

From Where We Stand . . . Don't Play "Dog In The Manger"

With the recent rains, farms are in better condition than they were three weeks ago. Lancaster County's tobacco crop is going to be better than most of us thought it could a month ago. Some of the corn fields that looked dead and dried up are forming ears—though the ears are small and many of them little more than nubbins. Pastures are growing again and producing some feed after several weeks of dormancy.

Soils have enough moisture to germinate August alfalfa seedings and with normal rainfall from here on out, fall seedings of small grains should get a fair start.

But hay and roughage continues to be one big question mark on most dairy and livestock farms this fall and winter.

We don't know of any farmers planning to sell out because of the shortage of forage. That is just not the way farmers do business.

One state-wide cooperative has located a supply of hay at an out of state source and is moving this hay into the commonwealth for members at cost plus transportation and minimum handling.

Farmers themselves are turning to emergency programs such as temporary pasture seedings and ensiling of corn originally planted for grain. Many dairymen are already feeding various forms of forage extenders to try to make their short hay supply go as far as possible.

Many people not living on dairy or livestock farms fail to realize that these emergency measures are just that—emergency measures. Many people writing and talking about the drought and the problems it has brought do not appreciate the seriousness of the problem. Too many people who do not have cattle on feed take the attitude of the dog in the manger. He could not eat the hay, but he would not get up and let the cow have it.

Many self-appointed experts have said that Lancaster County should have never been designated a disaster area, and we agree that there will be no widespread famine among Garden Spot farmers, but if the designation helps some hard-hit dairymen to get hay cheaper, or to harvest hay from land voluntarily taken out of production of surplus grains, then why should there be a hue and cry from those who do not want to participate. Why should the stubborn pride of persons who do not wish to transport hay at reduced rates be allowed to punish those who may need the financial relief to help them over a crisis.

Lancaster County has always been in an enviable position as far as agricultural potential is concerned, but we should never let our pride get so strong that we are ashamed to admit that sometimes things can and do go wrong—even in Lancaster County. And we should never allow our pride to overcome our common sense.

At least that's how it looks from where we stand.

Still Good Advice

In these days when some new practices are outdated before they come into widespread use in this business of farming, it is comforting to know that there are still many things that have not changed very much in the past 50 or 100 years.

Dairying, in most respects, is a far cry from the business grandfather knew. Most of the methods of handling milk and feeding cattle are examples of efficiency that grandfather could have not imagined in his wildest dreams.

But good cows were good cows three quarters of a century ago just as much as they are now, and cull cows are no more profitable now than they were then.

Seventy-six years ago Mr W. D. Hoard wrote in a magazine for dairymen, "Fodder is going to be scarce this winter in many sections and the present is a good time to get rid of the poor cows. There are thousands of men in this country who would have had more cash in their pocket last spring if they had got rid of half their cows for what they would bring in the fall before."

"Don't think you are richer for owning and wintering a poor cow, or that you can sell her next spring for enough to make up for what she has taken out of you."

"What a grand move ahead the dairy industry would take in good solid profit if every dairyman would get a Babcock test and proceed to know what sort of cows he was doing business with. 'Don't know' costs vastly more than to know."

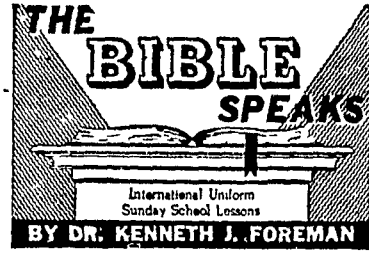
You can't improve much on a statement like that.

At least that's how it looks from where we stand.

Livestock Laws

Now and then we hear a livestock producer complain against the animal laws that make tests, vaccinations and other treatments mandatory for the person who sells or trades livestock, or who sells the product from livestock. What the complainer fails to realize is that such laws are not only a protection for a neighbor, but also for himself. Disease is no respecter of individuals or farms. An epidemic, or a costly disease that can wipe out a profit of years can as easily spread from a neighbor's farm to ours as from ours to that neighbor's. A good many of us recall the days before animal protective measures, when streams were sometimes glutted with the carcasses of hogs or cattle that had died from contagious disease, a practice that spread it far beyond our own neighborhoods at times. None of us wants those days to return. None of us wants to go back to days when we had no protection against a disease that originated somewhere else.

The Monroe County (Md.) Appeal



Bible Material: Isaiah 40:1-11, 52:7
Devotional Reading: Psalm 84:1-8

Beginning Again

Lesson for August 26, 1962

IT IS hard enough to share experiences even with those who are near and dear. "The heart knows its own bitterness, and a stranger does not intermeddle with its joy," the old proverb says. When the experiences we are invited to share are those of people dead for more than two thousand years, sharing their experience may seem Dr. Foreman impossible. Yet such is the universal reach and meaning of the Bible, where we find this ancient story, that we can learn something for our own lives.



