

From Where We Stand . . .

Why Didn't My Exhibit Win?

But why didn't my exhibit win? We hear that certain every year about this time from some disgusted exhibitors who thought the fair association had hired a colorblind judge with only one eye.

'I don't see why my potatoes didn't win. They were bigger than any other exhibit on the table,' we overheard last week as we looked over the exhibits at a local fair.

And it was true. We saw the exhibit and the five tubers were fair and away the biggest specimens in the show.

The giant spuds were so outsize that we doubt if you could have sold a hundred pound bag of them to any housewife in the county.

That is precisely the reason they did not get first prize. In most cases, the fair book will specify that the exhibited produce should be of good market size. Even though the big potatoes were free from disease, all of one size and shape, and uniform of color and skin texture, they could not qualify for the top prize because they were not approaching the ideal size.

After all, the main purpose of any fair exhibit is to encourage excellence of production and raise the standard of excellence of the product. If the judge gives prizes for exhibits which tend to lead producers away from the ideal, the fair has failed in its main purpose.

It is a good idea always to read the premium book carefully before entering an exhibit, but after the entry is judged it is even more important to have the facts before passing judgment on the placings. All too often the critic has no clear idea of what the judge was looking for in the exhibit.

It is not always bad to question a judge's placings, if you have all the facts at hand, but you must remember one thing — the judge is not above making mistakes, but on the day of the show, he is the boss.

If after the show the fair association feels that the judge deviated too far from the specifications in the premium list, they can select a different judge for the next year.

But if the judge sticks to the guidelines set up, the only thing you can do is understand why your exhibit was not first and prepare a better exhibit next year.

● Lampeter Dairy

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tion went to the senior yearling of Furry Flee Gypsy Hill Road Robert Kautman, Elizabethtown last year's champion was not in competition Thursday.

Fry collected three other blue ribbons and combined with Hess to win both the open and junior set of sire classes. Hess won two classes.

Marian Herr, the 17 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Herr, Holtwood R1, showed her two year old Jersey Wonderful Princess Jane to the top spot in that competition. The Solanco High School senior showing a 4-H project in Thursday's exhibition won her second rosette. She had the top Jersey at Solanco fair in 1959. No reserve champion was named in the breed.

Joyce Krieder's Avshire and Brown Swiss junior calves were awarded blue ribbons. Last year's champion Marilyn Harsh, Quarryville R2 did not defend her title. Miss Krieder is from Quarryville

R1 Judge Roy Boutwell, Masonic Home Farms Elizabethtown placed the classes as follows:

AVYRSHIRE

Junior Calf — 1, Joyce Krieder, Quarryville R1

BROWN SWISS

Junior Calf — 1, Joyce Krieder

JERSEY

Junior Calf — 1, Nancy Krieder, Drumore R1
Junior Yearling — 1, Jean Krieder, Quarryville R1
Senior Yearling — 1, Marvin Herr, Holtwood R1
Two-year-old — 1, Marian Herr, Holtwood R1 (champion).

GUERNSEY

Junior Calf — 1, Dorothy Garber, Willow Street R2 (junior and reserve grand champion), 2, James Myers, 1150 Village Rd.
Senior Calf — 1, Kenneth Garber, Willow Street R2, 2, Lary Breneman, Strasburg R1; 3, H. Melvin Breneman, Strasburg R1; 4, Roy Breneman, Willow Street R2
Junior Yearling — 1, Doris Breneman, Willow Street R1,

Maybe you still won't agree with the judge's decision, but if you understand why he placed the class the way he did, you have learned something, and that, after all, is the purpose for fairs.

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

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Dairy Programs

A favorite refrain of many urban farm policy "authorities" is to get the government out of agriculture. Many farmers, too, argue that the sun would shine perpetually if the government would quit meddling.

We are just as anxious as anyone to see our dairy industry on its own feet and running its own business at the earliest possible hour. But the simple solution of getting the government out has consequences few people appreciate.

What would happen? Over the past few years several projections or estimates have been made by well-qualified economists. Depending upon the basic assumptions which were made, projected price drops have ranged from 54 cents to \$1.39 per hundredweight for milk. A figure recently used by Dr. Truman F. Graf, of the University of Wisconsin, estimates that milk prices would drop 70 cents per hundred by 1965.

The average Hoard's Dairyman subscriber last year sold 352,300 pounds of milk. At 70 cents per hundredweight, the estimated decline means a loss in gross income, per subscriber, of \$2,466.

We would not deny anyone the right to advocate any type of a farm policy he may desire, but the results of effecting his recommendations should be known.

There are those who claim all such projections are made by incompetent people or who try, by other means, to discredit the findings. It is significant, however, that every study we have seen (and all have been made by independent, well-trained economists) projects a very major drop. Can they all be wrong? Possibly, but not probably.

The present price support program is a poor one and one which we will not defend. But it has prevented greatly depressed prices. When you're in a leaking boat in the middle of the lake it's rather foolish to abandon the boat until better means of survival are in evidence.

— Hoard's Dairyman.

