

Farm Fairs Are Worthwhile Events Take Time Out To Support Them

THE FALL FAIR season is fast approaching. It is time for us to stop and take stock of what we in Lancaster County have. We feel that Lancaster county can be justifiably proud of the many good, small agricultural fairs offered every fall.

We can be justifiably proud because these fairs are just what they call themselves—Agricultural Fairs.

Unlike the shows parading under the banner of farm fairs in some of our neighboring counties and are in reality only glorified carnivals with just enough agricultural exhibits to have an excuse for being, our local fairs are agricultural in nature as well as in name.

With such an array of Agricultural exhibitions near at hand every farmer in the county should attend at least one. Many of us will want to spend some time at many, or all, of them.

We realize that sometimes these fairs come at a busy time on the farm and work must be scheduled to make time to attend the shows. But if the only way you can see these good exhibitions is to take time off from some of your busy schedule, then we think you had better do it because you are probably working too hard anyway.

There is more to a Farm Show than relaxation however. Fairs have been one of the biggest contributors to the improvement and progress made in farming in this country. There are four basic things a farm fair does as we see it. It offers an opportunity for exchange of ideas. New ideas, equipment, and methods are introduced. There is an opportunity for improvement in livestock and crops. But one of the most important phases of the Farm Fair is the youth division.

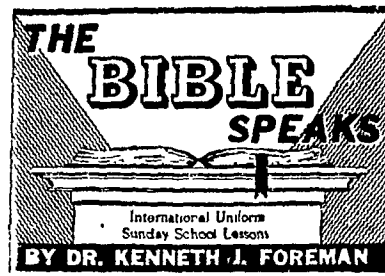
No matter how much knowledge a person possesses about farming, he will not be a good farmer unless he has a liking for the job and a pride in his accomplishments. There are many young people farming today who might never have given farming a chance in their lives if they had not early in their lives felt the thrill of a job well done.

Have you ever seen a young man or woman reach for the blue ribbon in the ring master's hand. The smile of satisfaction that goes with the youthful showman as he returns to the tent with his animal is more important than the prize money he may be awarded later.

The youngster who does a good job in the show ring will have a sense of satisfaction that is hard to get in the everyday business of farming. But more important, he will have developed the habit of doing things well. Blue ribbons are not won in the show ring alone. Many weeks or even months have had to go into the preparation and arrangements for the show.

Furthermore, the youngster can not do it all by himself. The prize money he might win will probably not even cover the time and expense Dad has to pay out to help put the exhibit in the show. The exhibit might not even win a prize. They can't all be winners, but losing can be an opportunity too. Many young showmen in this country have lost in their first attempt and have come back to win the second year after having done a much better job in preparing an exhibit.

Take time to attend the Fairs this fall. It might not "pay off" in tangible assets this year or next, but the best investment you can make is in the youth of America.



Bible Material: Proverbs 23:20-35, Daniel 1:1-20, Habakkuk 2:9-16; Romans 13:11-14:23

Devotional Reading: Isaiah 5:11-23.

Is It Fair?

Lesson for August 31, 1958

EVEN the people who talk most about social justice are often silent about one thing which readers of the Bible will find plainly there, the drink problem. It should be remembered that whiskey was invented long after Bible times. All the warnings about strong drink, in the Bible, are about wine and the equivalent of beer, the "lighter" liquors. The passage from Proverbs gives a vivid picture of personal trouble caused by such liquors. Daniel Foreman gives the story of the first total-abstinence society on record, an outstanding success on a health basis. Habakkuk the prophet lines up "giving his neighbor drink" right along with stealing and murder. Paul puts the whole thing in a new light—the truth of Christian brotherhood.



Dr. Foreman

Ask A Modern-Day Question: Is It Fair?

All of which raises the same question, in various ways. Isn't the use of liquor, as it is done in the United States in this 20th century, a very obvious example of social injustice? Social justice, we may remember, is just carrying into all relationships the spirit and principle of the Golden Rule. It is being fair to all concerned.

But is it fair to give a lame person a shove? Is it fair to put a stumbling block in front of the blind? Alcoholics are called "sick" and alcoholism a disease. But it is

a fact that it ranks fourth in all the diseases of our nation. Alcoholism would never get a start without the background of social drinking. No drug used by "addicts" gets nearly as many people into trouble as does alcohol. Is it fair to give the weak as much of a push downhill as American society does?

Policeman's Friday Night Offers Insight Into Problem

A young minister spent his Friday nights, one summer, riding around with policemen in squad cars. With very few exceptions, the calls for help were due to drink. Family quarrels, thefts (to get money for liquor), beatings, rapes and murders: all starting from a few friendly drinks. This young man came to the conclusion that the money put into that city's treasury by liquor licenses was more than matched by the money taken out of treasury and private funds to pay for the damage the liquor creates. It is true, that city claims to be the "whiskey capital of America;" but the reader is invited to look around in his own town and figure the cost to the taxpayers of troubles caused by alcohol. Is it fair?

