

# NOW IS THE TIME

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## TO FERTILIZE STRAWBERRIES

That new strawberry patch should be pushing runner plants by the dozen this time of the summer. It is advised to apply another shot of fertilizer to these new planting during August. A fertilizer of nitrogen only, or one high in nitrogen, is suggested.

The objective is to encourage more runner plants and to develop strong runner plants; these will help increase the yield next summer. Also, weeds must be controlled at all times in order to have healthy

strawberry plants. The earlier in the summer we can get the runner plants to take root, the better they will get established and yield next year.

## TO RENOVATE OLD PASTURES

Late August and early September are good times to establish a new pasture, or to renovate an old one. In fact, this would be the very best time of the year to make any pasture or lawn seeding. The old sod should be destroyed by cultivation or by a herbicide. After the soil has been treated with lime and fertilizer according to a

complete soil test, it can be seeded and should produce good grazing for next Summer.

The advantage of a fall seeding is to permit time for the new plants to get established before the 1979 hot weather arrives. The cooler and moist fall months of this year should give the plants a good start. The 1978 Agronomy Guide should give seeding suggestions.

## TO SOAK NEW TREES AND SHRUBS

One of the most important things to be done the first summer of a new tree or shrub planting is to keep the

soil in the root zone moist. Most of our rains do not soak deep enough to get the job done.

Therefore, every week to 10 days the water hose should be used to give the root zone of the plant a good soaking; this may take up to an hour of slow watering in order to penetrate into the root zone. If this is done the first year, then the plant should not need additional watering in later years. The lack of moisture will cause the leaves to dry up and die and the entire plant will gradually die. Don't count on normal rainfall to supply

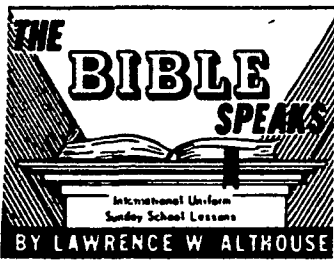
sufficient moisture around the root zone.

## TO REALIZE THE VALUE OF A GOOD SIRE

Whether it be cattle, sheep, or hogs, the value of a good sire should be recognized at all times. The right kind of a sire will improve the herd or flock in the future, and produce animals meeting current market demands. Performance Testing is often done with bulls, boars, and rams. This kind of a background should give

some indication of the value of the animal as a sire.

Don't try to buy the cheapest sire that is available. This "penny pinching" when buying a sire usually means poor transmitting ability and disappointing offspring. The sire can be at least 50 per cent responsible for the future of the herd or flock. Buy the best and go forward.



## DIVINE MADNESS

Lesson for August 13, 1978

Background Scripture:

Acts 26

Devotional Reading:

2 Timothy 2:8-13.

Festus, the Roman governor, called it "mad-

ness." Paul the Apostle for Jesus Christ called it "the sober truth". You must decide for yourselves which man was correct.

The result of the uproar in Jerusalem and Paul's arrest there is a familiar series of legal delays and confusion. Paul is a prisoner whom no one seems to want in his jail. In Acts 26 we see him appearing before both King Agrippa, the Jewish puppet ruler, and Festus, the representative of Rome. The purpose of the hearing is probably to decide whose prisoner he is going to be.

### Not Disobedient

Paul is glad to appear before Agrippa because,

although the king was hardly a good, law-keeping Jew, he had considerable knowledge of orthodox Jewish background. Thus, reasoned Paul, he would be more likely to understand the gospel than the Romans who didn't understand the Jewish faith and the Messianic hope.

Simply, but comprehensively, Paul tells his story, particularly speaking about the great vision he experienced on the road to Damascus. He is quite specific about this experience because it changed the whole course of his life. Surely, Agrippa could understand the importance of

visions if Festus, the Roman, didn't!

Furthermore, Paul states that the vision dominated his life from that moment onwards. "Wherefore, O King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision..." (26:20). That statement might very well be the epitaph for his life and ministry: He was not disobedient to the vision! It is what drove him through riots, shipwreck, imprisonment, stoning, beating, etc. His whole life from that point onward was governed by his vision of Christ on the Damascus Road.

### Such As I Am

If Festus - and perhaps Agrippa - found that hard to understand, they were even more astounded when Paul finished by saying he wished that the king and the governor "would become such as I am - except for these chains." Was the man crazy to suggest that these two men of wealth, power and culture would be better off if they were to become like him? Did this crazy man think that with a few works he could convert them to his Christ? No wonder Festus exclaimed: "Paul you are mad; your great learning is turning you mad."

In calling Paul "Mad",

Festus was really saying: Because I don't understand you, you must be crazy, no me. It is still very much the same today, isn't it? We assume that if we don't understand, it must be the other guy who is mixed-up.

Yes, Paul's words did seem quite absurd, if not mad, but today we realize that it is only because of

Paul that we even know of Agrippa and Festus. His vision and his obedience to it have stood the test of time.

His divine madness has proven to be the world's only sanity.

## Farm Calendar

Sunday, August 13

Picnic for Buck Tractor Pullers at Galen Spickler's, Elizabethtown, noon.

Carlisle Fair begins at Carlisle. Continues through Saturday.

Monday, August 14

York County 4-H Olympics, York College.

L&L Hatchery Chicken Barbecue and Get-Together, 6:30 p.m. at Manheim Borough Community Park, red pavilion by Manheim Central High School, 6:30 p.m.

