

From Where We Stand . . .

All-Important Farmer Information

Technology on the farm front has been coming at a dizzying pace for the past ten years, or so. How do farmers keep abreast of these changes? How do they get the latest technical production information which can be so important in turning a farm profit these days?

According to a survey published this week by a Penn State University rural sociologist, farmers prefer farm magazines and newspapers to group meetings or personal visits as methods of getting information about farming. It was also noted that 90 percent of the dairy farmers surveyed in the three-county area received weekly newspapers.

On the average, each farm family subscribed to five farm magazines. The average reading time for farmers was about 15 minutes a day, it was reported. It was also found that relatively few farmers subscribe to the higher-priced or highly specialized publications — although this number is increasing as our complicated farm technology increases.

The study confirms the findings of earlier surveys, including one which observed the reading habits of Wisconsin dairymen.

Why do farmers have this preference for the written rather than the spoken word? The author of the study does not spell out the reasons in great detail, but we can think of several. Time would be one important factor. Although the demands on a farmer's time often vary seasonally, he is, generally speaking, a busy guy. The farm news and information in magazines or newspapers can be gleaned at his convenience. And if he doesn't have time to finish reading a certain article of interest, he can leave it and come back to it when it suits. Once in the farmer's hand, the printed word endures. It doesn't rely on electricity — it can be fully utilized by candlelight or by daylight.

How many times have you heard a speaker, or broadcaster, say something that caught your interest in passing? Then, when you try to recall it later, many of the details are missing. There can be little room for such misunderstanding when a farmer relies on farm newspapers and magazines for his infor-

mation. If a farmer finds a word he doesn't understand he can look it up in the dictionary. If the meaning of a certain piece of information is not clear, he can puzzle it out and study it from all angles, even take it to someone else for an explanation.

Yes sir! No matter how you look at it, the printed word is the best shape information has ever been in!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ The Amish And The Tourists

Much has been written lately about the effects of Lancaster County's constantly-increasing tourist business upon our Amish citizens. Most reports suggest that the thoughtless, camera-happy tourists are a steady source of irritation to the Amish — and are even a factor in causing many of the Amish to leave the area for more isolated communities.

We have no doubt that these reports are based in fact, but a new thought occurred the other day which we found amusing. Everyone has seen how the tourists gawk as they drive through the Amish sections. We had occasion this week to observe the tourist-Amish relationship as we poked along behind a line of crowded cars which seemed to represent every state in the nation. It's a wonder there weren't a few collisions; cars were wandering all over the road and pulling abruptly to the shoulder as occupants of some cars were busy pointing out the colorful Amish folk as the latter went about their shopping business and other errands.

The Amish were more polite; they didn't point. But we noticed many looking the tourists over very carefully, although somewhat guardedly. And why not? Here's a cross-section of America right on the doorstep! Without ever leaving home, the Amish can get an idea of what people the country-over look like; in the shops and on the streets of their local communities they can hear America speak.

So the relationship is not all one-sided. The Amish themselves must get a lot of quiet laughs as they observe some of the touring characters. This undoubtedly doesn't offset the nuisance and aggravation the tourists cause the Amish as they intrude upon the latter's privacy. But perhaps it's some small consolation.

● Poultry Queen

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ball teams; and was named the outstanding girl athlete at her graduation last June.

That's one side of the remarkable Miss Landis. At the other extreme, she played the leading female role in the school operetta last year; was treasurer and accompanist for the chorus, played cornet in the band, served as librarian; was the Garden Spot FFA Chapter Sweetheart, and she gives piano lessons. She has been active in 4-H plays, and has four years' experience showing steers as a member of the Red Rose Baby Beef Club.

Miss Landis' parents operate a 44-acre farm in the Strasburg area. The family keeps 6000 laying hens and raise corn and alfalfa.

During the summer, Miss Landis works as a waitress at the Dutch Horn of Plenty Restaurant. She plans to enter Messiah College, Harrisburg, where she will major in either sports or music. Her ultimate goal is to teach school at the elementary level.

Prior to winning the title, Miss Landis noted that she "would be proud to represent my county in the state contest if I am selected Lancaster County Poultry Queen. I would do everything in my power to promote the poultry industry," she added.

Queen Mary Lou will compete for the state title on Satur-

day, August 26, during "Dutch Days" at Hershey.

NEPPCO TOUR

In other business, directors conferred with David Heffler of the Northeastern Poultry Producers Council (NEPPCO) regarding the tour of Lancaster County's poultry industry October 9th.

The county will host the tour in conjunction with the NEPPCO Exposition to be held in Harrisburg October 10-12. The tour schedule was discussed in detail, and Heffler and association president John H. Hess planned to visit each of the stops on the following morning.

Hess presented a letter to the directors noting that a ceremony will be held at New Bolton Center to dedicate the new diagnostic laboratory at the Pennsylvania University Veterinary College. Secretary of Agriculture Leland H. Bull is expected to be on hand for the occasion. To be held August 10, at 4 p.m., the event will also serve to introduce the Center's new poultry pathologist Dr. Chen Hwang.

When directors of the poultry association approached Secretary Bull earlier this year regarding a poultry diagnostic center to be located in Lancaster County, one argument presented by the administration against such a move was that facilities already existed at Summerdale and at New Bolton. In fact, the facilities at New Bolton had been without a

competent diagnostician since last year, the directors informed Bull at that time.

ADVERTISE EGGS

Allen Graybill, chairman of the poster committee to advertise eggs and poultry at various points of sale in the county, reported on his committee's progress.

