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Lancaster County's Own Farm Weekly Newspaper

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In Case Of Emergency

team of USDA, State, and local specialists throughout A the Nation stands ready to go into action in case of emergency to save our livestock and crops from disease and destruction.

This team now operates on a full-scale, peacetime ging demonstration took place on proximity of big Elk Creek, and basis to help prevent any foreign livestock and plant pests the farm of E. Henry Haines, the efficient work of a dozen fire ers Assn in New York State votand diseases from coming into our country and to control southern Lancaster County, 50 those we already have. It is also set up to slip quickly had 16 acres in potatoes, was coninto high gear in case of biological warfare - deliberate templating the purchase of a use of disease-producing agents against animals and plants. niechanical digger and was anxi-One of its important new functions is to tell our farmers ous to secure the most satisfactory how to minimize the effects of radioactive fallout on live- machine on the market. stock, crops, and farm products.

This country has been able to defend itself in past wars because of the production of our farms and factories. Hallock" and "The Hoover" ma-In the future, however, an enemy may attempt to weaken chines responded. Prior to the or destroy these resources by any means possible. De- demonstrations three disinterestliberate introduction of disease as an act of sabotage, for ed persons were chosen to act as instance, could cripple our livestock and crop industries. Judges They were B. Z Hess, of That could limit our food supply as well as many sources Willow Street, Joseph Ross, Oxof clothing and medicine.

An enemy could select the host, disease, time, and place of outbreak to make animal and plant disease con-strated under favorable and untrol more difficult and to cause devastating losses. Similar favorable conditions and did exdisease could be introduced at the same time to confuse cellent work. The first report of diagnosis and eradication. It's unfortunately true that the judges was a disagreement, some animal diseases — native and foreign, harmless and but they finally decided in favor some animal diseases — native and toreign, narmiess and fatal — have similar symptoms and are difficult to dis- "they believed it separated the tinguish. Combining different diseases might produce con- vines from the potatoes better". tradictory signs and different incubation periods.

Our Federal Civil Defense Administration realized each digging machine. A large the potential threat of deliberately caused animal and plant crowd of potato growers from disease. So, in September 1954, FCDA delegated to USDA the responsibility for protecting our crops and livestock against biological warfare. This job was given to ARS because of the longtime experience of its regulatory personnel in handling cooperative State-Federal operations. ARS immediately organized a countrywide series of meet- County that week, Jacob Graybill ings to establish a plan for coping with biological warfare. of near The Buck, suffered a Participating were State and Federal regulatory officials, crushed right hand and had the representatives of diagnostic laboratories, State experi- little finger torn off, while help-



BY JACK REICHARD 50 YEARS AGO (1907)

A progressive town in the dairy section of the west had inaugurated as a regular feature in its, the owner, who was awakened by annual public events a dairymen's picnic, which was held for of the family, then summoned the and education. The picnic was ar- Fire Companies. ranged by officials of the Cooperative Dairy Assn. working with headway when the firemen arthe business men of the town, rived that they were unable to and invitations were extended to save the buildings. all residents and people residing in the surrounding countryside.

Folks were asked to bring well filled baskets of eatables, while the committee provided free amusement in the way of merrygo-rounds, band concerts and sports of various kinds. Following the picnic dinner a program featuring talks and demonstrations on dairy subjects were presented by dairy experts from the state agricultural college. ŀ

POTATO DIGGING DEMONSTRATION

Quite an interesting potato digyears ago this week. Haines, who miles, saved the town of Elkton, than 65 cents a hundredweight, 25

He invited several dealers to make a demonstration in his potato field. Representatives of "The ford, and G. Bromfield, Rising Sun, Maryland.

Both machines were demon-

Four horses were used to pull Lancaster, York and Chester Counties, and points in Maryland had assembled to witness the county court house or the worlddemonstrations.

Elsewhere in lower Lancaster

ren Bailey, near Cochranville in Chester County, causing damage estimated at \$25,000.

The fire was discovered by Miss Mabel Balley, a daughter of the flames and roused members

The blaze had gained such

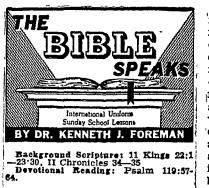
The season's crops, including a large supply of hay and wheat, and all farm machinery were destroyed. A calf, seven chickens TO DEATH and 20 turkeys were burned.

During the height of the fire, sparks swept across two fields and threatened a barn on the frozen to death. property of David McMillian. The Christiana Fire Company was in a vat partly filled with brine summoned to protect the build- in a refrigerator car where he ing.

\$100,000 BLAZE AT ELKTON, MARYLAND

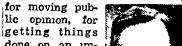
A downpour of rain, close companies within a radius of 25 ed not to sell potatoes for less Md., from being destroyed, 25 years ago this week. years ago this week.

storage building of the Elkton ed support to New Jersey growers





PEOPLE in capitols have tremendous power. A President, a senator, a parliament, a cabinet member . . . whether it is the renowned capitol building of a mighty nation, the people who work under the dome, just because they work there, have a leverage



such headway that two other large buildings and a double residence were destroyed. The loss was estimated at \$100,000.

That same week lightning destroyed a barn on the Lancaster farm of Benjamin B Shelly, R3 Manheim. The loss was estimated at \$10 000.

The flames spread through the barn to a corn barn, tobacco shed and hog pen.

Manheim firemen saved the tobacco shed and also prevented the dwelling from catching fire, but the barn and two smaller buildings went up in smoke. the twofold purpose of recreation Atglen, Oxford and Parkesburg Three cows, two mules, a bull, eight hogs, two dogs and a number of chickens and rabbits perished in the fire. The season's crops and all farm machinery, including a tractor and fodder cutter, were destroyed.

