



EDITORIAL COMMENTS

By Dieter Krieg, Editor

Congratulations to many

A lot of congratulations are in order this week to acknowledge public efforts and wise decisions. To begin with, the Lancaster Area Refuse Authority should be congratulated for their response to the public. In deciding to leave the John and Abram Barley farm out of their landfill site plans, the Authority has set a good example. What's more they're looking into several other alternatives for disposing refuse, and if these pursuits continue some very noteworthy and positive developments may result.

Congratulations are in order to all those who helped persuade the Refuse Authority to seek other means of disposing Lancaster County's refuse. Thousands of people showed their support by attending meetings and writing letters. Here's a tip of the hat to the Pennsylvania House Agricultural Committee, which showed a keen interest in the developments; to Amos Funk, who spent an estimated 40 hours of his own time researching the controversial issue; to the Barleys' lawyer, James Heinly, who studied the issues to their finest detail; to the

Lancaster County Poultry Association, which encouraged a letter-writing campaign; and to countless others who devoted time and efforts to win a battle on behalf of agriculture.

While passing out the bouquets, here's one for the Pennsylvania Poultry Federation. The statewide organization held its annual fundraising banquet on Thursday evening. As usual, they put on a fantastic show, which can be taken as a reflection of the quality of the industry in Pennsylvania. But there's something else to all that. The fact that the poultry people in the state are so well organized is admirable and might serve as an example for other groups to follow. The fact that more than a thousand people from all across the state gathered on one evening at a cost of \$60 per dinner ticket is a credit to the Federation. It's proof that it's worthwhile, because nearly anybody can come to dinner if it's free or cheap. The Poultry Federation sets high goals and evidently has hundreds of enthused, dedicated people behind it.

Congratulations to all!

Farm Calendar

An announcement

The annual meeting and awards banquet of the Pennsylvania Breeders of Freemartins, originally scheduled for April 1, has been postponed and will be held today. Barney Nixnutz is guest speaker.

Yesterday, April 1
First annual showing of authentic, genuine, home-bred rocking horses, including a few stallions and geldings.

Today, April 2
Holstein Association holds calf sale at the Farm Show, Harrisburg.

Hatfield Horseshoes 4-H Club conducts Horse Immunization Clinic, at the 4-H Center, Snyder and Valley Forge Roads, near Lansdale, 8 a.m.

Tri-County Swine banquet, Pine Grove, 7 p.m.

Monday, April 4
Area FFA milk products

judging contest, at Penn Dairies, 1 p.m. Chester, York and Lancaster Counties participate.

Manheim Young Farmers meeting, "Crop Chemicals," 7:30 p.m. at the high school's vo-ag room.

Tuesday, April 5
Lehigh Valley Dairy Co-op annual meeting, Allentown, 10 a.m.

Sheep shearing school, today and tomorrow, at the Warren Landis farm, 668 Lower Road, Souderton R1, Montgomery County. 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. each day. Anyone in southeast Pa. is invited to attend. All equipment necessary to shear is provided; participation is encouraged. Ben Morgan, livestock specialist from Penn State, will lead the school.

Hunterdon County, New

Jersey, Soil Conservation District Supervisors meet, 1 p.m. at the County Extension Center.

Montgomery County Real Estate Assessment Meeting, 7:30 p.m. at Boyertown Junior High School East.

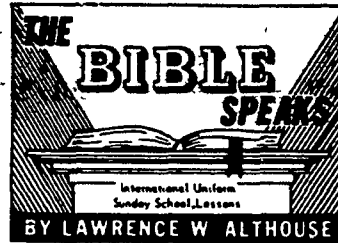
Cumberland County Private Pesticide Applicators' meeting for certification. 9 a.m. at the Extension Center, Carlisle.

York County Holstein Association bus trip to northern Virginia.

Lancaster County Backyard Fruit Growing meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the Farm and Home Center.

Wednesday, April 6
Executive committee of the Hunterdon County (N.J.) board of agriculture meets, 8 p.m. at the Extension Center.

Penn State Dairy Day, J.O.



THE PERFECT PRAYER

Lesson for April 3, 1977

Background Scripture:

Mark 11:1-11

14:1 through 15:41.

Devotional Reading:

John 3:14-21.

The supposed site of the Garden of Gethsemane is one of the favorite places of pilgrims to the Holy Land. Sitting across the Kidron Valley from the walls of the Holy City, the site today consists of a lovely garden and an intriguing church, The Church of All Nations. Inside the church there is a rock where it is believed that Jesus knelt in prayer on the night in which he was betrayed. Almost every pilgrim who visits this revered church, kneels silently for a few moments at this spot and prays silently. Remain here, and watch!

