

From Where We Stand...

Farms Responsible For County Wage Income

As reported by Penn State economists, Lancaster County farms account for only six percent of the total dollars paid out in local wages and salaries. A big reason for this, we know, is because agriculture employment has declined in both share and numbers and self-employment has stabilized in numbers but accounts for a smaller share of the total.

Frankly, we think this report though factual, does not tell the whole story about Lancaster County's economy. Certainly, actual wages and earnings from on-the-farm employment doesn't account for a large percent of gross income here, but also to be considered is the business income for farm-related places of employment. What percent of the total County payroll would be cut off if farmers stopped buying feed, fertilizer, farm machinery and supplies. Quite a big hunk, we think.

And how about the effect on our younger generation growing up on farms where they learn responsibility and are motivated to work. We don't think a value can be placed on such an item but it figures greatly in the over-all local economy as these young people go into the County work-force. So though it doesn't appear in the research figures, Lancaster County farms are responsible for a much greater share of the gross County wage income than Penn State's six percent figure would indicate.

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

A Fuel-Burning Organism

Space exploration may be "out of this world", but man is still an ordinary mortal and wherever he travels he must carry his earthly environment with him. The essential functions of breathing, sleeping and eating must continue. Man is a fuel-burning organism. Thus menus will always be a part of the machines of space and the longer trips become, the more important becomes the menu — the food the astronauts must carry with them. Space cookery is as exacting a science as space flight itself.

A news release from a major food processing concern tells a little about space foods and the requirements they must meet. They must be light, compact, simple, palatable and have the highest possible caloric

content per unit volume. They must be easy to use in a weightless environment. They must withstand a space vacuum and be reliable under the millions of pounds of thrust during the acceleration and cannot require cooking or refrigeration.

On Apollo 12 the crew enjoyed scrambled eggs in "spoon-bowl" form, salads, puddings, soups and stews. Recent space eating innovations include wet-pack items such as beef and gravy, frankfurters and turkey. Food for eating in space requires the same exhaustive scientific effort that has gone into all other phases of the moon program.

Tomorrow's Farmers

Agriculture, while still basic to survival, has become far removed from the knowledge of most of us. The nation depends upon today's agri-businessmen, who have made a science of farming. Like any science, farming requires an early start in life for those who wish to become successful agriculturists.

Between February 21 and 28, the country will be observing FFA Week. During this week the Future Farmers of America, a national organization with 450,000 students studying vocational agriculture in 9,000 public schools, will conduct special events expressly designed to emphasize agriculture and the role it will play in our future. FFA Week is traditionally celebrated beginning the Saturday before George Washington's Birthday and ending the following Saturday. George Washington made significant contributions to American agriculture, in addition to his military and patriotic contributions. The FFA recognizes him in their ceremonies, and especially during FFA Week.

One farmer now feeds scores of people. Thus, the responsibility of those who turn to agriculture as a business is heavy, and the young people of the FFA and other farm organizations who have elected to devote their lives to the production of food and fiber need every bit of support we can give them.

Across The Fence Row

If wisdom's ways you wisely seek,
Five things observe with care —
Of whom you speak — to whom you speak,
And how — and when — and where.

When you are getting kicked from the rear,
it means you are in front.

The measure of a man's life is the well-
spending of it and not the length.

An old-timer is one who remembers when
"on-time" meant punctuality — not
payments!

If everybody in the country would take
a vitamin pill every day, the makers of vi-
tamins would soon be in great shape.

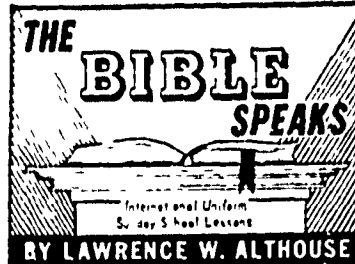
A parking place is where you leave your
car to have the wheel base shortened and
the trunk caved in.

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 40's and overnight lows in the upper 20's. Slowly rising temperatures are expected through the period. The normal high-low is 39-23.

Precipitation may total one-half inch water equivalent occurring as mostly rain except snow in the interior occurring during the late half of the period.



BEYOND THE LAW

Lesson for January 25, 1970

Background Scriptures: Matthew 5 through 7; Deuteronomy 5:21; 6:1-9; Romans 12 through 13.
Devotional Reading: Deuteronomy 6:1-9.