Graybill noted that a slogan "Egg Him On With The ENERGY Breakfast" had been developed to accompany one poster. Others will follow. The posters are to be furnished free by the Eli Lilly Co., and will be printed locally.

A report on the recent association tour disclosed that approximately 100 countians had made the trip to Hershey, Grimes Poultry Processing Plant, and Whitmoyer Labs.

● County Guernsey

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6377, Melvin Stoltzfus, 687-7304, and Clarence Harnish, 464-3791.

Lapp urges all Guernsey breeders to attend the affair and to bring their families. The Breneman farm is located just off Rt 222, turn east at Hessdale, and it is the first farm on the left.

Only 23 of the Mayflower families ever had children, yet over 100,000 Americans trace their ancestry back to them.



NOW IS THE TIME . . .

By Max Smith

Lancaster County Agent

To Top Tobacco Carefully

The number of leaves left on a tobacco plant will vary from farm to farm and from field to field. We do not know of a definite number of leaves that will be proper for all growers, this will depend upon the time of the year, the fertility of the soil and the general growing conditions. Each farmer will know his land better than anyone else. The important thing is to leave only enough leaves that will reach maturity before cutting. Green or immature leaves when cut do not cure properly and will lower the value of the crop.

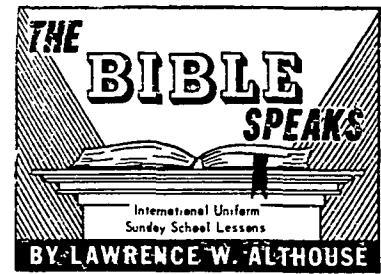
To Apply Chemicals Accurately

The tobacco crop is growing rapidly and many growers have already topped and sucker control will soon need attention. If

chemicals are to be used to control suckers, then growers are urged to become acquainted with the correct recommendations and follow them carefully. Excess amounts applied may lower the quality and value of the crop; also, chemicals applied to immature leaves will not give good results. Follow the directions carefully for maximum benefits.

To Seed Fall Forage Crops

Livestock producers needing late fall pasture might want to see winter rye or one of the winter wheat (Dual or Red-coat) during the month of August. With favorable weather conditions these grains will make rapid growth and may be grazed or green-chopped until cold weather arrives. Frost or freezing weather will not make them poisonous to livestock.



The Difference

Lesson for August 6, 1967

Background Scripture: Acts 17
Devotional Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31.

Much of what we might call "popular religion" today seems predicated upon two equally erroneous articles of belief. The first of these is: It doesn't matter what you believe, so long as you believe in something.



Rev. Althouse

You've heard that many times, haven't you? We read it in magazines, hear it on television and radio, and are confronted with it almost always when people begin to discuss religion. Yet, if this were true, then we would also have to assume: (1) that the way we act or live is unaffected by what we believe; (2) that all religions and philosophies are of equal validity and value, and (3) that the value is in believing, not in what we believe.

To Live As We Believe

Hitler believed that the Jews and Slavic people were Untermenschen (sub-human beings); therefore, he felt no violation of his morals when he ordered their extermination in his death camps. He was entirely consistent with his beliefs. They did affect the way he lived his life, didn't they?

John Dillinger believed that a man has to take what he wants regardless of who it hurts or what laws it breaks. The gangster lived and died by the violent code in which he believed. Could we say that it was enough for him to have believed in "something"?

The Communists are convinced that material prosperity and progress is the primary goal, for all national life and the individual's rights must be subordinated to that goal. Wouldn't you agree that this belief "matters" to those who live under Communist rule?

What we believe, then, does matter. It affects the way we live and different religions call forth different ways of life. Therefore, the value is not merely in believing, but in what we believe.

Same, Yet Different

The other popular article of belief is that: We all believe in the same God. This is true in the sense that there is but one God and all men who try to find him seek the same Reality. Yet it is also true that men's understanding of what or who it is they are seeking varies greatly and substantially.

Joshua and Jesus, for example, sought to serve the same God. Yet the nature of God as Jesus understood him was radically different from the concept of God that Joshua knew. Furthermore, these different concepts also made for radical differences in the lives that they lived. The matchless life of Jesus was a direct result of his understanding of what God was really like.

When Paul went to Athens, he found that the people there were "very religious" in one sense of the word. That is, they were much interested in discussing and debating various ideas about the nature of the gods. Throughout the city there were altars to countless deities. There was even an altar to "the Unknown God," for they recognized that there might be other deities of which they were ignorant.

No Longer "Unknown"

Thus, when Paul spoke to a group who had gathered on Mars Hill, a place for open-air debate and speeches, he spoke of God as the Creator, the Sustainer, the Lord of heaven and earth. But, he went on, this God whom you represent with idols, whom you seek in so many ways, was fully and adequately revealed through the resurrected Jesus Christ. He no longer needs to remain "Unknown!"

This is no less true today. All men seek some Ultimate Reality. The Christian does not say, "I am right and you are wrong," but points to Christ as the highest, fullest revelation of the one God whom all men seek. It does matter what we believe in — even more, in Whom we believe. For it is the God revealed in Christ, the Redeemer as well as the Creator, that makes all the difference in the world.

LANCASTER FARMING
Lancaster County's Own Farm Weekly
P.O. Box 266 - Lititz, Pa. 17542
Office: 22 E. Main St., Lititz, Pa. 17543
Phone: Lancaster 394-3047 or Lititz 626-2191
Don Timmons, Editor
Robert G. Campbell, Advertising Director
Subscription price: \$2 per year in Lancaster County; \$3 elsewhere
Established November 4, 1955
Published every Saturday by Lancaster Farming, Lititz, Pa.
Second Class Postage paid at Lititz, Pa. 17542