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2, Eddie Brieneman, Willow Street R1, 3, James Myer Senior Yearling — 1, Rohrer Witmer, Willow Street R2
2, Lary Breneman, 3, Merlin Schnupp, 1230 Gypsy Hill Rd.
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Lancaster Farming

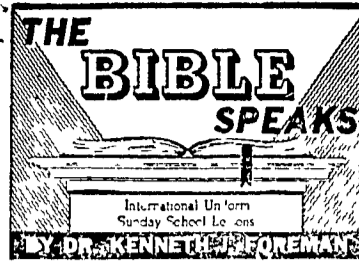
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Bible Material Luke 1:5-25, 37-60
1:1-20, 21-25, 26-31, 32-37
Devotional Reading Isaiah 40:1-11

Herald of Hope

Lesson for September 30, 1962

HE WAS a strange man, John the Baptist. Strange in many ways. His birth was a miracle, and yet in all his life he never performed one single miracle and never tried to. He came into this world by a miracle, and yet when he died with his head chopped off, no miracle was there to save him. He knew more about Jesus than Jesus' own brothers did, and yet he doubted Jesus in a public sort of way such as his brothers never showed. Jesus called him the greatest of men up to his time, yet the world, even the Christian world, pays more honor to many another ancient figure than to John.

In the Desert

People who dress in camel's-hair clothes and eat locusts and wild honey as a regular diet are not common nowadays and they were not in John's day either. A man eccentric as he would not get many to listen to him nowadays, but John had a tremendous audience. The road from Jerusalem to Jericho was—and still is—a steep winding highway, infested with bandits, yet crowds would walk the fifteen miles or so from the city to where they could hear John preach and be baptized by him. No evangelist in America would set up his tent 15 miles from the nearest sizable town, but John did, and the people came. His sermons all could be boiled down to two sentences: Repent! He is coming! Considering everything, especially considering the fact that some people thought he must be Christ himself, John must have been a very remarkable character. He did not fit any pattern then or now. His long stay in the wilderness beginning when he was a boy (for no doubt his aged parents did not have him reared in a city) is a fact which is not drawn out.

too. A desert child, John would not be tied to the conventional, the customary. He had few if any human ties. He could look at the world, so to speak, from the sidelines, he had a fully detached view of life. On the other hand, because he lived all alone, he did not have the "common touch" that Jesus had. Unlike Jesus, John had nothing to say to the sorrowing and suffering of the world. Where Jesus saw the multitudes as sheep without a shepherd, John spoke of them as a "brood of vipers"—snakes' babies, to put it in plain English.

In Hope

Yet the people, no matter what John might call them, however fierce his denunciation of them as sinners,—the people swarmed to hear him. The reader can think of reasons . . . and by the way, any one who is interested in John's story should read all the Bible material, not the few printed verses. One of the reasons, surely, why John was so popular in spite (you might say) of all his efforts not to be, was that he preached just what the people wanted to hear about the future. The people who came to hear him and stayed to be baptized were poor, they were under the crushing heel of a long-staying occupation army.

In Confusion

Jesus indeed came, though as we saw, at first only John knew who he truly was. But he was not the kind of "Messiah" or God's-Man John had expected. We know that a year or two later, when John was near his death in a dungeon, he, the preacher of hope, began to have doubts. He even sent to Jesus to ask if he, John, could be mistaken. We do not know whether what Jesus said to him by his messengers comforted him, but we may believe it did, for Jesus always knew the right thing to say. So we may feel sure that hope returned to him in the end. (Read about it in Luke chap. 7.) John is not the first or the last herald of hope who has been right about the hope, but wrong about how the hope comes true. John had thought the Messiah would be an Avenger, a Destroyer; Jesus came a man of peace. John looked for something spectacular; Jesus showed him miracles, but the kind he looked for. God has his own ways in his world, and we cannot dictate how he shall manage it. But we may be sure, as John learned, that "Jesus doeth all things well."

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Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



MAX M. SMITH

To Remove Final Alfalfa Cutting

Several days after a killing frost it is possible to remove the final crop of alfalfa hay without doing much damage to next year's stand. This fall with the shortage of hay on many farms this roughage will be quite useful and with good drying conditions it should make good feed. With poor drying conditions it might be well to put it into the silo as silage.

To Top-Dress Hay Fields

After the final cutting of alfalfa is removed in the fall, it is advised to top-dress the field with three to four hundred pounds per acre of a 0-20-20 or 0-15-30 fertilizer. This will help replace the soil elements removed during the year and increase yields next year.

To Spray Legumes For Insect Control

The month of October is recommended for the application of either Heptachlor or Dieldrin on alfalfa or clover fields for the control of spittle bugs and alfalfa weevils next summer. Be sure this is done after all harvesting and grazing is done for this year and keep all animals off until the normal harvest season next May or June. These fall applications have given excellent results for insect control and all legume producers are urged to adopt the practice.

To Protect Summer Seedings

August seedings of alfalfa and clover are off to a slow start; the growth is very short in many fields and little ground cover is present. If weather conditions prevent good growth before winter weather sets in, some protection may be secured by light applications (5 to 6 ton) of strawy manure during November or early December; be sure the material is spread evenly over the field. This cover will conserve moisture and help prevent winter heaving.