



Serving The Central and Southeastern Pennsylvania Areas

## EDITORIAL COMMENTS

BY DIETER KRIEG, EDITOR

### Congratulations, farmers!

Here's a well deserved tip of the hat to all those who were involved in promoting agriculture at Park City this week. That's what's needed, and this hopefully marks only the beginning of such efforts.

The promotional programs evidently required a lot of work, time, coordination, but it's also realized that if the farmer won't speak up for himself, few others will do it for him. Advertising, promotion and public relations are very much a part of today's business and economic scene.

So congratulations, to the Lancaster County Farmers Association on a job that was very well done! May these efforts inspire other groups to undertake similar projects in their areas, and as was suggested by a number of Park City visitors: may you come back another year to bring the farm closer to those in town.

The Farmers' Association displays were well planned and well presented. Not too much to overwhelm the shoppers, yet enough to attract attention. Displays told of virtually every phase of farming in one way or another.

With the interest for such future promotional efforts in mind, and a sincere desire to see them be as well accepted as this one was at Park City, this editorial column offers some observations and opinions which might hopefully lead to more and better efforts on the part of farmers to tell their story to the folks in town.

As various stories in this issue of Lancaster

Farming indicate, the farmers' efforts were a definite and complete success. Some displays were a bit more successful than others.

Live animals were by far the biggest attention getters - whether it was a big cow in the dairy section, baby chicks, or bees. Perhaps this is something to keep in mind for future projects.

Also noteworthy is the fact that if people came with children, the youngsters were often the ones to pull their parents aside to look at this or that. Evidently they're easier to impress (at least initially) than the grown-ups, and that might be an idea to keep in mind. This is not to say, however, that the grown-ups were disinterested. Far from it! They were equally appreciative of what they saw and found it educational as well as interesting. Certainly, they had a better understanding of the project's meaning than did the kiddies.

Big farm equipment attracted a lot of attention too. The price tags made the lower jaw drop on a lot of visitors as they stared at the figures in disbelief. So prices are impressive.

Also catching interested passersby were the more or less still-life displays on crops, soils, vegetables, and crafts. These were in some cases perhaps the hardest ones to work with since a bushel of grain won't stop a visitor near as quick as a nursing calf or omelet maker. But, nevertheless, they caught their share of attention.

A fine idea in the grains section was taking a

bushel of corn, putting a value on it, showing how much it costs to produce, and what it's worth in an equivalent size box of corn flakes. That was a real eye opener to those who took notice. "I'd say somebody is making a lot of profit on corn, and evidently it's not the farmer," said one Park City visitor.

Another stopper was the weed display in the same section. "Betcha don't know them!" a sign challenged passersby. Sure enough, most shoppers didn't know the weeds, but they checked to see what those nasty little things in their lawns and gardens were called.

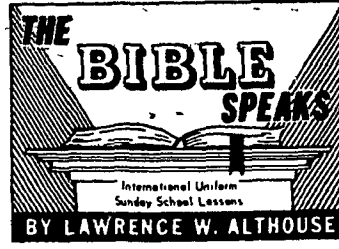
Over in the bee section, there were displays of honey and just about everything involved in the culture of bees.

The omelet maker always had a crowd on hand, and baby chicks were nearly constantly admired by children and attentive parents.

Lest we all get carried away with these laurels, it should also be pointed out that there's still room for improvement. At one point for example, I noted that 77 people walked past a display within a 2-minute period. Six people stopped to look.

It's not realistic to expect everyone to stop and look and read, but a better average than that is hopefully achievable. It was most of the time.

At any rate, the promotional effort at Park City was excellent and the Lancaster County Farmers Association can be rightfully proud of what they have done.



### THE LAST WORD LESS

Lesson for October 24, 1976

Background Scripture:

Romans 7:1 through 8:17.

Devotional Reading:

Romans 7:1-6

Paul's Epistle to the Romans is one of the most difficult of all the books of the New Testament for today's reader. For one thing, it is the most theological of all his letters. For another, Paul's language and analogies are as foreign to people today as space-age talk would have been to Paul.

So a common reaction is for the reader to give up on understanding Romans, leaving it for the preachers and theologians to unravel.

"I do not understand!"

Yet, this is most unfortunate, for, difficult as Romans may be, the experience out of which Paul is writing is also the experience of all of us. The anguish he expresses in Romans 7:14-25, for example, is the anguish that all of us have known and many of us know well what Paul means when he cries: "I do not understand my own actions!" (7:15).

Paul is perplexed at the terrible civil war that rages within him - the same civil war that is within us. It is the conflict between what he wants to be and what he manages to be. He knows what is right in the sight of God and he sets his mind on doing it, but frequently there is something stronger in him that takes over and brings him to failure: "For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate" (7:15).

Anyone who has failed in his resolve to give up gluttonous overeating, who has known defeat in withstanding the lure of alcohol, who has found himself giving in to the seduction of degrading sex, who has succumbed to the temptation of malicious gossip, (and you can fill-in here your own weakness), knows this anguish: "I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do" (7:18,19).

"Who will deliver me...?"

How frustrating, how defeating to be caught in that deadly cycle of sin, resolution to do better, defeat, resolution again, failure, more resolution...! No wonder Paul cried out: "Who will deliver me from this body of death?" (7:25).