MAN FROZEN

Back in August, 1932, Harry Lanfersieck, 49, of St. Louis, was

Lanfersieck's body was found had gone to get ice. He apparently had stepped into the vat, thinking the frozen brine was solid. He broke through and was unable to climb up the slippery slides of the vat.

The Long Island Potato Grow-

About 1,000 potato growers at-The fire broke out in a lumber tended the gathering and pledg-Supply Co. and quickly gained in a move to boost potato prices.

> ing; many will be elected, many more defeated, in our American elections. It is not too soon to ask ourselves seriously, what kind of men do we want under our capitol dome? Sometimes the choice offered us makes us discouraged so that we stay at home and don't vote. But even if all we have is a choice between two third-raters, a good third-rater is better than a poor one. If we have good men in our capitols, it is our responsibility to see that they get there.

Little Capitols

It's a peculiar thing, but often true, that although candidates for local offices can be better known than those for state or national office, rascals and ne'er-do-wells are more often elected to the small offices than to the large ones. For some reasons, local government gets less attention from the voters than it should. The mayor of a single large city, today controls more power over more people than King Josiah ever did. It is in the "little capitol' if you like, the county court houses for example, that public affairs sometimes take the wrong turn. Where there is a public program well conceived and organized, it can look good as a pub-'he law, it can look good as it comes to the states . . . but when 'it goes through the local courthouses it can turn into some pretty rotten trickery. In a certain state not long ago federal funds for a very good purpose had to be cut off from a dozen or more countries because the officials there had been lining their pockets with easy money. It's a poor voter, one with a small sense of responsibility, who takes pains to elect good senators and presidents, but who when it comes to voting the local ticket, just says, Oh well . . . and votes straight because it's easiest.

ment stations, and agricultural and veterinary colleges.

These planners knew that control of biological war- Phares Evans. fare on livestock meant, basically, control of foreign diseases. Principles of disease control and eradication are the same, whether diseases get in accidentally or delibe rately. Thus, planners decided the best way to deal with one of the leading industries, it biological warfare on livestock was to have a well-trained was common for the owners of standby force that could be quickly expanded in time of large ranches to clean up \$150,war. With this in mind, a State-Federal Emergency Animal Disease Eradication Organization was set up in most fort. States to deal with dangerous animal diseases of foreign sheep and wool industry in 1906, origin.

In the past, we've looked upon many animal and plant pests and diseases as peculiar to Europe, Asia, and Africa. But today's fast intercontinental air transportation and the buildup of trade and travel have given such nests and diseases new importance. These factors, plus dur own fast livestock marketing, have greatly increased the danger of accidental and deliberate transmission. Burthermore, we have at least 8,000 domestic insects competing for our food and fiber. Deliberate dissemination of foreign plant pests would complicate an already complex electrical sciences in the 1900's, control problem.

Up until now, times has been on our side. Shipments of livestock by sea took from 15 to 30 days. This period at 18 cents per pound and amountgave most diseases time to develop signs that could be ob- ing to \$65,000,000. In 1906 the served. Today, for the first time in history, we are im- annual production was 800,000 porting more animals by air than by ocean vessel. Ani- tons selling at a little over 20 mals arrive in hours instead of days.

We move animals rapidly within our borders, too. The nationwide outbreak of vesicular exanthema in swine is a forceful example of how fast animal disease can spread. VE was limited for many years to California until 1952, when it escaped via raw garbage sent out of the State. Within 6 weeks, 18 States reported the disease, and a short house, two wagon sheds and a cide who shall occupy our places time later, 13 more.

ing to set a threshing machine into position on the farm of

In Montana, a half century ago, himself. The man vhere the raising of sheep was fice, or in his 000 a year with a minimum of ef- ally is, a man of parts, a man

Montana headed the list in the with same 4,940,000 sheep which vielded 35,815,000 pounds of wool valued at \$8,523,970.

Farmers in Michigan during the year 1906 raised more than 5,-000,000 bushels of beans, from which they realized between \$8,-000,000 and \$10,000,000.

With the development of the it is interesting to note that the world's copper output in 1881 was placed at 63,000 tons selling cents per pound, amounting to \$365,000,000.

25 Years Ago

Fire of unknown origin de-, straw shed on the farm of War- of great power. November is com-

mense scale, a power far greater than any one of them has by there in his of-

seat in the legis- Dr. Foreman lative chamber, may be, and usuabove the average in personality and ability. But however able the man under the dome may be personally, his office gives him even greater power. The voice of the man who was elected carries more weight than the voice of the man he defeated.

November Is Coming

The ancient Hebrews were a democratic people in some ways, but in others they were most unlike us. At the time of King Josiah the kingship was by no means an elective office. "And his son reigned in his stead" is the regular formula. So the Hebrews had at that time nothing to say about who should be their kings. They took whatever son the royal harem produced first. For good ones (there were some) they thanked God, and for the bad ones they were thankful they were no worse. King Josiah, whose story may be read in the Background Scripture, was one of the outstanding good kings. But it was custom and tradition that made him king, not the people. With us it is difstroyed a large barn, chicken ferent. The people have to de-

Capitols Can't Do It All

The sad truth is, King Josiah's reforms didn't stick. They didn't because they were reforms from the top. Even an absolute monarch can make his country no better than his people want it to be. It is true, we ought to have the best officials, from town to county to state to nation, that we can elect: but even if they were all praying, intelligent, devoted Christians, they cannot make this a better country merely by passing laws. Like Josiah, our men in government can make this a better country. Only if we the people want to have it so.

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