

# Lancaster Farming

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## What's Ahead for Hogs?

A most challenging question of the moment for livestock farmers concerns the hog production trend. It is on the upgrade, no doubt about that. But the question is whether profitable returns of the past year will tempt farmers to over produce and bring on another price slump like that of two years ago.

The stage is set for a repeat, provided enough farmers forget what happened to them in 1955. This has been a year of good hog profit. Not since Jan. 1 has the corn-hog ratio been lower than 12.7 to 1 (12.7 bushels of corn required to equal 100 pounds of live hog in price), and it has ranged as high as 15.3 to 1 in June when hogs moved to a top of around \$21 a hundredweight. During most of the year it has held at better than 13 to 1, which makes for profitable hog raising. In a study of corn-hog ratio figures for the period from March to July over the past 33 years, the presumed return on hogs has been better than now in only seven years.

What effect this relatively favorable situation during the customary breeding season for fall pigs will have on next spring's hog supply can only be guessed. Remembering 1954 when the ratio climbed to 16 to 1 during this period, anyone inclined to worry about possible overproduction has basis for concern.

However, there may be more room for optimism in the hog picture than this would indicate. The June pig crop report estimated the total of sows to farrow next fall at 5,308,000 head. That would be an increase of only two per cent over 1956 fall farrowings, and indicates a crop of around 37 million fall pigs.

If this pans out, the hog business could remain on firm footing well into 1958. For farm economists agree that the hog industry could absorb a moderate production increase next winter and spring without too much difficulty. Population is up about two per cent and consumer buying power is up a little. Beef is offering slightly less competition and broiler production seems to be leveling off.

These factors will help, but they will not stem the tide of any big increase in hog output.

—The Corn Belt Farm Dailies

## Remember - You Run the Machine

The New Holland Machine Co. Tuesday had a big field day and demonstration of modern methods of making quality hay. It was a good demonstration and they did make some quality hay.

But for someone who lives and works in Lancaster County, the demonstration was sort of a "re-hash" of what we see every day. Here in the Garden Spot, farmers learned fast that quality hay is the cheapest feed available.

And when you stop to think that alfalfa hay, properly cured and handled, has about the same feed value as alfalfa meal, you can see better just how valuable hay is.

The newsmen and farm editors that attended the demonstration undoubtedly enjoyed themselves and learned a lot. But their best story probably was that on the farms surrounding the demonstration plot, the same thing was going on and has been going on for quite a while.

It's not a matter of whose equipment you use, but rather how you use the particular brand of equipment you prefer. With good management and forethought, the result will be the same. Quality hay and efficient, profitable cattle feeding.

### Men Will

A student publication of Columbia University asserts married women are more capable teachers than unmarried ones. Men will agree. — Life.

### And Pay and Pay and Pay

Chicago beauty expert says women spend a lot of money in beauty parlors to please the men. That's all right. The men pay the bills. — Buffalo Times.



BY JACK REICHARD  
50 YEARS AGO (1907)

With the advent of trolley lines in Pennsylvania in the early 1900's farm land values in general took an upward turn. One real estate agent in Chester County reported more transfers of farms had been made in that county during 1905 and 1906 than in previous 10-year period. He stated that the demand for dairy and stock farms was only moderate, but the purchase of farm lands for building homes had reached a record high.

### SEED FIRM CHANGED HANDS

Fifty years ago this week, negotiations were underway between New York interests and George W. Park, owner of the La Park Seed Farm near Paradise in Lancaster County.

Over a five year period Park had built up a large enterprise for handling seeds and printing. The water power of Pequea Creek had been utilized to drive machinery in the printing plant, including several up-to-date printing presses and electrotype equipment. One of the branches of the business was the publication of Park's Floral Magazines, a successful mail order periodical, with a circulation of 450,000. The development included a postoffice named La Park from which tons of mail was sent out, the fine Park residence, a dozen or more dwelling houses for employees, large seed warehouse and green houses.

Elsewhere in Lancaster County that week, on the farm of Christian Rohrer, Manor Township, a barn was struck by lightning during an afternoon thunder storm and burned to the ground. Rohrer and two sons, aged 11 and 12, were in the barn when the bolt struck. The younger boy was stunned by the lightning and his brother picked him up and carried him from the burning building. The season's crop of hay and most farm implements were destroyed.

Near Bausman, on the Millersville turnpike, a large tobacco shed on the farm of Frank Bausman blew down, and part of the barn roof ripped off during the same storm, which was accompanied by tornado-like winds.

In Lancaster city the S. K. Eshleman Building on North Queen Street was damaged by fire. It started in the H. B. Herr Store located in the building, when sun rays passing through the show window set off a large stock of fireworks, gutting the store, with a loss of \$35,000. The Blancos Cafe was damaged to the extent of \$1,000. L. L. Struss entailed a loss of \$2,500 in damaged cigars and tobacco.

### HEN ADOPTED PUPS

J. R. Robinson, of Audenried, near Hazleton, Pa., reported to local newspapers he had a hen that adopted a litter of six pups which were deserted by their mother soon after birth.

### MALES IN MAJORITY

Back in 1907 the male sex in the United States exceeded the females by some 1,638,321, according to a census bulletin. In some states the women were in majority over the men, notably in Rhode Island, Massachusetts and the District of Columbia. Men were in excess in rural areas with cities having more females than males. The report stated that females also exceeded the number of males within the 16 to 26 age limits in the country as a whole.

### TEENAGERS MARRY AT 14

In the presence of relatives, neighbors and school friends, Willie Richards and Ella Brock, both 14 years of age, were married by Squire J. W. Brown, at Thorn Grove, Tenn. The marriage united the youngest couple ever

wed in that State with their parents consent, and the wedding attendants were the youngest on record, according to Knoxville newspapers.

