

From Where We Stand...

The Rent-A-Pig Plan

We read recently of a plan one North Dakota farmer has been using which has created a whole new business for farm boys in his area. He's a hog farmer who leases feeder pigs.

How does it work? Well we don't have all the details, but the farmer reported that it had been quite successful. He puts out 20-pound feeder pigs with farm boys on a leasing arrangement. The boys do all the work of fattening the pigs for market. At sale time, the farmer gets paid for the feeder pigs he loaned, his young partner deducts feed costs, and the two split the profits. Of 960 pigs leased out this way, the farmer says only two have died.

To the best of our knowledge no comparable plan is being tried in Lancaster County. Maybe it should be considered. We think a 20-pound pig is too small to throw into a fattening operation, but that's a minor point. One of the most expensive and time-consuming parts of the hog business is breeding and farrowing. This fact probably keeps many boys out of hog production. A scarcity of good, local feeder pigs and the current high cost of same also keeps the boys out. Some leasing program similar to the one the North Dakota swine breeder practices could have some real advantages, both for the breeder who may not have room to feed out all of his pigs, and for the boy who has the facilities and the time to go into that business.

The most likely place for such a program to start would probably be among one or more of Lancaster County's nine organized vocational agriculture departments.

Half A Million 4-H's Can't Be Wrong

That's how many Pennsylvania boys and girls have taken part in 4-H Club work since 1914 when the Smith-Lever Act authorized the Cooperative Extension Service, and federal legislation first helped finance and conduct 4-H programs.

At the present time there are approximately 1200 youngsters enrolled in 4-H activities in Lancaster County. Thirty-two of them will be attending the State 4-H Club Congress next week at Penn State University, where they will be joined by some 950 other club delegates from all over the state.

The 4-H program provides learning opportunities and practical experience to assist young people in preparing for economic, social, and leadership responsibilities.

While 4-H work has long been considered an activity reserved for rural youth, this concept is rapidly changing. Figures show that 46 percent of 4-H members come from farm homes; 32 percent from rural, non-farm homes; and the remaining 22 percent from urban homes.

With the constant decline in number of farm families, this changing pattern is probably inevitable. But the fact that 4-H opportunities are now filtering down liberally to urban neighborhoods bodes nothing but good for America, as we see it. Since most of tomorrow's leaders will come from these areas it is reassuring that, as boys and girls, they should have the benefits of this enriching program which can lead to personal development, and spur a sense of civic and community service.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

International Uniform Sunday School Lessons

BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

God's Own People

Lesson for June 19, 1966

Background Scripture: II Kings 22:1 through 23:30.
Devotional Reading: Psalm 119:57-64

"How odd of God to choose the Jews."

Who first wrote that bit of doggerel? I have no idea, but the question must have occurred to a great many persons. Why are the Jews called the chosen people of God, his own special nation? Our official lesson for the week tells of one "renewal of the covenant," that are amazing, this did not mean that he looked over and be better if we cared for Jews only. The prophets ask what sort of Amos and Jonah, for instance, covenant this made it quite clear that God had was, who made an equal care even for the enemies it and what did of his people, such as Assyria and it mean; because the Philistines. Some of the greater if we understand prophets even proclaimed that what the cove- God had "covenant people" in



Dr. Foreman said, "We shall be on our way to an understanding of the meaning of the expression 'God's people.'"

COVENANT ON SINAI

The Covenant of which we hear so much in the Bible was a two-sided agreement between God on the one hand and the people (nations, tribes) of Israel. There had been early-times covenants between God and individuals such as Abraham and Jacob; but there could be no covenant with the nation till there was a nation. This was first among the barren crags of Sinai Mountain. The Israelites had been rescued from Egypt, and the first thing God did for them was to make a covenant with them. "I will be your God and you will be my people."

BREAKING CHIEF TREASURE

Think what it would mean for a tribesman out there in the unfriendly wilderness where their national life began, convinced that his people, he included, were God's own people! You would have thought the Hebrews, wild as they were at that time, would keep that covenant and obey God to the best of their ability; but they didn't. At various times,

under the leadership of various prophets, the Israelites (Hebrews) would gather through their elders, and ask God to forgive their disobedience and promise afresh to obey. But finally the prophet Jeremiah came to see that any covenant would always be broken until it was written not on papyrus or stone but on the hearts of men. But that is getting ahead of the question we asked. Why did God choose just that nation? There is really no answering that until we follow some hints some prophets give us.

