

Lancaster Farming

Lancaster County's Own Farm Weekly Newspaper
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Harvest Time's Here

The growing and planting season in the Garden Spot is just about past. The harvest season is hard upon us.

Tomato growers in the southern part of the county have picked a few of the earlier varieties and with the hot weather, the tomato crop should come in with a rush.

Barley combining has started, the wheat and oats are turning, and it will not be too long before the second cutting of alfalfa and red clover is ready for harvest.

State agriculture department statistics say the average farmer works about 10 hour a day. Now is the season when that figure sure gets a big stretch.

Let the Kids Fish

Do you know that if you have a stocked pond on your farm that you are not fishing it enough? At least that is true if you are an average farmer.

Surveys by Penn State have shown that the average farm pond stocked with a blue gill-bass fish population is not fished hard enough to keep fish numbers in proper balance.

Wildlife specialists say that for each 25 bass you take from the pond, at least 300 blue gill should be removed.

Now there are many ways of doing this — seining is probably the easiest.

But there is another way that will give a lot more pleasure and will come closer to allowing the pond to function as you probably planned when you built it.

It's summer now and schools are out. There are quite a few children who have little to do now that would like to do some fishing if they had the opportunity. And to them, a blue gill, be he only four inches long, is a fish that they caught themselves and is just as good as a big bass.

So instead of posting your pond against fishermen, especially of the younger set, why not invite them in?

The kids will love it. And you will benefit in having more food in the pond available to grow bigger bass and to provide enough living room for a more balanced fish population.

Just to Remind You

We like to think of ourselves here at Lancaster Farming as providing a service to the families of Lancaster and neighboring counties. As a trade paper for farmers, we are in a position to offer some unique services to our readers.

Two of these services are free to each subscriber of the paper. We have listed them before, but it is always well to give a person a reminder once in a while.

They are the Mail Box Market and the listing of meetings and events in the coming events or sales dates columns (the latter as appropriate).

Once a month you have the privilege of running a classified ad free in the mail box market. And, as you probably know, the classified advertising page of a newspaper is probably the most well read page of the paper.

Public sales are listed free with these qualifications: the name, date, location and type sale is all that can be included. Other events are listed as to time, date, organization, location and program.

If you want to have the meeting dates of your organization listed, send a post card with the information to us that it will reach our office before Wednesday of the week you want it to run.

Please do not send us a card saying "the fourth Tuesday of the odd months." There is too much of a chance that we'll miss a meeting and cause unnecessary hard feelings.

Please feel free to make use of these services. We like to get mail.

A man is rich in proportion to the number of things which he can afford to let alone. — H. D. Thoreau.



BY JACK REICHARD 50 YEARS AGO (1907)

Thunder storms and lightning made news over a wide area of countryside.

Two large barns on the farms of Joseph Waltemyer, near Stewartstown, and Lewis Miller, near Porter's Siding, in York County, were struck by lightning and burned to the ground. Nine cattle were burned to death in the Miller blaze and Waltemyer lost several head.

Near Goram, lower York County, on the farm of Nelson Gemmill, a stable containing eight mules was struck by lightning. Four of the mules were killed, but the bolt set nothing on fire.

During the same storm, in Lancaster County, seven cows were killed on the Elias Rambo farm, and one on the Owen Johnson farm, both in the Gap area.

Six cows belonging to Council Rambo, of Coatesville, were struck dead on his farm near Cochranville. Seven others were knocked down and stunned.

STREET LIGHT PLAYS QUEER PRANK

An arc street lamp at Duryea, Pa., fell from its mooring just as William Patton and his four-year-old son were crossing the street. The lamp struck the father, who had hold of the boy's hand, and the electric charge passed through the father, killing his son instantly. The parent was knocked unconscious, but escaped injury.

A VOICE FROM THE GRAVE?

Near Denton, Maryland, there was all kinds of excitement at a funeral that Sunday, when Samuel Johnson, ventriloquist, "threw" his voice into the grave as the coffin was being lowered and said: "Let me down easy." The pall-bearers and mourners scattered in all directions. Later the mystery was explained and Johnson was arrested on a charge of disturbing the peace.

HE RODE A BULL

Albert Eaby, on his Lancaster farm near Intercourse, had a two-year-old bull which he had taught to do farm work like a horse, and sometimes rode it on trips to the store, 50 years ago.

At a session of Lancaster County's Octoraro Farmers' Club held Saturday, June 22, 1907, William Walton exhibited a handful of bugs found in his field, which had destroyed eight acres of corn. Walton explained he had sent some of the bugs to Mr. Surface, head of agriculture department at Harrisburg, and read a letter from the department head advising that the bugs were "difficult to get rid of because they worked under the ground."

SKUNK FARM BROUGHT SNEERS

In 1902 a resident of Minnesota conceived the idea of starting a skunk farm and was scoffed at by friends and neighbors. But in 1907 he was making good money in the enterprise and others were setting up in the business. The department of agriculture at Washington reported receiving numerous inquiries about the new industry and treated the matter as a joke at first, but later appointed two experts to conduct a study to determine the economic aspects of skunk raising.

"High finance is not confined entirely to Wall Street," declared John E. Wilkie, chief of the secret service a half century ago.

He told of a clerk in the U.S. Treasury who wanted to attend a ball game and had only 25

cents, the price of admission, but nothing for car fare.

