

A Changing Agriculture Unfortunately Brings Unwelcome Revisions Sometimes

AT THE RECENT meeting of the county agricultural extension association council, the program projection committees gave their reports. In the reports were suggestions of new fields that should be opened by the agricultural extension service.

It was pointed out at the meeting that with the new work that needs to be done, some of the things now done by the county agent and his associates will have to be dropped. But none of the committees came forward with any suggestions about dropping current projects.

Admittedly one of the fastest ways to become unpopular is by suggesting that a project helping a farmer be dropped so that he will have to go elsewhere for his assistance and help.

But we are going to make a couple of suggestions that we believe will help lighten the work load of the extension service while still giving the farmer a program that will be to his liking.

The first of these is that the extension service can now get out of the soil conservation business. Now before you get all excited, we do not mean that the county agent start saying that soil conservation is none of his business. It is the business of everyone of us.

However there are now other agencies that are better set up to handle soil conservation projects

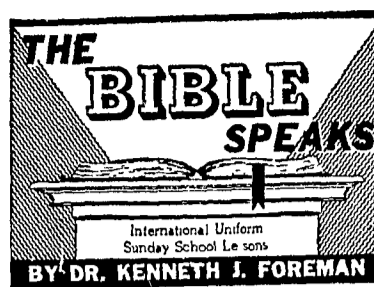
The Congress has seen fit to appropriate money to the Soil Conservation Service to hire technicians specifically trained in soil conservation work. That is what they know how to do best and they have the time for it.

With both agricultural extension and SCS in the business at the same time, it is a duplication of effort—a duplication that you and we pay for through our taxes.

Another field that can now be left alone by the extension service is one that was rather common a few years ago—that of grading cattle, castrating chickens, castrating hogs and the like. After all, the extension service is primarily an education service, not a cheap source of technical labor to the farmer.

One of the program projection committees, the one on integration, mentioned that in the broiler production business less and less help on the local level will be needed from extension in coming years. Various segments of the integrated poultry industry will have their own advisory personnel on hand. This, on a commercial basis, is becoming more true for other phases of agriculture.

For agricultural extension we see the time coming when the county agent will be more of an agricultural economist, well versed in contracts, tax structures, farm management and the like, rather than the production trained man now in demand.



Bible Material: Judges 2:11-23, 4-5, 21-25
Devotional Reading: Psalm 51:1-13

Time of Troubles

Lesson for June 15, 1958

LESS than half the chapters of the Book of Judges in the Bible are considered to be fit to print—as Sunday school lessons, that is, in quarterlies to be used by children and young people. It is only rarely that a lesson from this strange book appears, and



Dr. Foreman

most of it never does come out as a lesson. The curious reader can easily find out why, by reading the book for himself. He will find that it consists mostly of crime stories or adventure stories, tied together by a sobersided and religious editor (name unknown) who plainly believed that these stories, frightening or exciting or comic or disgusting as they might be, nevertheless taught valuable lessons. What lessons can we of the 20th century, far removed from those lawless days, learn from these ancient stories?

... What Was Right in His Own Eyes

First of all, we can see what it would be like if we abolished the police and the courts, burned the law books, never said "Don't" to anybody, but left everybody to do as he pleased. There are silly optimists now and then who think that human nature is naturally so good that all you need to do is to leave people alone, and their natural goodness will arrange everything just right. This is not true and it was never true. The editor of the book of Judges more than once appears to apologize, or offer some explanation, for the horrible events in some of his collected tales. Those were the days, he says, when there was no king in Israel, and every man did that which was right in his own eyes. "Right in his own eyes" is the key phrase. Here is pure individualism, here is anarchy. Here is the paradise of those who think

less law the better, and no law at all the ideal. This is the story of—not what can happen or might happen, but the true story of what did happen, when a whole nation forgot God and paid no attention to his laws and just went on "jags" of doing what they pleased, time after time. It was mess after mess. It is good for us (though unpleasant) that God's Providence has preserved for us these stories of what lawlessness will do to a nation.

