

## From Where We Stand . . .

### 1967 Farm Show Big Success

By the time you read this, the 1967 Pennsylvania Farm Show — truly an agricultural spectacular — will have passed into the record books. And we do mean RECORD books.

During the first three days of the show, attendance was estimated at 540,000; this was just 160,000 short of last year's record total show attendance, Monday through Friday, of 700,000. It virtually assures a new attendance record will be set this year.

What accounts for this steadily increasing interest in the Farm Show? We don't know for certain, but we'd like to think it indicates a growing awareness on the part of the general public of the importance of agriculture in their daily lives. An awareness, and at the same time a nostalgic appreciation of the wonders wrought by our shrinking farm population.

And the weather — has there ever been such a week of Farm Show weather? Temperatures were a little on the chilly side, but it is January, you know. The big factor favoring attendance was undoubtedly the clear skies and dry — snowless — ground. It sure took the worry out of traveling, and encouraged folks to come from greater distances than might otherwise have been the case.

Wednesday's crowd, estimated at 200,000, was a first for Farm Show attendance. Many traffic authorities thought the figure was actually estimated too low. Deputy agriculture secretary Jack R. Grey, after touring the building and parking areas remarked, "It was almost beyond description; everywhere we looked there were cars and buses." Reportedly, every inch of parking space for a mile or more around the huge Farm Show complex was jammed.

So, certainly the weather and the attraction of agriculture for the general public were factors in setting the new record. But let's also give credit to the folks who did the work. The State Department of Agriculture, the Farm Show Commission and personnel, the State University people, the youngsters and adults who competed — and every-

one concerned. Making, and keeping, the Pennsylvania Farm Show a unique event is a team effort. Few states can boast its equal. We say, "Thanks, team; you did a great job!"

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### YOUR Poultry Association Is On The Move

We call your attention to a news story on page 1 of this issue of your farm paper concerning the upcoming poultry association informational meetings.

More than 700 Lancaster County farmers derived at least 50 percent of their incomes from poultry production, according to the latest agricultural census. In the state as a whole, the sale of poultry products totaled \$150 million last year. The largest single share of that amount was produced in Lancaster County.

What does this have to do with you? Probably nothing — unless you're a poultryman. If you are, we urge you to get out to these meetings. We were fortunate to have sat in on the planning that went into this program, and we tell you true — don't miss 'em.

Something we don't have to tell you — the poultry business is changing fast. Your county poultry association is aware of these changes, and is changing with them. The association is on the move. In spite of a decreasing number of independent poultrymen in the county, membership is growing rapidly. If you're not now a member, you should be. A currently popular advertisement says — You gotta go where the action is. And the action is where your poultry association is, man! Poultry man, that is.

But this is more than an appeal to support your county poultry association; it's an invitation to information that could be vitally important to your future in the poultry industry.

Opportunity is knocking. All you have to do is open the door and let it in January 24; February 7 and 28. That's when. The Litz Community Center. That's where 7:45 p.m. That's the time. We repeat — if you miss 'em, you'll hate yourself.

### ● Plastow Honored

(Continued from Page 1) is given each year to a member of the Cooperative Extension Service staff of The Pennsylvania State University for aid to the Commonwealth's largest agricultural industry.

A native of East Mauch Chunk, Carbon county, Plastow graduated from Benton High School in 1938. For the next seven years, he was employed as a Dairy Herd Improvement Association supervisor in Carbon and Lehigh counties. In July 1946 he accepted a position at the Norristown State Hospital Farm where he was herdsman until 1950. In 1950, he enrolled at Penn State and earned a bachelor of science degree in

dairy husbandry in 1953.

Following graduation from college, Plastow joined the Extension Service staff as assistant Lancaster County agent. He was promoted to associate county agent in 1962.

During his 13 years as a county agent, he has devoted much of his time toward the advancement of the dairy industry in Lancaster County. There are currently four 4-H Dairy Clubs in the county with 180 members enrolled. Many of the members Plastow trained have been outstanding participants in county, state, and national events.

Primarily due to his efforts, Lancaster County 4-H dairy judging teams have won state championships four years and placed second another year. One 4-H boy was a member of the Pennsylvania 4-H dairy judging team at the Chicago Dairy Exposition, and another member, Donald Tumble, was named National Holstein Boy.

When Plastow began his duties in Lancaster County, there were 5,419 cows in DHIA. Currently there are 16,500 cows on DHIA and 4,448 cows on the Owner Sampler testing program. Average production per cow on DHIA has risen from 363 pounds of butterfat in 1953 to 486 pounds in 1965. Lancaster County holds the national record for having the highest number of herds producing over 500 and 600 pounds of butterfat on DHIA. The county also enjoys the

highest Holstein Association membership of any county in the nation.

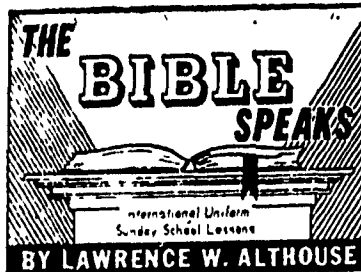
Plastow is a member of the Pennsylvania and National Associations of County Agricultural Agents, Epsilon Sigma Phi, national extension honorary fraternity, and the Harmony Grange in Northampton county.

