

EDITORIAL COMMENTS

BY DIETER KRIEG, EDITOR

Have a happy Easter

Easter, the day and its religious implications come at a most appropriate time every year. It's the day commemorating the Resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ - symbolizing new life in a miraculous way. But that's not all.

Take a look around see what else has risen - what all, in fact, rises every year at this time!

The singing robins are back. Flowers are up. The grass is turning green. Cows are roaming on pastures again. Trees are appearing in

magnificent robes of a soft green texture. Plowed fields are releasing that fresh, earthy scent. Children are playing in sandboxes. Baby chicks and ducklings are hatching. The days are warmer and more welcome - inviting us and all around us to live.

God has granted the entire northern hemisphere a new lease on life and the miracle of it all is sprouting up and out all around us. It's a beautiful time of year. The Easter story fits right in.

Have a happy holiday, everyone!

Please be careful

Most fishermen will never have a chance to page through this issue of Lancaster Farming before trout season opens. The papers will still be en route to thousands of mailboxes while eager anglers stand up to their hips in cool streams.

We printed an article this week under the headline "Fire warning issued," (page 82) which should be of concern to everyone. The Department of Environmental Resources

says that hazardous fire conditions now exist throughout the Commonwealth. Since the beginning of the year they've recorded twice as many fires as during the comparable period of time last year.

Up to and including April 11, wild fires in Pennsylvania so far this year have blackened 3163 acres. Therefore, the request is: "Please be careful."

Help appreciated

"Hey, your barn is on fire!" are undoubtedly frightening words. The Clarence H. Eckman family on Conestoga R2 heard them last Monday evening when a neighbor forwarded that startling news to them. Within minutes 40 pigs, two heifers, a large inventory of machinery and tools, and the building were lost! If it hadn't been for the alert neighbor, they would have lost their tractors too, said Mrs. Eckman later.

On Monday, approximately 50 neighbors showed up at the farm to

help clean up the mess. Knowing how busy everyone is this time of year, it's a real tribute to the community when neighbors and acquaintances and even strangers rally together to help someone who has suffered.

Although those kind actions don't lessen the terror and tragedy of such a catastrophe, they do tend to tug at some heartstrings and offer reassurance that there are still a lot of good people in the world. The Eckman family expresses gratitude and appreciation for the kind actions of their neighbors.

Let's hope they listened

The symposium called by the National Milk Producers Federation in Washington earlier this week received mixed reactions from those who were present

Orville Freeman, former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture under Kennedy and Johnson, presented the keynote address Tuesday and received a standing ovation for his remarks. Next came an informative talk by Elmer Baumer, associate dean of the graduate school at Ohio State. The luncheon speaker was Congressman Robert Kastenmeier, (D.-Wis.) who continued the theme of explaining cooperatives, milk marketing, regulations, and the dairy situation in general. (The bulk of what was said by these three speakers can be found in stories

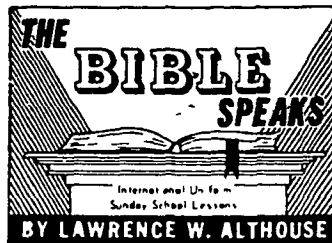
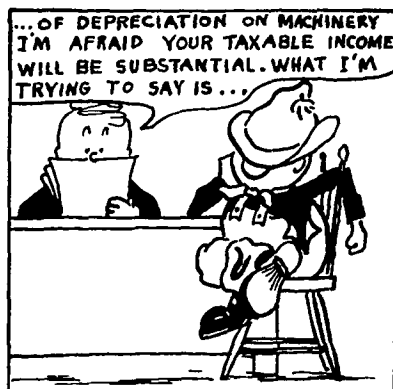
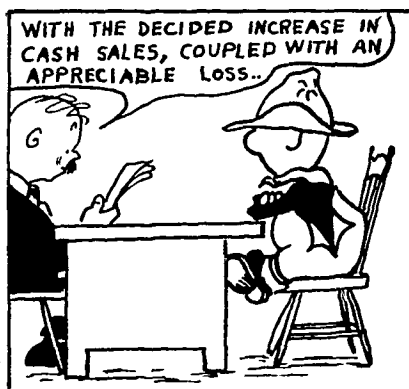
beginning on pages 65, 67, and 75 of this issue.)

After lunch a number of dairymen expressed disappointment in the proceedings. It was a beautiful day and many were openly suggesting what they might have been able to accomplish had they stayed at home.

(Continued on Page 18)

RURAL ROUTE

By Tom Armstrong



GOD SAYS "YES!"

Lesson for April 18, 1976

Background Scripture: Matthew 28.

Devotional Reading: I Corinthians 15:20-28.

The time: Three days after the crucifixion.

