

# 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 EXpress 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

**BLESSED ARE THE GRATEFUL**  
 "I'd want to 'commodate 'em,  
 The whole endurin' flock  
 When the frost is on the pumpkin  
 And the fodder's in the shock."  
 — James Whitcomb Riley.

## COLD WEATHER AHEAD

Ten chilling years, with a rapid return to the snows that grandpa recalls have been predicted by Prof. C. L. Hosler of the Department of Meteorology, College of Mineral Industries, the Pennsylvania State University.

Baer's Almanac predicts weather for 1957 will open with heavy snows for much of the nation, and end with a cold wave. This winter in general will be a rough one, with cold waves the end of January, the middle of February and the start of March, the old-timer tells.

Mixing science and a little guesswork, Prof. Hosler takes issue with contentions that trends over the past half-century indicate that the Northeastern United States is getting warmer. This was based on the observation that it was, in fact, warmer during the last 50 years years than during the preceding 50 years

"There are indications now, however," he continues, "that the trend has ceased and that we may return to colder weather. Historically these warm and cool periods have been roughly of 100 years duration and the temperature changes have been of about the same magnitude.

"By joining the ranks of the 'extrapolators' and by also considering some apparent statistical relationships of solar activity to weather that have not been established physically, I will predict," he solemnly said, "with tongue in cheek, that the next decade will be a cold one, with a rapid return to the snows that grandpa recalls"

Such is heartening news — at least to the audience the Professor addressed, a technical and scientific forum on hard coal in University Park.

## AUTUMN LEAVES

Autumn leaves, mighty pretty on the tree, are mighty dangerous underfoot, or under the wheels of your car. Wet leaves, points out Edward P. Curran, Keystone Automobile Club's safety director, can make highways extremely treacherous. Drivers should not attempt quick stops or turns on roads covered with soggy foliage because of skidding dangers.

"Another factor to be considered while driving at this time of year," he adds, "is the earlier coming of nightfall, which is even more of a factor with Daylight Savings Time ended. The combination of dusk, darkness and fatigue can add up to dangerous potentialities."

Autumn leaves, pretty underfoot, but dangerous. Take care.

## GET OUT — AND VOTE

Election Day's coming up — the climax to all the talk that has been fueled by hay and other farm crops. What the results will be, no one actually knows. Your right to vote is Constitution granted.

No matter what your party or your pick, get out and vote.

## RESEARCH ON LARD

Lard is cheap. That is well known, especially among the farmers producing hogs. But there are efforts underway, within a stone's throw of Lancaster County, within the County itself, to help bolster the sagging market.

A whiter, purer lard is being produced as research goes on. Higher cooking temperatures are possible now with lard, and credit is due those packers who have stepped up research despite a sagging market, when coolers are crammed with surplus.

Lard's still one of the best cooking oils there is. Some criticism has been thrown to production of meat-type or bacon type-hogs that show a minimum of fat. There must be marbelling to make good meat, even pork. Perhaps the move to fat-free swine has advanced too far.

## 50 Years Ago

### This Week on Lancaster Farms

50 YEARS AGO (1906)

By JACK REICHARD

The Pennsylvania Live Stock Breeders' Association announced that one of the features at its annual meeting at Harrisburg during January, 1907, would be a Corn Show, open to all growers in Pennsylvania whether they were members of the association or not. Liberal cash prizes were offered, with exhibits confined to 10 ears of corn. The National Stockman and Farmer, Pittsburgh, had contributed \$100 to encourage the exhibit and the Department of Agriculture announced it would contribute enough money "to make the prizes worth competing for in Pennsylvania's first great corn show."

### COWS BECAME DRUNK; FATAL TO TWO

After partaking of a quantity of jomace, the residue of cider, which had been carelessly dumped in a pasture, a herd of cows belonging to Mrs. Lavina Schauck, near Phoenixville, became gloriously drunk and did considerable damage. Several barrels of cider were made at the Schauck farm and the fermenting pomace was thrown in the field. It was good to the animals' taste and they ate freely of it during the forenoon. By late afternoon, the cows became crazily drunk. They broke down fences and did considerable other damage. Several of the cows became sick as they were getting over their "joy" and a veterinarian was summoned. Two of the herd died of indigestion.

### FARMER KILLS

### CHICKEN THIEVES

Wilham Killian, a progressive Lancaster farmer residing near Union, Colerain Township, received words of commendation instead of censure for using his shotgun with deadly effect, half a century ago. The farmer Killian had been missing his chickens for several weeks, finding feathers and pieces of the fowls scattered about the premises. That frosty November night, he heard his chickens making a racket and investigated. With the light of a lantern, he was able to see a polecat with a guilty conscience making a hasty retreat. Killian followed the skunk to his haunt which turned out to be a culvert along the road. Placing the lantern at one end of the culvert, he went to the opposite opening. Taking careful aim, he discharged the load of shot through the culvert, with the result of one broken lantern globe, and also, two dead polecats. Under the culvert, the bones of many chickens were found.

Fifty years ago, England was importing 10,0500 bushels of apples per week; they came from the United States and Canada. Those from Oregon brought the highest price.

The use of incubators in the hatching of eggs was nothing new to the ancient Egyptians, who often hatched eggs of various fowls in clay ovens heated to the proper temperature.

### THE HORSE IN FIGURES

An expert on horses, 50 years ago, declared that the average horse could travel 400 yards in four and one half minutes at a walk, 400 yards in two minutes

at a trot, 400 yards in one minute at a gallop. A horse would carry 250 pounds 25 miles per day in eight hours. An average draft horse would draw 1,600 pounds 23 miles per day on level road, including the weight of the wagon.

