

It's Dairy Princess Time

Young ladies in Lancaster County who are on dairy farms, have completed their junior year in high school and are under 21 years of age, should seriously consider entering the 1971 Lancaster County Dairy Princess pageant, which will be held June 22 at the Farm and Home Center.

Dairying is Lancaster County's largest farm income producer, accounting for nearly one third of gross farm income.

The Dairy Princess Contest is one way for the local farm community to advertise its most important farm product. In today's highly competitive world, it is vitally important that farmers keep the general public alert to their existence and their needs.

Any appeal to young women to enter the contest, however, should not be based on milk industry needs. It should be based on the young woman herself and what the contest can do for her.

Not only does the contest offer the opportunity for many material rewards, more importantly it offers young women experience which money can't buy — an opportunity to meet people and to develop their own personalities and character. In this regard alone, every contestant will be a winner.

Miss Marilyn Krantz, who won the local contest and went on to become Pennsylvania Dairy Princess last year, proved that local contestants can go all the way.

The ability to appear in public with confidence is to be highly prized. And the young woman who assures herself she couldn't possibly face it is the one who most needs to enter the contest. She might surprise herself and win. And if she doesn't win, what has she lost?

It's time to pick up the challenge again by contacting Mrs. Robert Gregory, Box 248, Lititz RD1, 17543. Deadline is this coming week.

Even Safety Is Changing

Changes in farm technology and methods bring many other changes, some of them not immediately apparent. Technology, for instance, helps change cost-return relationships and ultimately not only how products are produced, but even what is produced.

The following article in the May-June issue of *The Furrow* explains how changes in farm technology lead to new safety hazards and the need to reevaluate safety programs and precautions:

"A young farmer tells how his grandfather lost a thumb when the team of mules he was driving bolted and jerked the reins wrapped around his hand.

Then he recounts his father's loss of two fingers while attempting to pull a stray cornstalk out of the husking rolls on a corn picker.

Last year, the young man himself suffered a badly mangled hand as he cleaned up around a grain auger.

Three accident-prone generations? Perhaps, but this family tree of farm injuries does show how changing technology creates new hazards.

In the past 10 years we have been provided faster and better ways of moving grain, handling livestock, and tending crops. With them have come a different set of safety problems. Many recent farm injuries and deaths couldn't have happened 15 years ago. The well-automated farmstead now has safety hazards so new that their importance has just begun to register.

With that in mind, you may find that an informal survey of your own operation will help you farm defensively.

Speed Deceives

Speed is the essence of the whirling, shaking, gyrating tools of our time. V-belts and pulleys, roller chains and sprockets, fans and shafts, all can appear deceptively motionless. But learning to wash just one hand is too painful and permanent a way to remember RPM.

Deceptive speed is also a factor in other

farm accidents, such as tractor overturns and grain-auger mishaps. "People generally fail to appreciate the auger's speed," says William J. Fletcher, National Safety Council engineer. "Typical portable auger flighting moves about seven feet per second. A finger caught in it would be five feet up the tube before the victim could react."

Speed can injure but much of our new technology has also produced creeping, insidious dangers.

Pesticides have helped temper the insect threat, but fumes, residues, and careless storage spread the danger to innocent bystanders — livestock, the family dog, the family.

Anhydrous ammonia, under pressure at 28 degrees below zero, will penetrate and instantly freeze anything it strikes. Hydraulic oil forced through a pin hole in the hose can put a hole in your hand.

And, manure-pit gases have been known to explode from sparks. The latter is rare, but the force of such a blast in Wisconsin raised a barn roof three feet.

The list of changing dangers includes other subtle trouble such as noise, allergies, and tensions.

The revolution in grain handling also has brought new hazards. Wagons and bins are now big enough to hold seas of grain. Even a small grain mass can be as dangerous as quicksand during bottom unloading.

And towing two or three jumbo wagons without auxiliary brakes is like hooking on to a string of railroad cars.

On the positive side, tractor cabs are proving their worth in saving lives and stopping projectiles. Rollin Schmieder, University of Nebraska Extension safety specialist, reports no deaths in 12 tractor overturns where cabs or roll bars provided overturn protection. Cabs are also shielding drivers from anhydrous and hydraulic line breaks, dust, flying rocks, even bee stings. "In my estimation, cab protection is one of the outstanding safety achievements of the past decade," Schmieder says.

But the solutions to this growing farm safety gap are not always as simple as protective shields and warning decals. The agricultural industry is constantly upgrading safety to surpass technology.