Leading Lady

There is a brighter side of the book of Judges. The word "Judge" in this book has nothing to do with courts (Samson, for example, was one of the least judicious men known to history). The word here means Hero, Deliverer, Military Leader. The judges were not saints, as we understand saints, but they were believers in God, they were God's Strong Men. The story of Deborah in chapters 4 and 5 shows that when men were scarce, a woman might take over, with great results. In every case of the war-like heroes we meet in these pages, we learn that God called him (or her) to his military achievement. But we can see also that these men were not puppets on God's strings. They thought and fought freely and bravely, putting their trust in God. The story of Deborah is specially interesting, because she was not a strange character, a sort of Joan of Arc, but a "regular person" a "mother in Israel" as she called herself. Even in the darkest times when a real leader appears, people will follow.

Private Morals and Public Welfare

Another very important lesson taught by the book of Judges is that private morals can't be kept private. The entire community is made strong or weak by the strength of the weakness of individuals. The whole story of the time of the "Judges" is a kind of up-and-down cycle like a roller-coaster. The nation would win freedom; but then it would get run down and weakened by laziness, loose living and vice; then it would fall an easy victim to one of the many nations that were always waiting for a chance to move in on them. Then they would be, to all intents and purposes, slaves of that enemy nation for years. Only when the people came back to God and his laws, did they recover the moral strength which built up their national strength to the point where—under some new leader—they could throw off the chains of bondage.

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BY JACK REICHARD

75 Years Ago

W. H. Riley, thirty-three marks the third inmate who died of smallpox at the Lancaster County Prison. Three others confined in the jail were afflicted with the disease. Riley, born in Chester County, was sentenced Nov. 19, 1880, to a prison term of five years and eight months for burglary.

LANCASTER WATCH CO GRANTED CHARTER

Seventy-five years ago this week the State Department at Harrisburg granted a charter to the Lancaster Watch Co. with a capital of \$248,000. The incorporators included Abraham Bitner, C. A. Bitner, J. P. McCaskey, Henry Carpenter, John Best, John D. Skiles, Hugh S. Gara, Lewis S. Hartman, B. P. Miller, John J. Hartman, A. Henry Smith, D. G. Baker, J. B. Kaufman and B. F. Ehrenman, all residents of Lancaster who held the 9,920 shares of stock at a value of \$25 each. This company took the place of the former watch factory in the Fifth Ward and assumed the debts of the Lancaster Watch Company, Limited, which amounted to \$223,200.

George Cornelius, messenger in the Pennsylvania State Treasury, died suddenly in the receptive chamber of the Executive Department at Harrisburg June 12, 1883, at 10:30 a. m. Cornelius, 55, was a resident of Philadelphia and a prominent Republican politician. His death resulted from heart disease.

IRON WORKERS STRIKE AT LANCASTER

Helpers at the Penn Iron Works, Lancaster, went on strike because the demand for an increase of five cents per heat was refused. The spokesman for the workers who presented their request was discharged and the saddle mill was shut down.

WAR IMPLEMENT EXHIBIT AT PHILADELPHIA

In one of the windows of John Wanamaker's Chestnut Street establishment Philadelphia was an interesting exhibit of war implements 75 years ago this week. There were pikes and lances used

by the Confederates during the Civil War, flintlock rifles, pistols and sabers of the War of 1812 and four mortars used by the Portuguese in 1492.

50 Years Ago

A news dispatch from Sharon, Pa., reported wholesale ravages of the army worm in various sections of Mercer County. Apple and small fruit trees were being stripped and what gave promise of a good fruit yield was declared a total loss. In other sections a blight put in its appearance and the foliage of fruit trees were turning brown.

LANCASTER FARM NOTED FOR HUGE CHESTNUT TREE

On the Lancaster farm of John Hairy near Fairview, Providence Township, stood a spreading chestnut tree seventeen and a half feet in circumference. The tree was in healthy condition and covered with blossoms fifty years ago this week, giving promise of a large yield of chestnuts in the fall.

That same week, on the Lancaster farm of Harry Eschbach, in the Rawlinsville area, more than 30 bushels of strawberries were gathered in one day by six pickers.

Back in June 1908 Frank B. Armstrong shipped four tons of live rattlesnakes from his snake farm at Brownsville, Tex., to various points in the country where the reptiles were placed in museums and distributed among circus performers. Armstrong had extracted the fangs and poison from each one, receiving \$1 a piece for the snakes.