The clerk announced he would raffle his 25 cents at 2 cents a share. Eighteen clerks took chances. One won the quarter for 2 cents, but the promoter has 25 cents for his admission ticket, 10 cents for car fare and a cent for the afternoon paper.

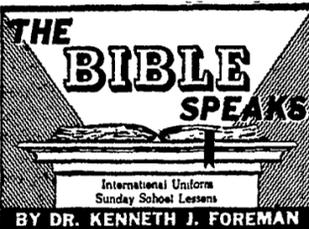
25 Years Ago

25 YEARS AGO (1932)

Lancaster County held the record for entertaining children from the crowded tenement flats of New York city, according to officials of the Fresh Air Fund, headed by Charles G. Goodman, of Lancaster. Twenty-five years ago this week Goodman stated:

"The pleas are stronger than ever this year from families who wish to give their youngsters — many of them under-nourished — the fresh air and two weeks of wholesome food found in a rural community. These children have read in school of the fertile farmland of America, but they have never seen them."

Among the amusing and pathetic incidents of Fresh Air children recalled by Lancaster farmers during previous years, was



Background Scripture: Genesis 39-41
Devotional Reading: Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22

God Remembers

Lesson for June 23, 1957

DID God become God of love recently, or was he always that? This point has bothered some readers of the Bible, for in the New Testament it is made plain that God is love, but in the Old Testament very little is said about this. —Or so it used to be thought. Now that we have the Revised Standard Version, we can see that the Old Testament likewise speaks often of God's "steadfast love," an expression translating a Hebrew word which used to be translated "mercy" or "grace." God's steadfast love is the root and reason of his mercy and his grace.

Happy Endings?

"If God were all-powerful he could keep evil from happening, and if he were all-loving he would not let it happen. But evil happens, so there cannot be a god." So runs an old objection to religion. But it never bothered the writers of the Bible. Their faith was of a stouter sort. Some people cannot believe in God unless he writes, so to speak, a happy ending for every one's story. Now the Hebrew people loved stories with happy endings, and perhaps Joseph's is such a story. In one way it has a happy ending. —Joseph the slave-boy becomes the Grand Vizier of Egypt. Joseph, the boy, his brothers were going to murder, becomes their unknown benefactor. And yet—in its setting it is not quite happy. The same book of Genesis which begins with "In the beginning, God—" ends with the stark expression, "In a coffin in Egypt." Not very hopeful! Further, when you think of all the other stories tied in with that of Joseph, you will admit that not all the threads of this story are neatly tied off in bow-knots of happy endings. What because of Potiphar's wife? the "Medianite



the boy who tried to pour eggs from one basket to another, and a girl who couldn't drink milk when she saw it came from a cow instead of a can.

TRUCK WRECKS MILK WAGON

Harry Long, twenty-two, Lancaster milk wagon driver, was in the St. Joseph Hospital suffering from fractured ribs and other injuries resulting when a truck crashed into the rear of the wagon. The horse was knocked down in the street and injured so severely it had to be killed.

William Grove, 65, a York County farmer residing near Red Lion, was killed when he fell from a load of hay on his farm. He was helping to unload the hay in the barn. When the hayfork stuck he jerked a rope to release it, slipping and tumbling to the barn floor on his head.

LANCASTER AUCTION TOTAL NEARLY \$200,000

The Hereford steer which was awarded the grand championship honor at the Fat Cattle Show held at Lancaster, 25 years ago this week, was owned by Reuben N. Harnish, Lancaster R6.

The champion steer sold for 55 cents a pound for a total of \$486.75. About 1400 head of cattle were sold at the auction, totaling nearly \$200,000.

Park Shaubach, Ronks R2, winner of the prize for the grand champion carload lot of steers, received \$12.60 per hundred-weight.

slave-traders? the baker who made a dinner for the birds? the free Egyptian people who became slaves of the kung? Not all true-life stories end just as we might wish.

Sin and Freedom

It can be said that the stories of good people come out well and the stories of bad people come out badly. There is some truth in that. There is this much truth at any rate: God has never yet abolished sin, and he permits sin's effects to continue to be terrible. The only way to abolish sin outright would be to destroy freedom; for sin is simply man's misuse of the freedom God has given him. God could, no doubt, have made the human race so that they could be wound up like clocks to run right no matter what. But he made men, not machines. And the tragic fact of sin is a fact. Thus every man's story is spoiled more or less. Indeed there are no perfect stories. God is God of love; but he is not the kind of God who would force all men to do right, regardless; nor is he the kind of God who will see to it that no matter what a man does, he is bound to be happy ever after. It is not only that men are affected by the results of their own sins. Worse than this are the injustices, the tragedies, caused for the innocent by the sins of others.

But God Remembers

Nevertheless, God does not forget. He is not careless nor powerless. Among the many truths which the story of Joseph suggests is the doctrine called Providence. Put into simple words, this means that God thinks of things beforehand. In ways we do not understand, for it is his doing and not ours, God works, both in spite of and because of the worst that sinful men can do, works to bring good out of evil. Joseph's brothers and Potiphar's wife were sinners; yet God used their sins, in his providence, to bring good into the lives of countless people. Two questions not cleared up in the Old Testament have more light cast on them by the New. Will evil and good go on side by side forever? The story of Joseph does not look so far ahead. The New Testament shows clearly, No; God will one day make a final separation of good from evil. And then, what about those good persons whose lives end in tragedy? The New Testament reminds us that we never see the real end of any one's story in this world; coffins—in Egypt or elsewhere — end chapters, but no coffin ends a Last Chapter!

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