Its toughest job is education. The American Society of Agricultural Engineers recently set out to reduce accidents by at least 50 per cent by 1980. They're going to need all the help you can give them."

Facts And Opinions

Talk about your dedicated hunters — Henny Hershey takes all honors! Henny was so determined to get a big wild turkey out at the Hershey camp at Cedar Run in Lycoming County that he started stalking



NOW IS THE TIME . . .

By Max Smith
Lancaster County Agent

To Inspect Lightning Rods

The thunder-storm season is here and those buildings that are equipped with rods will be protected, that is, providing the rods are in place and properly grounded. Owners are urged to check the system to be sure that rods are properly connected at all points, that nothing has been fastened to them or is in contact with them, and that they are well grounded in moist soil. The investment should give protection if a strike occurs.

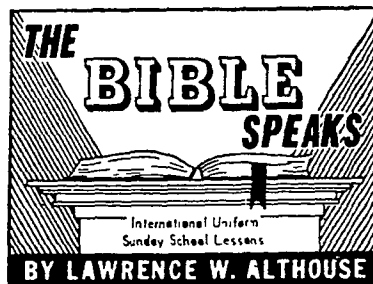
To Ensilage Forage Crops

The making of a forage crop into silage instead of hay is a good practice in order to get maximum feed nutrients; however, the proper time of cutting in relation to stage of maturity is one of the most important practices in getting top quality silage. We continue to favor the wilting of the green forage in

the field rather than any direct cut method. Small grain crops should be cut in the blossom stage, grasses at heading time, and alfalfa and clover in the bud to early blossom stage of maturity. To permit crops to mature before cutting is not getting the most feed value.

To Plant Temporary Forage Crops

Warm weather crops such as sudan grass, sudan-sorghum hybrids, or soybeans may now be planted since most of the corn is in the ground. These crops will not germinate or grow well until hot weather and warmer soils arrive. The sudan-sorghum mixtures are good for temporary pastures during the summer months. Soybeans are getting more recognition recently because of the demand and their usefulness as a protein feed for nearly all kinds of livestock.



REJECTING LOVE

Lesson for May 23, 1971

Background Scripture: Isaiah 5
Devotional Reading: Matthew 21:33-43

When we read the prophecies of Isaiah today, they seem quite logical and understandable. They do not make us angry and we do not feel any need to argue with them. This, sad to say, was not the response of the people to whom Isaiah spoke these prophecies. They became angry and argumentative; in fact, many regarded Isaiah as a kind of "public enemy."



Rev. Althouse
Trusting in chariots

Why did they react in this manner?

Assyria, Judah's neighbor to the far North, had become a gigantic empire that was sweeping all nations before its armed might. To meet this threat the Judean kings made hurried alliances with Egypt, their neighbor to the South. This was a strange alliance because the Judeans and the Egyptians were often at odds with one another. Their alliance was the result, not of common ideals, but of political advantage (does that have a familiar ring?).

Judah began to produce a large store of arms, principally chariots which were thought to be the best defense against the great hordes of Assyrian infantry. In this they were given the help and advice of the Egyptians. It was to Egypt's advantage for Judah to stop the Assyrians since that tiny country lay in the path of Assyria to Egypt.

We can imagine, then, how unwelcome was Isaiah's prophecy. He castigated their dependence

upon both the Egyptians and their chariots.

Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help and rely on horses, who trust in chariots because they are many and in horsemen because they are very strong, but do not look to the Holy One of Israel (Isaiah 31:1).

Don't you remember, Isaiah is asking, it is God alone who saves us? The Egyptians are only men! Isaiah, of course, was not saying that Judah was to do away with all her defenses. He was simply reminding the people that they had never been victorious in arms because of their superior numbers or their weapons. In fact, when they were victorious, it had usually been in spite of their small numbers and lack of superior weapons. The difference had always been: the Lord!

What God really wants

So God would still be with them in this crisis, as he had been with them in the past . . . providing:

Wash yourself, make yourself clean,
Cease to do evil,
Learn to do good,
Seek justice,
Correct oppression,
Defend the fatherless,
Plead for the widow.

In short, if there is going to be any kind of mobilization in this country, said Isaiah, let it be a mobilization of your spiritual resources: repent and wipe out the evil in your land. "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness . . ." (Isaiah 5:20a).

This is what made Israel angry. Isaiah, they decided, was not preaching the word of God, he was "meddling in politics!"

So it was with Judah, but what of us? Isaiah proclaimed that their dependence upon weapons and alliances and their indifference to human needs was, in fact, a rejection of God's love. What would he say to us today? really practice what God asks of them?

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