Nothing is harder than beginning again, especially beginning again on the scene of a failure or a disaster. Yet that is just what the Hebrew people, exiled from their beloved Jerusalem, had to do. Really, their home city was not there any more. The glories of the city Solomon built have never returned, to this day. All around the returning exiles were the ruins of the old city, in the midst of which they must slowly build a new one.

We remember that the little nation of Judah had been smashed, and that its destruction was God's will, to punish the nation for its sins. Before the crash, few would believe it could happen. But after the crash, the mood of the nation changed at once from a silly optimism to a deep and bitter pessimism. From singing the song "We are God's people and he will not let anything destroy us," they sang a different tune—how different can be seen by reading the book of "Lamentations" written at this time. From being all hope, they plunged violently to no-hope. God had turned against them, they felt. And so he had. But until the prophets persuaded them otherwise, they did not think God would ever forgive them. The prophets had to preach over and

over again: Just as for sin there must be punishment, so for repentance there is forgiveness. God punishes his own children, but he does not disown them.

After Disaster

After Disaster

The clock and the calendar do not run backward. What's done is done. Not even the Lord in heaven would restore Jerusalem as it was. But few disasters are totally without remedy. The storm leaves wrecks behind it—but it passes on. There is always an afterwards to the worst of calamities. It may be that a few readers of this column will be able to survive the terrors of a nuclear war, so-called. It would not be like any war ever fought before, and if you do survive, it may be five hundred miles to the nearest person who survived as you did. You will have many other problems and much distress; but one thing will be sure—that kind of "war" can happen once but not again. You will have lived through the worst disaster in human history; and after that, other things will be mild and tame by comparison. But the thing you will have to remember (the books will be burned up and what you know you won't get from books any more)—you must remember that God is always on both sides of every disaster: before and after, as is there.

After Confusion

The well-known passage from Isaiah about making a straight road in the wilderness brings up a picture of a vast desert in which it is very easy to be lost and die . . . unless you keep to the road. The road to life is narrow and hard to find, Jesus said; but there is such a road. Lost in woods or on the desert, or in a snowstorm, people are very likely to move around in circles, instead of following a straight line. So in our confused time, with the best minds hardly knowing what to do next, and nobody knowing how to bring about peace, if more people would listen to God there would be less confusion in the world. A national magazine not long ago carried a debate between an agnostic and Billy Graham on the question: Should our elected leaders be religious men? Billy Graham was surely right; they ought to be men of faith, for one reason in particular, the God-fearing man does try to hear the voice of the God of truth. Such a leader may make mistakes; but surely he is better off than the man who does not think there is a God to listen to!

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Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH

TO CONTROL WEEDS IN LEGUMES

August seedings of alfalfa or clover are often injured by heavy weed growth. There are three herbicides that may be used: (1) Eptam worked into the soil before seeding the legume; (2) A Dinitro spray (pre-emerge or Sinox PE) when the little legumes are in the 2 to 4 leaf stage, and (3) 2,4-DB when the weeds are 1 to 2 inches high. The proper use of any one of these should give good results. Don't wait until the weeds are 4 to 8 inches high and then spray. . . Too late.



MAX M. SMITH

TO BUY HAY CAREFULLY

First, evaluate your roughage needs and don't be hasty in buying too much hay at high prices or in buying poor quality hay; some hay substitutes may furnish the feed nutrients cheaper than some high priced hay, more grain feeding or the use of more beet pulp or citrus pulp may be the answer. States to the west and to the south have hay to sell; offerings are available. Don't buy any more weeds — we have enough already.

TO BEWARE OF SILO GAS

Silo filling time is approaching and much stunted corn may end up in the silo. If this corn was produced on high fertilized soils, especially nitrogen, then some caution should be used in the detection of nitrogen dioxide, it may develop from the corn crop and is dangerous to both man and beast, it is heavier than air and will hang in the bottom of the silo, in the chute or seep out into the barn. Keep the barn well ventilated after filling and always run the blower before going into the silo or the chute.

Farm Calendar

(Continued from Page 1)

pavilion Lincoln Highway east of Lancaster
Aug. 28 — 12 noon — Lancaster Kiwanis Club awards scholarships to two 4-H Club members.
7:30 p.m. — Drumore 4-H Community Club meets in the Quarryville Legion Park. Lincoln Club to be guests.
8 p.m. — Penn Manor 4-H community club meets at the home of club leader John Hess, Washington Boro R1.

Aug. 30 — 9 a.m. — 4-H District Dairy show at the Guernsey Sales Pavilion, Lincoln Highway east of Lancaster.

Aug. 31 — 9 a.m. — Regional FFA dairy show at the Guernsey Sales Pavilion, Lincoln Highway, east of Lancaster.

Lancaster Farming

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