He is married to the former Emma Shoemaker of Walnutport. Their daughter, Nancy Ann, received her bachelor of arts degree in education from Penn State last month.

### Holstein Assn. Adds Two More Classifiers

Holstein-Friesian Association of America management has announced full time classifier appointments for Peter G. Blodgett of Philadelphia and Roy L. Simpson, Mansfield, Pennsylvania. Both men will be employed to assist in the breed organization's fastest growing herd improvement program, type classification.

Blodgett, a dairy husbandry graduate of Delaware Valley College, has lifelong experience with registered Holstein cattle. He acquired practical farm and dairy herdsman experience at well-known breeding establishments in the east. For the past three years he was employed by Wirthmore Feeds, (Continued on Page 16)



### Does It Show?

Lesson For January 15, 1967

Background Scripture: Luke 12:47

Devotional Reading: Psalm 1

Robert Raines, pastor of First Methodist Church in Germantown, Pa., tells of a woman who commented to her boss one day on a particular issue. "Did you get that idea from the funny little church you go to?" Caught by surprise, the secretary said nothing and "burned in silence" for a full fifteen minutes. Then, having regained her composure, she said: "I'm glad my funny little church shows."

Does your church — funny or not — show? Does it mark you in some way as a follower of Jesus Christ? Is there anything distinctive about your way of life that identifies you as a Christian? Don't you think there ought to be some means of identifying Christians short of a "lucky-number" program?

### They Never Suspect

Perhaps some of us are like the young man who went off to a logging camp one summer to earn money for college. Some of the people of his church were concerned that the boy might be "picked on" because his Christian principles would clash with the profane atmosphere of the camp. "How did it go?" they asked eagerly when he returned at summer's end. "Oh fine," replied the boy reassuringly, "they never suspected a thing."

It is true that Christians do not wear distinctive uniforms or clothing. They flash no badges, memorize no secret passwords, nor do they greet each other with special handclaps or signs. Few carry Bibles with them or pray conspicuously in public. Is there to be nothing that sets the Christian apart from others?

Jesus, however, did not believe that mere externals and appearances made his followers really different. The Pharisees made

every effort to appear "different," but he regarded these efforts as so much play-acting (hypocrisy). They wore distinctive fringes on their robes, stood and prayed conspicuously in the market squares and other public places, sat in the chief seats at public feasts, and went about with soiled faces to show everyone that they were in the midst of a period of fasting. Yet, despite all of this easy identification, they were phonies.

### Upside-Down People

The distinctive marks of the Christian were to be, not so much a matter of personal appearance and showy public conduct, but of values: what they held to be important and desirable. Although these values were not intended to draw attention to themselves, they could not help but seem revolutionary. They seemed to be directly contrary to the thinking of the majority. No wonder they said Jesus and his followers were turning everything upside-down!

Happiness, most people thought, consisted in prosperity, public favor, and freedom from adversity. Not so, said Jesus, for happy (blessed) are those who are poor, that hunger, that sorrow, and are in want. His message was a special reassurance to these people that they held a special place in God's heart. The greatest happiness was promised to those whom most men regarded as failures.

Furthermore, he proclaimed this same happiness to those who would be made to suffer because of their Christian discipleship. Following Christ is no guarantee against adversity. If anything, it is more likely to be a guarantee of some hardship, for whenever someone tries to sincerely follow Christ, there is bound to be, sooner or later, a crucifixion of some kind.

The values of Jesus are no less revolutionary today than they were in the first century A. D. Whenever a person seeks to follow him today and live by this radically-distinctive, upside-down way of life, he cannot help but be marked as different — disturbingly, wonderfully different.

Let's be honest: does your Christianity show?

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Released by Community Press Service.)

### ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE SUNDAY

## See Our Want Ads For Bargains

### Now Is The Time . . .

By Max Smith, Lancaster County Agent

#### To Control Livestock Parasites

Even at the State Farm Show, we observe animals that are infested with body lice. If these show animals, that are being given special attention, are carrying lice, then we fear that many non-show animals will also have lice. Control parasites at all times for best performance.

#### To Provide Minerals

The need for free-choice minerals does not seem to be recognized by many livestock and dairy producers. Granting that all commercial protein supplements do contain minerals, we'd like to point out that these amounts may not be sufficient for many animals. Adequate salt and minerals are essential for maximum production of meat or milk. Trace mineralized salt, di-calcium phosphate, steamed bonemeal, and ground limestone are materials that may be used.

#### To Be Proud of Agriculture:

As I perform the various functions of a member of the livestock committee here at State Farm Show, I'm amazed by the drawing power of this great agricultural event. At this moment I'm not aware of any other activity that attracts more people. Any display that will draw over one hundred thousand people per day into



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one building must be important. Farmers should recognize this importance and realize their big contribution to this improving Agricultural image.

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Temperatures during the next five days are expected to average above the normal range of 39 to 24 degrees. Not much day-to-day change is expected, but temperatures will tend to get colder toward midweek.

Precipitation may total more than 1/2-inch, melted, occurring as a mixture of snow and rain over the higher elevations, and probably as rain for Lancaster area. The wet spots are looked for by Sunday, and again about Tuesday.