## NOW IS THE TIME ...

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### To Inspect Heating Systems

Colder weather means that our heating systems will be brought into action; break-fast at our house was interrupted the other morning with the sound of fire engines; later, we learned that the oil burner at one of our nearby neighbors was not firing correctly and had filled the house with smoke. In this part of the state many barns and tobacco sheds have stoves for extra heat; if the pipes and chimney are not in good condition, it can present a definite fire hazard. We urge farmers to inspect their heating systems and outlets to be sure they are tight and will not permit sparks to get out. The "pointing" of chimneys with mortar may be needed to eliminate the fire hazard. Don't take a chance on it being good enough for just one more winter; it may be the cause of serious losses.

### To Put It In Writing

Many farm leases and agreements are being made at this time of the year; we continue to urge the arrangements be put into writing and that each interested party get a copy; I realize that it may not make a honest man out of one that want to be otherwise, but it is much more binding when all of the agreements are down in black and white. It's more difficult to forget some of the details, when you can read and re-read over the lease terms. Too many leases are only a verbal arrangement which permits too many chances for misunderstanding.

### To Topdress Alfalfa

One of the good times to replace the phosphorus and potash removed from an alfalfa field is in the fall after the removal of the last cutting. The other time is in the spring either before growth starts or immediately after the first cutting. Alfalfa plants are heavy feeders of these fertilizer elements and they should be replaced if the

Who will free me from this terrible and agonizing civil war within?

It is a cry of seeming despair and many of us have been at that point too. We have been so disgusted with ourselves, so disheartened at our weakness that we have despaired of life itself.

But the discovery Paul made is one that all men today need to make anew. This terrible evil power that so often seems to control is not the last word on the situation! No, there is something else to be said: "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Jesus Christ" (8:1)! The power of sin is broken, not by the law, but by the power of Christ, the Spirit, living within us.

The civil war continues but now we fight it in the power of the Spirit, not despairing for we know that God has the last word.

stand is to exist for any length of time. A complete soil test would be the method of learning the exact amount of fertilizer that the land needs for maximum alfalfa yields. Nitrogen should not be needed on an established stand of alfalfa; the root nodules should provide the needed nitrogen in most cases.

### To Winterize Farm Motors

The recent freeze in this part of the country reminded me that water cooled motors may need more attention in the near future; on engines and tractors not being used regularly during the winter months, there is a tendency to forget about them and find the water has frozen and damaged the motor. These motors should be either drained or anti-freeze materials added to them. Water pipes that are exposed should also get some attention soon; electric heating cable may be bought and wrapped about the pipes in buildings; outside water lines may be buried at least 24 inches below the surface or covered to this depth with soil or livestock waste. The preventing of frozen water lines is much easier than to try and thaw and repair them in zero weather. Don't be caught with solid ice in your water lines.

## Farm Calendar

Monday, Oct. 25,

Land Use meeting in the cafeteria of the Brownstown Vo-Tech School, 7:30 p.m.

104th annual convention of the Pennsylvania State Grange in Sharon, Pa., West Middlesex High School Auditorium. Convention lasts through Thursday.

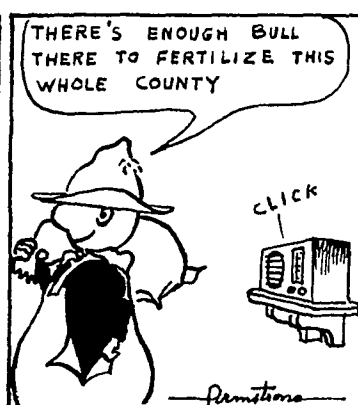
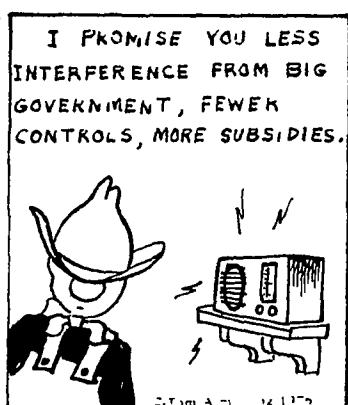
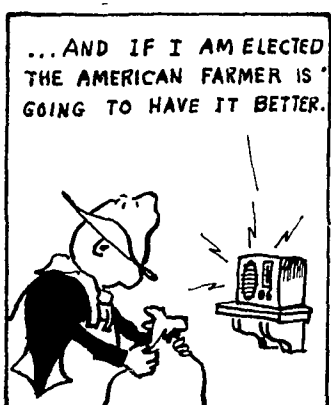
Tuesday, Oct. 26

Final Lancaster County Bee-Honey meeting of the season, at Gamber's Honey Center, 2220 Dutch Godl Drive, Rohrestown, located between Route 30 by-pass and the traffic light in Rohrerstown. Program features Dr. Clarence H. Collison, Extension apiculturist, Penn State. He will talk on Fall management and related topics. Also: adult honey exhibits, judging, 4-H Club honey round-up honey production outlook, Farm Show exhibit information, election of officers. Honey samples should be in by 6:30 p.m., meeting and program begins a half hour later.

Hunterdon County, N.J. baby beef show, Trenton Fairgrounds Coliseum. Feeding and Health dairy seminar, 6:15 p.m. at the Quality Courts Inn, west of Lancaster near Centerville along Route 30. Land-use meeting, Farm and Home Center, Lancaster, 7:30 p.m.

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## RURAL ROUTE



By Tom Armstrong