Fulton Grange meets, 8 p.m. at the Grange Hall in Oakryn.

Norlebo Young Farmers pig roast, 7 p.m. at Christian Seaman farm near Grantville.

Eastern Pennsylvania championship Holstein show, Kutztown Fairgrounds.

Wednesday, August 16

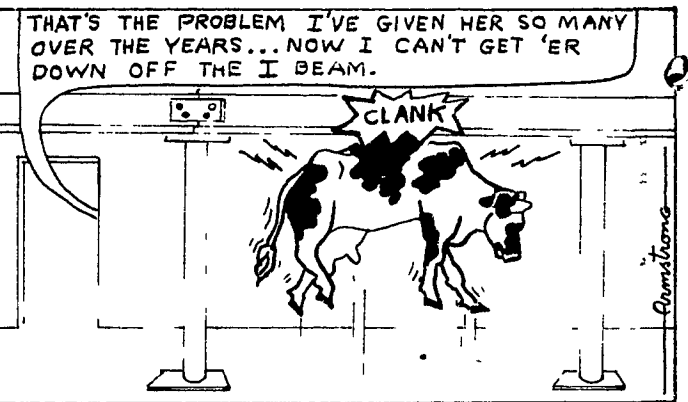
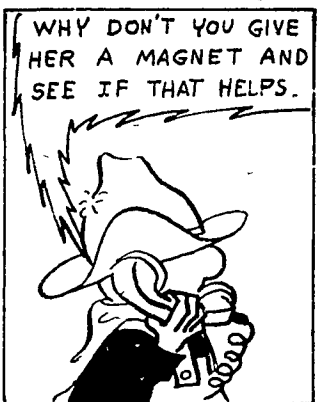
Threshermen's reunion at Kinzers. Activities daily through Saturday.

Montgomery County Holstein Show

Montgomery County 4-H Fair begins, ends on Saturday.

York County 4-H Swine Round-up, Thomasville Auction.

## RURAL ROUTE



Cumberland County Sheep Breeding Round-up, Carlisle Fairgrounds.

Thursday, August 17

York County Holstein Show, 10 a.m. at York Fairgrounds.

York County 4-H Fair and Project round-up, York

Fairgrounds. Activities continue through Saturday. Montgomery County 4-H Dairy Show.

Friday, August 18

York County 4-H Dairy Round-up, York Fairgrounds.

Cumberland County Dairy Round-up, Carlisle Fairgrounds.

Saturday, August 19  
Northeast Chianina Association field day at Dutchman Hereford Company, the former Lauxmont Farm, south of Wrightsville, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Project Clearwater conservation demonstration at Warren Roelke farm,

near Knoxville, Md. Entire 245 acre farm will be "conservationized" in a single day as visitors from all over the world look on. Public invited.

New Jersey Brown Swiss Show, Harmony, 10 a.m.

York County 4-H horse round-up.

## Adams County Extension Agent

# John Schwartz tapped for national program

GETTYSBURG - John H. Schwartz, Adams County Agent - Agriculture, has been chosen by the National Association of County Agricultural Agents to speak at their 63rd annual meeting in Boise, Idaho, August 13-17.

Schwartz is one of four agents from the U.S. chosen by the NACAA through their "Search For Excellence" Program to serve as a resource speaker in the 4-H and Youth Section of the Association's Professional Improvement Sessions. He will discuss his program for increasing 4-H enrollment through the 4-H embryology project. As a resource speaker he will share his professional experience with

fellow agents from throughout the United States.

The 4-H Embryology Program, initiated by Schwartz, was designed to acquaint youth in the elementary grades with the beginning of life through the incubation of fertilized eggs. Area schools cooperated with the program and classroom teachers who served as project supervisors. Over 750 students participated in the first year's program. This year 21 classroom teachers served as 4-H leaders for the 900 students enrolled in the embryology project that was conducted in five public schools and three parochial

schools. Students who have taken the project report that it is the greatest educational experience they have had in five years of school. The first year's program resulted in more than 150 youth enrolling as full-time 4-H members in the Adams County 4-H Program.

Agent Schwartz is a native Pennsylvanian who spent his childhood years on a 100 acre dairy farm near Gettysburg. As a youth he was an active 4-H and FFA member. He received his bachelor of science and master of education degrees from the Pennsylvania State University. While in college he was a member of the



John Schwartz

Crops Judging Team, Agriculture Student Council, Campus 4-H Club and Collegiate FFA Chapter.

Prior to joining the Adams County Extension Staff he served as 4-H program coordinator for Chester County. In addition to his regular Extension duties, he serves as chairman of the Mid-Atlantic No-Tillage Conference, is secretary of the District 4-H Horse Show, staff member of the Pennsylvania Association of Farmer Cooperative Youth Institute and advisor to Adams County Poultry Association, South Central Dairy Coat Association, and

the Adams County Agricultural Council.

Schwartz is a member of both the Pennsylvania and National Association of County Agricultural Agents. He received the NACAA Career Guidance Award in 1973 and the Pennsylvania Association of Farmers Cooperatives Educational Program Award in 1978. Other professional achievements include 1973-75 Kellogg Fellow in Pennsylvania Public Affairs Leadership Program, 1975 and 1976 chairman of the PACAA 4-H and Youth Committee, and coach of Pennsylvania State winning 4-H Poultry Judging Team in 1973, 1974, and 1976.