

From Where We Stand . . .

A New Crop - Vacationers

How would you like to spend your vacation rising at the crack of dawn, doing chores around the barn and spend the day making hay or hoeing tobacco?

This probably doesn't sound like much of a vacation to most of the readers of Lancaster Farming, but to office-bound desk jockeys it might sound too good to be true, and it might just be what the psychiatrist ordered.

There is an old story about the farm boy who moved to town and got a job, worked like crazy so he could make enough money to buy a farm and retire in the country.

This is not as far fetched as it first appears. Many city residents have roots in farming, or have parents who were farmers. Even though they no longer have direct contact with farming, they have fond memories of rural living, or they have heard glowing reports of "the good old days" when dad was a boy on the farm.

Many people who have never had any direct contact with a farm just need a place of peace and quiet where they can relax and unwind, away from the pressures of the hurley-burley business day.

Farmers across the country are capitalizing on this need of the urbanite. Farm vacations have become a nice source of supplemental income in many areas. Many farmers are adding \$1,000 or more to their bank account from one season of "guesting" city folks.

One of our friends in North Carolina told us last year, "We figure one Yankee tourist is worth about as much as an acre of cotton, and a whole lot easier to pick."

But if you are thinking of going after some of this business, be prepared to do more than sit back with a long handled rake and rake in the money.

Each double bedroom in a farm house can produce \$1,000 income a season, but don't expect that much the first year. In fact, you might not realize that much for many years, if ever.

But an empty room is not the only requirement for successful "guesting" on a farm. There are several questions you should ask yourself and the other members of the family — because this has to be a family enterprise to be successful. Do you enjoy having company? Is the wife considered a good housekeeper? Is she a good cook and does she enjoy doing a lot of it? Is yours an industrious family, with projects for home improvements going on continually? Are your guest rooms comfortably furnished? Do you go on a painting spree now and then to make them more colorful and attractive? Do they have good closet space? Are they well ventilated? Are the beds comfortable? Have you adequate bathroom facilities for expanding the size of your "family"?

Is your kitchen spotlessly clean and well equipped? Have you a flower and a vegetable garden? Are you in a pleasant area of the country? Are there some recreation facilities nearby, such as a place to swim, fish, go boating, or ride horseback?

If your answers to all these ques-

tions are yes, then you meet the basic requirements, and could possibly be on the road to a successful venture in raising a new farm "crop".

But the extra income may not be the most important reason for opening your home to guests. Many farm families report that their guests were so varied that the farm children received a liberal education during the summer vacation. Farmers report that talking with other people sometimes makes them appreciate their own position more.

Conversely, farm vacations can be an excellent time for the farmer to educate the consumer about the value of food, and the problems of producing it. Think of the opportunity for building good will between the consumer and the farmer. Think of the impact one executive might create when he goes back to the city and reports to his colleagues that farmers are not the hayseeds they all thought.

Consider how much influence a city housewife could have if she told her neighbors how much effort it takes to produce the eggs or milk they had always taken for granted — and perhaps complained about the price.

Hosting guests is certainly not for every farm family. It may not be for very many farm families in Lancaster County, but it may well be an added cash crop for some. Tourists are arriving in the county in larger and larger droves. They have to stay somewhere. Hotel and motel accommodations are generally fine, but all too often they do not offer the change of scene the city dweller wants and so desperately needs.

That extra room might be worth as much as an acre of tobacco and think how much less time it would take in the stripping room next winter.

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



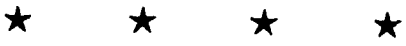
Flavored Cheese?

Flavored Cheese Cubes are on the Dutch market, wrapped like candy. Using cream cheese or cottage cheese as the base, some are filled with sweet nut and fruit concoctions — others are for cocktail snacks.



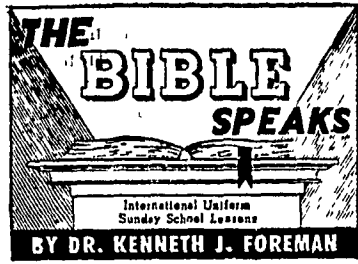
Off Beat Ice Cream

Among off beat products advertised for sale around the country recently were dill pickle flavored ice cream, introduced in California, and cocktail flavors such as Daiquiri, Irish Coffee, Grasshopper and Pink Squirrel, on sale in Chicago, and Booster, a rocket shaped water ice on a stick, a British product.



Why Shopping Takes Time

Ever wonder why it takes so long to get through a supermarket? USDA says the most purchased "power" items can be placed so you travel the entire store to pick them up. For example 35 percent of all shoppers buy paper products; 30 percent cookies and crackers, 27 percent soap, 25 percent coffee.



Why Am I Here?

Lesson for April 12, 1964

Background Scripture: Genesis 1:26-30; Psalm 8; Luke 12:4-7.
Devotional Reading: Psalm 1.