It is a natural place to pray. The darkness of the church maintains the impression of the same darkness in which Jesus knelt to pray. There is barely a sound in the church, just the muffled sounds of shoes gliding over the hard surface of the floor. The strange and beautiful stained glass windows in the ceiling bathe the whole area in a soft, purple light. It is difficult not to sink to one's knees here!

Yet, I sometimes wonder, of all those who kneel to pray here, how many remember to pray in the same manner that Jesus did, for his prayer in Gethsemane is really the ultimate in prayer. It is the perfect prayer that should be for all of us a model.

Unfortunately, however, the prayer is frequently misunderstood. It is regarded too often as a mere formality, a symbolic ritual. The Gospel of Mark, however, makes it clear that the prayer is anything but that.

For one thing, Jesus's prayer in Gethsemane is occasioned by genuine distress on his part. Mark tells us that Jesus was "greatly distressed and troubled" (14:33). This is no symbolic act that Jesus is acting-out to instruct his

Keller Building, Penn State, 9 a.m.

Lancaster County Conservation District board meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the Farm and Home Center.

Thursday, April 7
Elizabethtown Young Farmers meet, tour to Beltsville USDA Research Farm.



NOW IS THE TIME...

Max Smith
County Agr. Agent
Telephone 394-6851

TO BAND SEED LEGUMES

Growers wanting to make straight seedings of alfalfa or red clover should consider the use of the band seeding method. This requires an attachment to the grain or seed drill to carry the seeds down under the drill and drop them over a band of complete fertilizer. This method has given excellent results and we suggest it be used more often. A press wheel or cultipacker can be used to press the seeds and the soil together. This results in the seeds being left in a row with quick access to complete fertilizer. It is preferred over the broadcast method. The earlier it is done the better at this time of the year.

TO FEED HAY ON PASTURE

The practice of continuing to feed hay or silage when the livestock first go to

disciples. Jesus himself leaves no doubt, saying: "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death," or as the New English Bible renders it: "My heart is ready to break with grief" (14:34). The fact that "he fell on the ground and prayed" also indicates his state of emotions.

What thou wilt

Some people regard this as a prayer of resignation, of giving-in to the worst, but this is not so. Behind the prayer is the assumption that "all things are possible to thee," that regardless of what happens he is in God's hands and his future is secure. Understandably he would rather avoid the suffering that seems to lie before him, but he knows that this concern for himself is no less than his Father's concern for him. He would prefer not to have to "drink this cup," but he knows that if he does drink the cup, if he must suffer and perhaps even die, the Father will still keep him secure.

Submitting himself to God's will and confident that in doing so he will be most secure, Jesus prays for both himself and us the perfect prayer.

pasture is a good one. With the recent spell of very warm weather, the forage crops will be coming fast, and will be very lush. This high-moisture forage needs some dry matter to go with it

for best results. There will be less cases of bloating or scouring when hay, straw, or silage is fed to the animals before they are turned to this new grass. Some producers will have a hayrack in the pasture area and keep it filled with hay for a large part of the pasture season.

TO MANAGE MILKING HERD ON PASTURE

A very critical time of the year for the dairyman is when he first turns his milking herd out to pasture; it takes real careful management to keep the milk from having a "grassy" flavor. Also, if there are any wild garlic plants in the pasture, then it is even more important to manage that herd carefully. The grazing of the herd only a few hours after the milking period is suggested; this means they should be removed from the grazing area at least four to five hours before the next milking time. Also, the barn should be well ventilated at all times. In order to protect milk flavor and quality it is best not to permit the milking herd on pastures including wild garlic; this onion-flavored weed is nourished by the cows and will surely mean trouble in the milk tank.

TO SECURE AN AGRONOMY GUIDE

For Pennsylvania farmers a copy of the 1977-78 Agronomy Guide should be on their desk. This Extension publication covers all of the major crops and gives many important suggestions. It is one of the best booklets for active crop farmers and we urge it be used in daily cropping practices. The suggestions on weed and insect control are very up-to-date and will give guidance to the farming program. One copy per farmer is available at any Extension Office in Pennsylvania.

A word of thanks

At approximately 1 a.m. on March 1, I awoke with a start to find our tobacco shed totally in flames. I hurriedly dressed and left out all of our 135 head of Holsteins. Within 15 minutes the main barn was in flames and soon out of control. Ten fire companies battled the blaze for several hours, but the barns were totally destroyed.

Immediately, neighbors, relatives and friends were on the job of moving our cows to a neighbor's barn to milk. Later more friends stopped to help and some brought straw and hay. Some of them I never knew.

Several days later many more people came to help clean up the mess. Many people brought food, someone donated a tent to feed the many men that helped.

Now the time has come when we wish to thank everyone who gave words of encouragement, labor, food, hay, straw, gifts, and prayers. It has indeed meant much to me and all our family. Again, we thank everyone.

John L. Landis
and family

RURAL ROUTE

A feature on Rural Route's creator appears on page 100

By Tom Armstrong

