here too; but also much light. Those seven churches have gone the way of all flesh, long since. But in those sharply etched pen-pictures the modern reader can see portraits, amazingly modern, which come close to describing churches we all have seen.

Christ in His Churches

The warnings and the promises to those far-off and long-gone churches are good today for us. One thing stands out in every one of these short piercing messages to the "seven churches": Every true church—then, now always—is a true one only when and so long as it keeps faithful to Christ, so long as he can be satisfied with it. What are the points of a church Christ approves? The reader of Revelation can make his own list and should not skip the first two in the very first letter: "hard work and patient endurance" (to follow Moffatt's translation). It should be noted too that even in the church most praised (Ephesus) the thing that comes in for blame is their let-down of love. For of all things that make a church weak and un-Christian, loss of love is the most serious. Even Christ's severest judgments are judgments of love. To the weakest and worst church of the seven, the word is, "As many as I love, I rebuke."

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