IF THIS is God's world, then it is my world too. Not mine in the sense that I can do what I please with it. Only God is free to do as He likes with the world, for He and He only has the power, the wisdom and the goodness to



will and to do what is absolutely right. This is God's world first because God made it. It is my world first not because I made it, but because the same God who made it made me.

Dr. Foreman If I can speak of my mountains, my country — much greater than I but still truly mine, I can speak of my world, the home God made for me. I belong here. I am created just as all things are created, — not all at once with a big bang, but through the long centuries to the hour of my birth and beyond, I have come to be, — and this is the good pleasure of God.

"Little less than God"

The poet who wrote Psalm 8 speaks of man as created little less than God. Perhaps that seems too bold; our older English translation says "little lower than the angels," but the Hebrew means plainly "little less than God." This is a staggering thought. Let us take it at its lowest meaning, so as not to be puffed up with pride. In the beginning of the Bible it is said that man is created in the image of God. That means that there is something in man, creature though he is, which shows a likeness to the God who made him.

"All things under his feet"

This joyful Psalm 8 thinks of man not in seclusion with a fence between him and the other creatures around him, but as having

"dominion," that is, control and mastery over the rest of creation. Now this can be done in two very different ways. A man who owns many hundred square miles of forest can cut the forest down and by careless, greedy methods waste the entire countryside — it has often been done. That man has demonstrated his "dominion" — his machines have been victorious over every tree that stood in their way. But the end is a vast countryside destroyed. An opposite example is another man who is a woodcarver. Out of pieces of wood, not specially beautiful, he makes objects which are useful and a delight to the eye. He is master of the wood; but when he gets through with it, he has brought beauty and usefulness into the world, not an empty desert. In times gone by witch doctors would use poisons from plants they knew of to bring death to their enemies. Today some of those very plants and their poisons are used by chemists to make medicines that save people's lives. Witch doctor and scientist both have dominion over the plants of the field, — but what a difference!

We are obliged

High though we are in the scale of life, nevertheless we are obliged to "our neighbor the universe" in ways past counting. Every atom in our bodies was drawn from the ground on which we walk, the air we breathe and the water we drink. If the universe had not nourished us we could never have been born. All the clothes we wear, everything we use and enjoy, is a gift of the universe around us. If we have friends, they too were cradled by the selfsame earth and sea and sky. When our Lord was here, it could have been arranged that he be fed by manna from the sky. But no, one of the marks of Jesus as a true and not make-believe man was that He too had to be nourished and furnished by the world around him, even as we. So, although we are indeed to have dominion over other creatures, the thought of what we owe to our wonderful world will keep us from being tyrants, hateful and destructive. If we have any power, it is God-given; and we have no right to use our powers in ways that defy the laws and slander the character of our Creator.

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Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH

To Kill Weeds In Small Grain



MAX SMITH

Weeds such as wild garlic, wild mustard, wild radish, and Canada Thistle can be costly to small grain growers. The spraying of the field when the grain is 6 to 12 inches high with 2,4-D will reduce or eliminate many of these weeds. If the grain is sowed down to clover or alfalfa, then smaller amounts of the spray chemical should be used. Spring oats may also be sprayed for weed control.

To Cull Cow Herd

Early spring is a good time to check the production of each cow in the herd. Milk supplies are usually very high in the spring and these border-line cows, that may not be making

any profit, are merely adding to the surplus amounts of milk. Producers on a herd testing program need to check their records to determine the low producers. A general rule to follow is that unless the value of the milk produced is at least twice the cost of feed and hay consumed, a dairy cow is not making any profit.

To Work For Quality Forage

All livestock producers should make every effort not only to produce sufficient quantities of hay and silage, but also, to have the right kind of quality. In hay-making both leafiness and color are important, but more important is stage of maturity when harvested. The same is true when making grass or corn silage. Growers are urged to become acquainted with the proper stage of maturity for their crop and then harvest at that time. Several days delay may drop the quality.

To Evaluate Sudan Sorghum Hybrids

Growers who will be needing additional summer pasture or material for green-chopping should consider several acres of a sudan-sorghum hybrid forage. This crop is the result of crossing sudangrass and sorghum and gives a very fast growing, palatable summer forage crop. It may be grazed or green-chopped for best results. It is a bit too coarse for hay and silage. Should be seeded late May or early part of June.

Repair Damaged Trees

Strong winds with heavy ice on tree branches sometimes causes breaks and splitting. Trees having soft, brittle wood, such as soft maples, willows, and poplars may be hurt. Craig S. Oliver, extension horticulturist at The Pennsylvania State University, suggests that broken branches be cut off and damaged areas be treated. Wounds and cuts should be covered with "wound paint" to reduce decay. For more detailed information, see your county agent.



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