### BURGLAR GOT OFF EASY

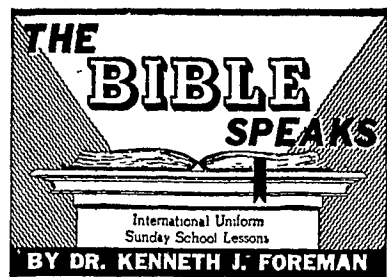
When Christian Nolte and his wife, residing near Silver Springs in Lancaster's West Hempfield Township, were wakened that night, they found a burglar ransacking a bureau drawer, who upon being discovered in the act, crawled under the bed. The Noltes, not accustomed to such procedure, jumped out of the bed and ran into another room, locking the door behind them.

The intruder, claiming he could not find his shoes, asked for a to locate his belongings. Nolte finally accommodated the stranger, and after finding that nothing was stolen from the house, reprimanded the man for frightening Mrs. Nolte.

## 25 Years Ago

In New York's Bronx Zoo, the snake manager had an idea. He observed that snakes in cages lived a simple life. Someone brought live mice and other things they ate at regular intervals. So they lay around and made no effort to amuse visitors. Also they got no exercise.

A small zoo island had been arranged and 42 snakes let loose on it.



Background Scriptures: Exodus 2:1-10, 15:19-21, Numbers 12, 20:1, 26:59, Devotional Reading: Psalm 32:1-7

## Woman in Command

Lesson for July 7, 1957

THIRTY-THREE centuries is a long time. Records made 3300 years ago have been broken long since. It would be a rash person to say that a modern Christian woman should stay inside the limits set for women 1300 years before Christ. No person of that far-away time can be a precise model for Christians today. Nevertheless we can learn something from the ancients.

One question which—oddly enough—has been bothering the race for probably longer than 3300 years, is this: What is woman's place? It is just as absurd a question as the other one which—also oddly enough—is never asked: What is man's place? The odd thing is that we assume that man's place is anywhere, while woman's place is some way limited. We assume that man can go where he pleases, while women have to ask men's permission. This notion is a hang-over from ancient times when it really was a man's world far more than now. Nevertheless even in those distant days an able woman could make her own place in the world. Miriam, sister of the famed Moses, is a case in point. She was a woman of a strong mind, a natural leader. There is no "story" of Miriam. There is a story of Joseph, a story of Moses. But the picture of Miriam, like the majority of Bible characters, is drawn with a very few strokes. All we have is glimpses; yet from these we can learn something of an interesting woman.



Dr. Foreman

Smart Girl  
Miriam was older than her brother Moses, — not just a year or two older, but old enough, by the time he was born, to manage that business about getting his mother for a nurse. Undoubtedly her

If they swam in the water they could not escape because of a rim around the outside of the water. They were expected to crawl around and entertain students of snake life.

The manager compared human beings with snakes. He pointed bread, meat and milk. The employer brought his payroll, public schools brings knowledge and takes care of the children, the movies supplied excitement. Some one runs his government.

"We need a 'snake island' for humans to compel useful activity" declared the snake manager, but the irony of the statement was that the 1932 depression was partly supplying such an island.

Gardens in The Garden Spot of American, planted with seed distributed by the local Red Cross Chapter, were bearing vegetables and many an unemployed man, felt a sense of satisfaction of being able to supply food for his family through the results of his own labor.

A total of 2,500 pounds of seed was distributed through the Red Cross, in 1932, and then one-third of the amount went into Lancaster County. Members of the 22 county branches affiliated with the local Red Cross Chapter distributed a total of 985 pounds of seed among the needy in their respective communities.

Howard Rittenbaugh, of Pottstown, Pa., noted parachute jumper, 25 years ago, jumped to his death at Reading's Whander Field July 10, 1932. Rittenbaugh's parachute failed to open and in the presence of nearly 5,000 spectators his body whirled through 1,800 feet of space to the ground.

mother had coached her for the interview with the princess (see Exodus 2); but all the same, the girl must have had sense. She was smart enough to step up to her, Royal Highness just at the right moment. A little too soon and she would have been shooed off as a little slave-girl coming where she had no right to be. A little too late, and the Princess would have chucked the baby back into his sea-going bassinet, or else bundled him off to the palace with one of her own maids. But just at the right instant little Miriam bobs up with the right question.

### All the Women Went After Her

On the morning after the night when the Israelites crossed the Red Sea, we meet Miriam again. This time she leads the song of triumph and praise, celebrating the fall of Egypt's might and the liberation of her people. Singing and playing and dancing, she led the women in the celebration of the Lord's victory. Here are two hints about the place of women as leaders. We already had one hint in the story of Moses in the bulrushes: Smart women grow from smart girls; leaders do not come from among stupid people. In the story of Miriam and her victory-song, we have first the hint that a woman can be a most effective leader of women. "All the women went after her," we are told. It is not true that women follow men only; a strong sensible woman has little trouble in securing feminine support. The other hint is that Miriam, in her primitive way if you like, was leader of her people in two respects: she was interpreting for them the great event of the Exodus ("just a lucky wind," no doubt some were saying) as an act of God, and she was leading in creative art. It is rather suggested that the "Song of Moses" was at first the Song of Miriam. In short, Miriam took the lead where she could and as she could.

### Too Far

And yet this leader could set up in a bad light, as the story in Numbers 12 shows. It appears she had fallen into the blunder made by some dictators since: she tried to run the private affairs of other people. In a way, she could have argued that Moses' marriage was her affair, since she was in the family; and what woman does not feel a natural interest in all marriages, especially those of her own close kin? But the moral is simple and clear: When a leader becomes a dictator, even God is no longer patient.

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