Legalism is always a problem for Christianity. On the one hand, man can hardly live without laws, rules, and regulations. Without these, his life is largely undisciplined and his society breaks down in anarchy. Law brings



a certain security and order which man deeply desires and needs. Yet, legalism leaves perceptive men unsatisfied. Rules tend to become more important than people. People more concerned for the letter of the law than for the spirit or purpose behind it. Some feel smug and complacent with its minimum morality. Others find it possible to observe the law yet still deal dishonestly.

JESUS AND THE LAW

We find that Jesus was quite well aware of both the strengths and weaknesses of the law. To the Jew there was nothing more important than their religious legalism. The scribes and pharisees cherished the law as their forefathers had once cherished the temple. We can understand then why Jesus's attitude toward the law both puzzled and irritated them. Though at times he seemed to express respect for the law, much of what he said appeared to indicate something quite the opposite.

What was his attitude toward the law? If we turn to his own words in Matthew 5:17, we find: "Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them." What does he mean "fulfill"? The J. B. Philipps' translation uses instead the term "complete," and Good News For Modern Man (Today's English Version) renders this as: "I have

not come to do away with them, but to give them real meaning." In other words, the purpose behind the law is what Jesus wants to accomplish. The law only partly accomplishes God's purpose.

WHAT IS "WORK"?

For example, the sabbath laws were very strict and legalistic. Because God had instructed men not to labor on the sabbath, the leaders had felt it necessary to determine just what is "work"? They decided that walking is "work" when it exceeds a certain distance. Thus, to walk several miles on the sabbath would mean breaking the sabbath laws. The same was true of any labor a man might perform; it was regarded as an infringement of the sabbath.

Jesus indicated that the law had gone beyond what God had intended. God made the sabbath for man's enrichment, not to restrict him. If the sabbath law was used to keep men from performing acts of kindness, mercy, or helpfulness to others (such as healing a man), then the law was not fulfilling God's purpose.

Was Jesus for or against the sabbath laws then? The answer must be that he was for the purpose behind these laws, but against some of the individual laws that had strayed from God's purpose.

A HIGHER MORALITY

Thus, Jesus asked of his disciples, not a morality that was lower than the laws, but a higher one. Though the law was a necessary guide, love was a higher and better motive for a person's behavior. "For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 5:20). They were never to be satisfied with simply living up to the rules as the scribes and Pharisees. They were never to be satisfied with anything except the perfection of God himself. With this as a background, Jesus could well say, "You have heard... But I say to you..." for his object was to take his followers, not to a lower level of morality, but to one that was even higher.

The law was intended to be a tool for helping men to become more righteous. Sometimes, though, men made the law their god. Today, centuries later, we still must be careful that we don't let our faith become the legalism God never intended it to be.

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Farm News This Week

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In Milk Testing Association — Page 1

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Debt Down To \$128,000 — Page 1

Jacob Musser Has 130 Breeder
Guinea Pigs — Page 1

Kauffman Tells Dairymen
Promotion Still Important — Page 8

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NOW IS THE TIME...

By Max Smith
Lancaster County Agent

To Check Battery

Cold weather is hard on batteries in service or in storage. The low temperatures of the past two weeks will reveal weak batteries or those needing some attention. The battery top should be clean and the terminals cleaned of any deposits and coated with vaseline or light grease. Water levels should be checked and motor used for at least a short time after adding water. To save the battery when starting an engine use the starter in brief contacts rather than grinding away continuously.

To Establish Farm Pond Safety

During the hot summer months we discuss farm pond safety with swimmers and boaters; now the water is just as deep when ice skating. All skaters should be aware of any thin

ice and know the exact location of rescue equipment. Wooden ladders, boards, ropes, or inflated inner tubes should be at the pond in case of emergency. All farm pond owners are urged to recognize the importance of pond safety during the skating season.

To Be Careful With Heat Lamps

A portable heat lamp can be very useful this time of the year. In all cases users are urged to be sure the heat lamp is securely fastened and out of the reach of livestock. Many livestock producers may use these lamps to aid the newly-born animals in extremely cold weather. When knocked down into bedding or within reach of animals they are a definite hazard.