GOAT WITH WIGGLING HORNS

Amos G. Greiner of Milton Grove in Lancaster's Mt. Joy Township had a goat that could wiggle its horns. The wiggle appeared to be natural with the animal and was first discovered by Greiner at that time.

As the goat switched its tail the horns flopped perceptibly. Greiner, who was a scientist, had reached the conclusion that there was an agreement between the nerves of the goat's spine permitting the two extremities to act in unison and to wiggle sympathetically.

Lancaster Farming

Lancaster County's Own Farm Weekly
Alfred C. Alsop, Publisher, Robert E. Best, Editor, Robert G. Campbell, Advertising Director, Robert J. Wiggins, Circulation Director

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25 Years Ago

Twenty-five years ago this week a severe wind storm swept over Lancaster, York and Chester Counties, damaging buildings, uprooting trees and blowing over telephone and power line poles.

Trolley service was badly disrupted, many suburban cars running far behind schedule for hours after the storm as workmen struggled to clear the lines of tree limbs and other debris. Bus schedules however were maintained with little difficulty.

HIG FIRE AT COLUMBIA, PA.

The Hardy building on Locust Street, Columbia, in which was located the Alto Theatre and a number of apartments was destroyed by fire at 5 p. m. that June afternoon, in 1933, resulting in damage estimated by the owner at \$75,000. The loss was partly covered by insurance.

CONDITIONS ON MOON REPORTED BY GEOLOGIST

Back in 1933 Dr. Farrington, geologist of the Field Museum in Chicago, among other things declared that owing to the lighter air on the moon a man there could jump a distance of 36 feet with ease.

One newspaper writer commented, "Maybe there's where good pedestrians go when they die."

The June 1933, session of the Lancaster Tobacco Grower's Assn. was held on the fourth floor of the Lancaster Newspapers Building with S. S. Bard presiding. A report on the delegation to State College was given by C. H. Good.

Twenty-five years ago this week Mrs. Calvin Criswell, at the age of 85, a charter member of Pennsylvania's Highland Grange, received the fifth degree when Pomano Grange No. 3, of Chester and Delaware Counties, met in special session in the Highland Grange Hall. Mrs. Criswell had been active in Grange work for nearly 50 years.

Now Is The Time . . .

By MAX SMITH

County Agricultural Agent



Max Smith

TO SPRAY SECOND CROP ALFALFA — The control of leafhoppers on both second and third cuttings of alfalfa is recommended for top yields of quality hay. The spraying of the field with 3 pints per acre of 25% Methoxychlor emulsion when the growth is 4 to 6 inches high should give good control. In the past this application has resulted in greater growth and less of the yellowing of the leaves.

TO SEAL TRENCH SILOS — After the trench silo is filled, it should be sealed within 48 hours in order to prevent top spoilage. The top should be mounded when finished and packed thoroughly then covered with black plastic or with building paper and ground limestone. The plastic cover is more popular at this time and should also be held down, preferably with 4 to 6 inch layer of chopped weeds or poor quality silage, the attempt to hold down the cover with rocks, posts or other items is not recommended.

TO SHEAR CHRISTMAS TREES — A bit early to be thinking of Christmas but growers of Christmas trees should be on the job in the next several weeks trimming young trees in order to develop the proper angular shape. The pines should be trimmed toward the end of their growing period so that new buds will develop. Spruces may be sheared at any time.

TO CULTIVATE CORN WITH CAUTION — Clean cultivation is still a good practice on the modern farm, with the thousands of cultivators being used these days it is important that the operators be careful not to get too close and too deep to the corn plant, this will result in cutting off roots and stunt growth. With each cultivation the hoes should be set wider because the roots spread farther. At the last cultivation sweep shovels and speed should ridge the dirt in the row rather than getting close to the plants.

TO ORDER DOMESTIC RYEGRASS — Cover crops are very useful in preventing soil and wind erosion during the winter and also, to build up soil organic matter. One of the best times to seed the cover crops is immediately after the last cultivation of the corn crop. Either domestic rye grass or field brome grass may be used successfully, from 20 to 25 pounds per acre is the rate. These cover crops are especially valuable where the field is to go back into corn or another row crop next year.