Fifty years ago, some of the abandoned coal mines in Pennsylvania were being turned into experimental underground gardens. In these gardens, celery, lettuce and mushrooms were grown for market. Acetylene gas was used as a substitute for sunlight and kept burning day and night. The experiments were claimed successful.

### 25 Years Ago

25 YEARS AGO (1931)

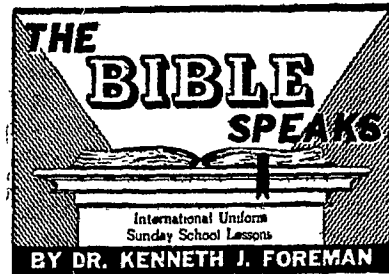
Arthur Brisbane, noted news columnist of 25 years ago, reported Sweden was planning an interesting experiment. Ships with modern refrigerator plants were to bring Swedish butter to America and take back fruit from this country. Each package of butter was to contain the printed statement "Sweden cannot import fruits if its ships cannot take Swedish goods to the

United States and sell it there". Brisbane pointed out that such appeal for fair tariff play would not reach our "best minds" that control the tariff, for those minds never unwrapped packages of butter. That was done in the kitchen.

### WATER "SMELLER" IN THE NEWS

Signor Giovanni Gotsch, diviner for water-seeking citizens in Bolzano, Italy, claimed that underground streams possessed radiations which were beneficial for many maladies. Gotsch, long noted for his ability to find underground streams by the use of a divining rod, made experiments in the underground radiations. He claimed a sick person, placed over the path of one of the hidden streams, reported an improvement in health.

During that same week in November, 1931, two Pennsylvania towns put a curfew on radio sets. In Shamokin, councilmanic ordinance set 11 p. m. as the curfew; at that hour, all sets were to be turned down so they could not be heard outside the house and all windows had to be closed when the radio was turned on. In Wilkes-Barre, police announced that they would respond to any complaints against excessively loud radios and would promptly direct set owners to cut the volume immediately.



Background Scripture: Isaiah 52:13-53:12, Matthew 1:18-21.  
 Devotional Reading: I Peter 3:14-22

### Suffering for Us

Lesson for November 4, 1956

IN THE days when a running man could overtake a carriage that was in no hurry, a Christian man named Philip was led to run up close to a very handsome carriage—they called it a chariot—in which sat a man reading aloud to himself. Something about the way he was reading made Philip, now jogging along beside the carriage, ask the rider a question. For the man was reading aloud from a book which is no doubt owned by every reader of this column, a book



Dr. Foreman which to this very day outsells all others, every month of every year: the Bible. Philip didn't ask the man where he got the book, or what he thought of it, much less, what the book was. Philip asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" The distinguished stranger admitted he did not. But he was so eager to find out that he invited this unknown pedestrian to ride with him. He was reading a chapter from Isaiah, the very same one that is our lesson scripture this week. It is all about "my servant," that is, God's servant. But who is this servant? The prophet himself, or somebody else? Could Philip please explain?

### A Prophet Sees Christ

The book is 25 centuries old, the story of Philip about 19 centuries ago; but that chapter is still a favorite with Christians. The Church today gives essentially the same answer Philip gave: this is a prophecy about Jesus. Even those Christians who doubt whether the prophet originally set out to describe the historic Jesus of Nazareth agree that the picture fits Jesus remarkably well. Most of the Christian church says not only that, but Jesus is the only person the description does fit remarkably well. It is a fair question: Would the first Christians, such as

Philip, have thought this to be a prophecy of Christ if Jesus had never thought so himself? Are we to say that Jesus was less bright than his followers? The beauty and power of this great chapter from Isaiah do not come from accuracy in details; it is pretty difficult to make all the details match exactly the facts of Jesus' life. Nevertheless this chapter is more than beautiful in language and thought; it is powerful in giving us, in a few sentences, the central spirit and underlying intention of Jesus' life. It is this: What he endured and suffered, in life and in death, he suffered and endured not for himself alone but for others, for us.

### Levels of Suffering

Suffering can be undergone on different levels, as it were. At lowest level there is mere pain, the kind known by animals. The beast does not think about it, animals around him do not; he simply suffers. At the next level there is pain suffered and resented, by human beings. Above this is pain which is suffered bravely, even defiantly, by a stoic ("I am the captain of my soul"). Above this again is pain which is borne with resignation not because it is necessary, but because God wills it. On a still higher level is suffering which is offered to God as a sacrifice—all the sufferer may have to give. As high as this, if not higher, is suffering which is undergone for the sake of others, as a mother for her child. The suffering of Christ, the church believes, is on a plane even higher than all these, though it is like some that have been mentioned. For his sufferings were for men and women everywhere, always.

### "He Poured Out His Soul"

The tragedy of Jesus, taken as a human tragedy alone, is saddening. "To what purpose was all this waste?"—we ask Judas' old question as the alabaster box pours forth its treasure. If we remember that this was not only a man but God, undergoing this tragic darkness shot with "lightning of his pain," we can understand a little better (but dimly, for the opaqueness of our selfish minds) what the suffering of Jesus meant and means. It was for us; he bore our griefs and carried our sorrows; he made himself an offering for sin. You remember the girl who said to her older sister: "Oh, sometimes I wish I could take all the miseries of the world and put them on my shoulders!"

And the older sister said, "Didn't you know Jesus did that, long ago?"

(Based on an outline copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A., released by Community Press Service.)