The place: A small upper room in Jerusalem.

The people: Followers of Jesus of Nazareth.

And: You are there and one of them!

Your state of mind is that of both confusion and inspiration. You are confused by the events of the past few hours.

First, there were those seemingly wild reports by the women who said they had found the tomb of Jesus empty.

On top of that there were those even more unbelievable claims by those who said that they had "seen the Lord" and that he was "alive"!

You are also inspired, for just a little while ago you had the same experience — or something like it: Jesus, real as life, suddenly before your own eyes!

"Real as life!"

Or was he "real as life"? You can't really recall exactly how he looked; it happened so suddenly. Comparing your experience with others, you find that they too are both confused and inspired.

This has been almost too much. A few short hours ago your world seemed unalterably dark and tragic. Jesus was dead, the victim of a most unjust and humiliating execution. All your hopes, your anticipations, your beliefs had been shattered in one terrible afternoon.

Now, in this upper room with others who were his disciples, you are trying to sort out these conflicting thoughts and feelings. But it is not easy, for your emotions keep racing ahead of your reason. It is hard to think clearly when you are so excited. Yet, the excitement does not go away. It is like pleasant indigestion burning inside you.

On one point agreed

Unfortunately, there is such a variety of descriptions and explanations of what has happened in these last few hours. Some think they saw "someone who looked like the Master," others believe that they have seen his ghost; while still others are convinced that it was nothing less than the physical body of Jesus alive that had appeared to them.

On only one point are they completely agreed: JESUS IS RISEN! You are not sure of how he is alive or why, but you are convinced that

To Beware of Wild Animals

Rabies continues to be a common disease among wild animals and some domestic animals in all parts of the country. The cases of rabies in human beings is much lower than several years ago. However, families should not consider the taking of a small wild animal for a pet; this is often quite a temptation but they are better off in the wild and safer for the family. In 1974 of the cases of rabies reported in the United States in animals, 45 percent were in skunks and 17 percent in bats. Both of these are common mammals in this part of the country and should be considered as possibly dangerous.

To Be Alert For Swine Influenza

During the past 18 months, at least 5 influenza viruses have been isolated from people with acute respiratory disease; these viruses cannot be distinguished from the swine influenza virus. There is evidence that an acute respiratory disease in an eight-year old boy in Wisconsin last fall was due to swine influenza virus; the boy lives on a hog farm and just prior to his illness the swine herd experienced an outbreak of respiratory infection. Local swine producers and their families should be conscious and alert to the possibility of this disease in their swine as well as in the family.

To Protect Your Back

It's amazing the number of people that have back

somehow he overcame the power of death and is alive once again.

Though you still cannot say to each other precisely what happened, you can affirm that you have somehow experienced the living Christ. You feel a growing joy, not only in knowing that Jesus has survived his terrible ordeal in some way, but that the ugly cross now stands as a symbol of God's victory over the powers of darkness. These powers have done their worst at Calvary, but God has won the victory and said "YES!" to Jesus.

(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.)

NOW IS THE TIME...



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trouble; it includes farmers, gardeners, city folks, and yes even County Agents. Our Extension Engineer at Penn State, Don Daum, has a few pointers for all of us in the protection of our back. When lifting, crouch down so that your larger leg muscles will do the lifting; keep the load close to your body, your arms extended, and your back as straight as possible; then come up gradually with the load. Remember, it's easier to lift properly, or get some help, than to lift improperly and spend the next few weeks recovering.

To Allow Time For Soil Tests

The spring rush is on at the Penn State Soil Testing Laboratory. Approximately 18,000 samples were tested during March. On Monday, March 9, 1,990 soil samples were received. To handle this volume a sample was tested every 2 minutes. It takes about 5 days from the time the sample is received until it is completely tested; allowing for mail time each way growers should expect a report in about two weeks after the sample is started to Penn State.

Farm Calendar

Monday, Apr. 19

Lancaster County Guernsey Breeders' tour — bus leaves 7:30 a.m. from Musser's Store at the Buck; stops at 8:00 a.m. at Willow Street Mennonite Church. Will visit York Caterpillar plant, Avalong Farms, a potato chip factory, and the Mervin Hertzler dairy farm at Seven Valleys. Will return about 4 p.m. Cost is \$3.50 per person; special rates for 4-H members. Contact Jesse Balmer 626-8055, Scott Wolff 786-2336, or Art Brenneman 464-3950 by today (Saturday) to register.

Thomasville 4-H Community Club meets at 7:30 at the 4-H Center.

Tuesday, Apr. 20

Cedar Crest Young Farmers, meet at the high school; subject: soils and soil fertility. 7:30 p.m. Garden Spot Young Farmers meet, 7:45 p.m. at the high school, subject: forage management.