

From Where We Stand...

Just Around The County

Not only did the nice Spring-like weather we had the last few days of winter make you feel like plowing, planting the garden and the tobacco beds or sowing grass seed. It was being done, or at least being tried, according to what the editor heard and saw.

In the Elizabethtown area one farmer tried plowing. Yes, he reported it was wet, especially under the part of the field that had an extra coat of manure. So, he quit. But another farmer was really plowing on Wednesday. He likes to get the potato ground done early.

On the way to Intercourse, one of our Amish friends was out in the garden with his wife. It looked like some early peas or maybe the tobacco beds, we aren't sure.

The wild geese and ducks have been quite numerous with these Spring-bringers using Lancaster County as a mid-journey resting place. The reports say they liked our county more than any previous year. In fact, some say, from the Marietta area to the Old Harrisburg Pike, these wild fowl made their home all winter in unpicked corn fields the farmer didn't get into the crib because of bad weather conditions last fall. That's good for the birds, but the farmer's pocketbook is a little flatter, we would suppose. It's nature's way, though.

And sea gulls. We heard a host of them visited some Elizabethtown farms. It happens each year, they say. Usually after the plowing is well underway. But they showed up this week. No one said why.

One thing about the mild winter we just got through. The road builders didn't have much trouble keeping on schedule "messing up" our good farm land. Though one affected farmer this week, had a new slant we thought was interesting. He said he liked woods too. He wasn't sure the idea of putting the by-pass East of Lancaster up on the Mine Ridge instead of down on the farm land was any better. It was truly unselfish thinking too, because if they use the farmland route, his farm would be partly lost. But he says he doesn't wish his neighbor to lose land rather than himself and if we keep destroying the trees the whole area will be flat.

He was very definite, as have several other people we have talked with in the last several weeks, that the proposal to widen Route 30 East of Lancaster to Soudersburg to five lanes was impractical and unnecessary government spending in light of the new proposed by-pass. It would appear to us, that this is true. To widen the three lane highway in some places would involve moving houses and business or else the highway would be on many doorsteps.

In all, the new ideas and the new Spring season have made this week around the County an invigorating one. At least that's the way it looks from where we stand.

Farm News This Week

Crossbred Wins
Carcass Show — Page 1

Penna. Potato Marketing
Program Explained Here — Page 1

Local Farmers At Livestock
Conference In Dillsburg — Page 1

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Prayer On The Square

There once was a time when a square was okay

To play square with your fellows was the right way to play

To eat a square meal meant really to dine
To give a square deal was a deal that was fine

To be a square shooter meant to be a right guy

If your word was your bond you looked square in the eye

You stood four-square if you stood for the right

You were square with the world if everything was all right.

And then something happened to this finest of words

It was twisted and warped by some curious birds

And a slur was concocted in a strange sort of way

To slap at the youth who are saving the day
And one was termed square if he broke from the crowd

If he chose to be quiet when the gang became loud

He was square if he worked when the others sat down

Even square if he swam while the others would drown

It is square to be different it is square to aim high

He's square if he's truthful when it's easy to lie

A square will drive slow when the gang yells for speed

A square will stick firm to his beliefs and his creed.

And thus you will know why this is my prayer

Oh, Lord, bring about the return of the Square!

By Robert L. Sanders
Assistant Superintendent
Louisville Public Schools

Across The Fence Row

MEMO TO HEART ASSOCIATION

In Ypsilanti, Mich., William Hornbeck recently celebrated his 100th birthday. Asked what contributed to his long life, he replied, "Milk, temperate living, and more milk."

The old gentleman is fortunate, as well as wise. Had he been born 50 years later, he would have been scared to death by the American Heart Association and all the other cholesterol faddists. As it is, he can only shake his 100-year-old head in wonderment and bewilderment.

ABOUT PRAYER IN SCHOOLS:

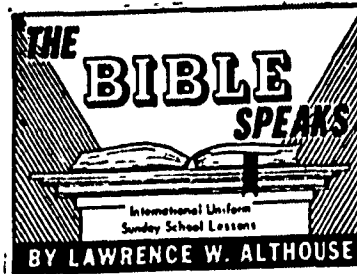
"There is much evidence that the people of our country want the right to have prayers in public schools if they so desire. I believe it is the duty of Congress to submit this question directly to them. This can be done only by a resolution for a Constitutional amendment, which when approved by two-thirds vote in each House, can then be submitted to the States for final ratification. The people should be allowed to be heard."
— Rep. Charlotte T. Reid of Illinois.