SOME HINTS

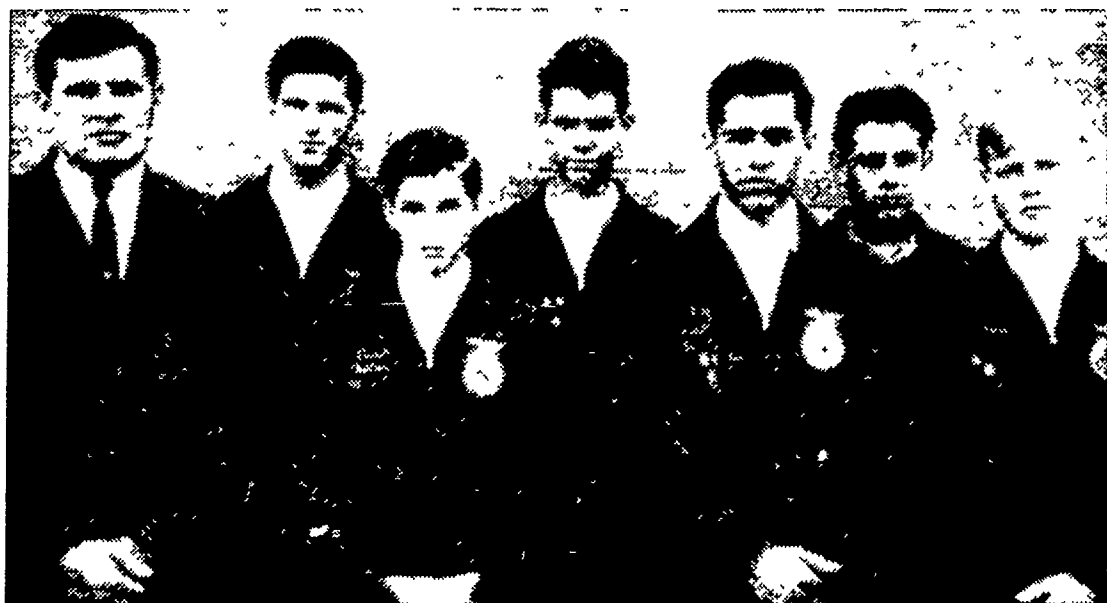
The Covenant was not the private property of Israel. God intended his people to win numberless others into the same relation with God that the original Hebrews had. Even though the whole nation went to the bad, the God would and did keep his covenant with any individual who held up his side of the covenant. While it was true that God looked one "renewal of the covenant," that are amazing, this did not mean that he looked over and be better if we cared for Jews only. The prophets ask what sort of Amos and Jonah, for instance, covenant this made it quite clear that God had was, who made an equal care even for the enemies it and what did of his people, such as Assyria and it mean; because the Philistines. Some of the greater if we understand prophets even proclaimed that what the cove- God had "covenant people" in every nation of the world.

RELIGION TWO-WAY STREET

God is not an easy mark. He can choose and he can reject. Religion is not an affair in which we sit back and watch God do it all. Religion is a two-way street; God expects to meet us going to meet him. Another mistake is to suppose that God deals with men only in groups. On the contrary, the Bible makes it clear that there is no substitute for the single individual naked soul meeting God alone, one by one. Nobody rides to heaven on a group ticket! This talk about the covenant is not ancient history. Any one who opens his heart to God like a little child, will find that he too is a child of the covenant, but God never spoils his children!

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ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE SUNDAY



MANHEIM FFA CHAPTER OFFICERS for 1966-67 shown here with adviser Mark Campbell, left, are: first row, Marlin Shearer, reporter; Jay Fisher, president; Richard Gruber, treasurer; second row, Norman Burkholder, secretary; John Nissley, vice president; Glenn Nolt, sentinel; and not present for picture, Carl Siegrist, chaplain.

Manheim FFA Slates Summer Activities

The Manheim Chapter of the Future Farmers of America expects to be plenty busy this summer, according to the work schedule reported this week by vocational agriculture teacher Mark Campbell.

The boys have planted 22 acres of corn part on the

school farm and part on a nearby rented farm. They are working with several commercial hybrid seed companies in testing 14 different corn varieties. Also, in conjunction with the Geigy Chemical Co., they are testing several plots of weed control chemicals, and are using materials for wire worm and cut worm control. In addition to the corn they are farming five acres of barley.

The Chapter plans to establish a workshop program during the summer for showing and fitting of dairy cows, beef, and swine in preparation for the upcoming Fair and FFA show activities.

A beef show and sale will also be initiated by the chapter this year. There are about 15 animals consigned so far, and Campbell reports it will take place at the time of the Manheim Fair in early October.

In August, the Manheim FFA Chapter will host the County Red Rose Chapter at its annual picnic. The exact

FULTON GRANGE HEARS LANCASTER CO. AGENT

Fulton Grange #66 held its regular meeting June 13 at the hall in Oakryn, with Master, Gyles H. Brown presiding. The Home Economics Committee was in charge of the annual homemade ice cream party.

M. M. Smith, County Agent, spoke on agricultural topics of interest to farmers. Richard VanNoy, State Grange Secretary, Harrisburg, gave remarks. Colored slides of several European countries were shown by Richard Nye.

There will be a special meeting June 20 when First and Second Degrees will be conferred. Third and Fourth Degrees will be put on at the next regular meeting June 27. The annual picnic will be held July 25.

time and place for this event have not been determined as yet.



SMITH

and fertilizer worked into the soil before seeding the grasses or legumes. Don't put the lime on top of the soil and expect it to do the best job.

To Be Careful With Legume Pastures

Both alfalfa and ladino clover pastures may be dangerous from a bloating standpoint with nearly all kinds of livestock. With the grass-ladino mixtures, and when the ladino clover predominates, extreme care should be used; the animals should be allowed to graze only when the forage is dry. With straight stands of alfalfa cattle and sheep nourish the forage, but should be allowed to graze when the plants are dry and only after a feeding of dry matter such as hay or straw, or other grass-type forages. Don't risk straight alfalfa pasture for 24 hour per day grazing.

To Rotate Legume Pastures
Livestock producers that are grazing pastures with a high percentage of legumes, such as ladino clover, should rotate the animals to give the forage a chance to come back. Continued close grazing is hard on any legume. Also, a rotation system will help prevent heavy infestation of internal parasites. A two to three-week rest will provide fresh grazing and better forage yields.

To Test Soil
It's not too early to be testing the soil for an August seeding of alfalfa or a late summer seeding of pasture grasses. The ground should be prepared and worked down several weeks before seeding, and the lime

To Practice Farm Pond Safety

Many farm ponds and lakes add to the enjoyment of rural living during the summer months. The swimming season is at hand and danger lurks without proper supervision and safety measures. Youngsters should be taught not to swim alone and how to make use of life-saving equipment such as inner-tubes, ropes, wooden floats, boards, ladders, and any item that may be thrown or floated to a bather in trouble. Owners of farm ponds are responsible for having these safety measures at hand and seeing that the swimmers know how to use them.

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