Movie Make-Believe Paints Problem in Wrong Color

Movies sometimes do the same kind of harm. Some years ago there was a popular series of movies featuring a husband and wife who were married both on the screen and off. In all their pictures they were a gay, happy couple. He drank "like a fish" and she drank with him and it never seemed to affect either of them. (How could it? Stage liquor is like stage money—a weak imitation of the real thing.) Not long after that, the papers reported that this actress had divorced her charming Prince Barleycorn. And for what? Doing in real life what he was paid to pretend doing in pictures: drink when he felt like it. Real life and real life were vastly different.

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Now Is The Time . . .

By MAX SMITH

County Agricultural Agent



Max Smith

TO STOP POTATOES FROM SPROUTING — Sprouting of potatoes in storage may be controlled by spraying the vines in the field from four to six weeks prior to digging. The material is maleic hydrazide and will delay sprouting about six months longer than unsprayed fields. This material should not be used on potatoes grown for seed because it will prevent proper sprouting.

TO USE CAUTION IN GRAZING LEGUMES — Many livestock producers graze their later cuttings of alfalfa or clover as a temporary source of late summer or fall pasture. This forage is of top quality but is more dangerous from the bloating standpoint than regular pasture mixtures. Livestock should be permitted to graze only a few hours each day when the forage is dry and after they had some hay or other pasture.

TO PREPARE SILOS — Silage cutting time is at hand and the crop will tax all facilities this fall. The preserving of a crop by making it into silage is one of the best ways to get a maximum of feed nutrients. It is important that the walls of the silo be air-tight in order to prevent molding. With concrete or tile silos this may mean coating the inside with mortar or some commercial product, with the wooden silo treating with linseed oil will help preserve the wood. The door frames should fit tight or be lined with heavy roofing paper.

TO USE COVER CROPS — One of the main problems confronting Lancaster County farmers is the low organic matter content of the soils. The use of more sods in the rotation and the use of cover crops will help to build up organic matter. It is a poor practice to permit a field to remain open during the winter months, both wind and water erosion may remove some of the topsoil. Winter rye, domestic ryegrass, and field brome grass are common cover crops and may be seeded during September, rye may be seeded until early November.

IF A DEVELOPMENT has merit, it doesn't take long for it to become a part of the way we farm. In a recent report from the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service, the statement is made that some time this year, bulk milk deliveries will pass can deliveries in the total market receipts of the federal order markets. It hasn't been

many years ago that I visited one of the first bulk tank setups in the Midwest. Now, it appears it won't be many more years until the milk can takes its place in history alongside the neckyoke, doubletree, and a host of other farm tools which used to be so much a part of farming.



Davidson

THIS WEEK

—In Washington

With Clinton Davidson

THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT

If you know someone who worries about business and frets about the recession you can cheer him up with some good news.

Tell him that if he takes a two weeks vacation and comes back and finds a brand new city of 130,000 people built up around him not to be surprised. It's happening all the time.

Our net gain in population the Census Bureau informs us, is at the rate of 9,300 people each day, 65,000 a week and two and a half million a year. The total will be 200,000,000 by 1970.

We will have to put up new plants and expand the production of present factories to build the automobiles, home appliances, homes, schools, hospitals and many other things just to keep up with the increasing population.

Every Twelve Seconds

There are almost three times as many births as there are deaths in this country each day. The birth rate is one every eight seconds and the death rate one every 21 seconds.

Counting one immigrant every two minutes the net increase in population is one every 12 seconds. If automobile factories for example operated 12 hours a day 7 days a week they would have to INCREASE their production rate by 120 each hour just to keep up with the increase in demand due to the population growth.

It was only about 25 years ago that the experts said the population "ceiling" in this country would be about 150,000,000. We couldn't they said, find jobs for very many more people and besides, we couldn't feed them. Not enough land they said.

Now we have a population of 172,000,000 and almost twice as many people employed. Not only that, but people eat more and better food, dress better, live in better homes and have more savings than ever before.

The Farm Problem

The problem of feeding this big increase in population is no small job in itself. Every 2 seconds farmers must increase their food production by 60 pounds of pork, 86 pounds of beef and 28 pounds of poultry. That is the per capita annual consumption rate.

Egg production must be increased by 344 eggs each 12 seconds and milk production must go up by 384 pounds just to take care of the increase in population. There is demand for 121 pounds more wheat, 141 pounds more fruits and for 282 pounds of potatoes and other vegetables.

Farmers must do this with little or no increase in the total number of acres in production. If they can do it and experts say they can it will be the most significant accomplishment of the 20th century. It can as a matter of fact be done with two million fewer people on farms.

Lancaster Farming

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Improvement Still Needed In Some Dairy Processes

Writing about changes in the dairy business a specialist from Washington says "Always an unknown in any speculation about specific trends is the absence of information on innovations that would make it practical to process whole milk for interstate shipment and eventual use in fluid form. The possibility of perfecting such a process adds to the many other imponderables that confront an interpreter of past trends in production and utilization patterns for milk among regions." This is a surprising statement in view of the many claims of the many processes which have been presented as perfect during the past few years. We were under the impression, after listening to sundry explanations that the process of taking water out of milk then putting it back again had been perfected. Judging from the statement quoted above there is room for further improvement.

—Pennsylvania Farmer