Local Weather Forecast

(From the U. S. Weather Bureau at the Harrisburg State Airport)

The five-day forecast for the period Saturday through next Wednesday calls for temperatures to average near normal with daytime highs in the low 50's and overnight lows in the mid 30's. Normal high-low for the period is 53-33.

Precipitation is expected to be very light totaling less than one-fourth inch as showers Tuesday or Wednesday.



WHY THE CROSS?

Lesson for March 23, 1969

Background Scriptures: Mark 13:1 through 14:42
Devotional Reading: John 17:1-11.

"Most of us die of something," L.P. Jacks has written, "of disease, accident, old age. But occasionally there appears in our midst a man who resolves to die for something..." (L.P. Jacks, *The Inner Sentinel*, Harper & Bros., 1930).



Such a man was Jesus of Nazareth. He did not die of something so much as he died for something. His death, tragic as it was, was not a tragedy, Rev. Althouse but a triumph.

Still, we ask, why did Jesus have to die?

Was it because he wanted to die? Was it because God desired his death? Was he simply the helpless victim of a terrible fate that overtook him? These are important questions, for how we answer them tells us much about the meaning of his death for us and the significance of the cross for our own lives.

A heart ready to break

A look into the garden of Gethsemane on the night in which he was betrayed may give us some clue to these dilemmas. We do not have to guess what went through his mind that night. Mark tells us that he "began to be greatly distressed and troubled." (Mark 14:33) This may surprise us for we may have difficulty in envisioning that Jesus could feel pain as we do, could be troubled as we are, could know the same inner anguish that we know. Mark, however, tells us plainly of his struggle in Gethsemane and records for us these revealing words: "My heart is ready to break with grief; stop here and stay awake." (Mark 14:34—New English Bible).

Why should Jesus feel his heart filled with "grief?" These may have been some of the troubling

thoughts that disturbed him that night: My mission is at an end and yet so much to do... My disciples seem to understand so little myself and my mission...

One of my dearest friends will betray me this night... Before me—the disgrace and pain of the cross... Will this really fulfill the mission for which I came? Perhaps you can think of others?

Two kinds of fellowship

Obviously, Jesus did not seek death. There was in him the same will to live common to all of us. He did not seek death any more than we would. Yet, he knew how closely death hovered over him and how little time he had with which to choose to either face it or flee.

Jesus reached out to two kinds of fellowship on that crucial evening:

"And he took with him, Peter and James and John..."

"And he said to them, 'My soul is very sorrowful... remain here and watch.'"

Jesus, the most self-sufficient man who ever lived, reached out for human fellowship that night. He faced the terrible hour with his friends, not asking them for advice, but for their presence in his time of need. Often it is this same kind of human fellowship that we are challenged to give. We are not asked to say something so much as to be something, to "stand by" with someone when they need us.

In the father's hand

He sought another fellowship as well: "He fell on the ground and prayed... 'Abba, Father'... Even in these moments he could still address God as 'Father.' No matter how grim was the hour before him, Jesus knew he remained in the Father's hands.

From the fellowship of that night there came the reaffirmation of his commitment to his mission: "... not what I will, but what thou wilt." (Mark 14:36 RSV) There was only one way that the "cup" could be taken from him, to abandon his mission. That was a price he would not pay. His mission came first. Not even death on a cross could change that.

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Attend The Church Of Your Choice Sunday

For Full Market Reports Read LANCASTER FARMING



NOW IS THE TIME...

By Max Smith
Lancaster County Agent

To Control Garlic

Wild garlic is now growing in many fields throughout the county; this rank-flavored weed is a threat to quality milk production and should be controlled. Spraying the field with the ester form of 2,4-D early in the spring before legumes start growing and before livestock are turned to pasture is suggested to eliminate the wild garlic. Several sprayings over a period of several years may be necessary to eliminate all of the plants.

To Shear Sheep

Early spring is the best time to remove the fleece from sheep in order to get maximum gains from the ewe and to get the maximum weight of wool. Many local sheep growers are waiting too late in the spring to remove the wool and the animals become uncomfortable and

start rubbing out the wool. Ewes with nursing lambs will be better Mothers by responding to the advantage of the lamb in inclement weather, when taken out of the fleece early in the spring. Shearing should be done when the sheep are dry and the wool stored in a clean, dry place.

To Plan Proper Sewage Disposal

The problem of proper sewage disposal systems confronts many property owners as well as numerous government officials and health authorities. With the constant increase in population the safe disposal of waste needs both individual and community attention. A very helpful educational meeting on this subject is set for March 27 and details may be found elsewhere in this newspaper.