



NOW IS THE TIME

By Max Smith, Lancaster County Agricultural Agent
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TO EXERCISE DAIRY COWS

The importance of turning out the dairy herd each day from stanchion or comfort stalls should not be overlooked. As we expect more production per cow, the stresses get greater, and if not given due exercise, more breeding problems will result. Dairymen with free-stalls have the opportunity of observing all the time for

heat periods. However, cows that are confined to stalls all the time present a heat detection problem. Very few days will the weather be so bad that the milking herd should not be turned out for a few minutes. If the dairymen is alert and observing, cows that are in heat can be detected and bred. We seem to be having more breeding problems in too many of our good dairy herds. Exercise might help.

TO CONTROL PARASITES

Colder weather, and the resulting longer hair coats on all species of livestock,

makes it more difficult to detect and control body lice and other parasites. We urge all livestock producers to be on the alert for these infestations. Animals with lice are not comfortable and will not produce or gain weight efficiently. There are a number of dusts and sprays that can be used even in cold weather. When spraying be sure to use cold water during cold weather so the pores of the skin will not be opened. Constant rubbing and the appearance of bare spots on animals are signs of lice infestation.

TO BE CAREFUL WHEN BUYING

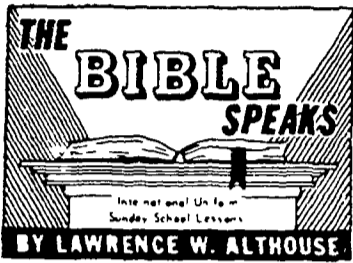
Many livestock and dairy producers are guilty of buying their problems. Except in the case of a complete dispersal of a herd or flock, the animals that are offered for sale are released because of some reason. When a producer buys these animals there is little known about their problems or background. This is one good reason to buy directly from the producer, or to have some guarantee that the animal is sound and healthy. Health papers should be a

part of every purchase. Verbal agreements are usually not sufficient to make adjustments later in the deal. Be very selective when buying and be sure that you are not buying animals with disease or some major problem.

TO FEED EFFICIENTLY

Cattle and hog producers face favorable prices for their finished animals. However, in most cases the profits must be made from cheaper gains rather than on the margin between first cost and market value. Good management at all times

will help keep down these costs. The control of parasites, balanced rations, salt and minerals, less wasting of feed, and market when ready are all things that should be handled for efficient gains. With the moderate prices of feed gains the cost of weight gains should be low enough to realize some profit when market prices are favorable. Attention should be given to the lower cost of weight gains in all feeding programs. This is the area where the feeding operation can mean profit or loss.



BORN FOR VICTORY

Lesson for January 21, 1979

Background Scripture:
John 14:1-3; Romans 8:18-39;
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18;
Colossians 2:6 through 3:4.

Devotional Reading:
8:31-35, 37-39.

Ralph Waldo Emerson seemed to be a man who was marked for tragedy and defeat. His young wife who he loved dearly died tragically. Two brothers who were quite close to him also died. As if these losses were not enough, he was forced to resign his pastorate of a Boston Unitarian Church because his views on Holy Communion were judged to be objectionable to the leadership of the congregation. "A doom

seemed to hover over his family and his life," wrote his biographer.

Dark Moments

"But under the surface of his life," continues his biographer, "dark as it was at the moment, a purpose was taking form in his mind. He knew that he was born for victory!"

In the darkness of these moments, Emerson seemed a "loser." But he was able to look beyond the darkness to a victory of which he was certain, no matter how far ahead it might be. And because he focused his attention on the victory that was ahead of him, he was

able to put all his defeats behind him.

This is precisely what Paul is saying in Romans 8: "I consider that the sufferings of this present moment are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us" (8:18). It was this hope of a glory to come that enabled him to live victoriously even in the face of defeat. "For in this hope we are saved" (8:24). This does not mean "saved" from the experience of the present peril, but "saved" from letting the present peril conquer us.

Actually, not only may we be spared permanent defeat,

but even in apparent defeat we can be "more than conquerors through him who loved us" (8:37). We can wring from our defeat a blessing even greater than that experienced by the victor. The reason: "We know that in everything God works for good with those who love him..." (8:28). Even in the midst of our apparent defeats God is working to turn defeat into triumph! With God helping us we cannot be defeated permanently. "If God is for us, who is against us?" (8:31).

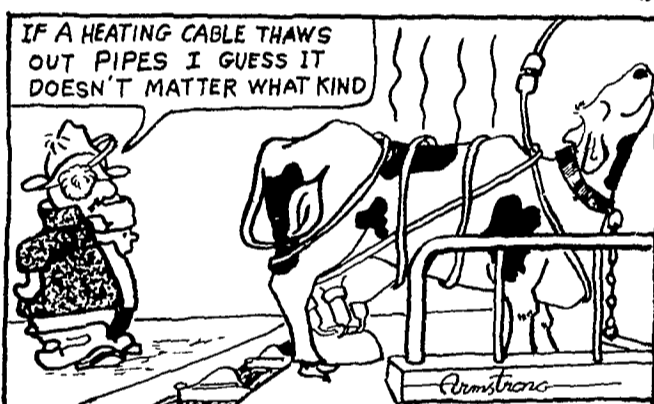
If God Is For Us

One day, we are told, when

Martin Luther was in deep despair, his wife entered the room and asked: "Have you not heard the news? God is dead!" The Reformer rebuked his wife of her blasphemy and she replied: "And if God is not dead, what right have you, his servant, you a Christian man, to be so downcast and depressed?"

His wife's reproach is a timely reminder for all of us, for there is nothing that can "separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (8:39). And if that is so, we were created and destined, not for defeat, but victory!

RURAL ROUTE



By Tom Armstrong

Beef exhibitors satisfied with split show

By KENDACE BORRY
HARRISBURG — Beef exhibitors that participated in the split show system at the Pennsylvania Farm Show last week seemed happy with the results and organization shown, according to comments from different breed officials.

Frank Darcey, president of the Pa. Polled Hereford Association, stated that his organization is drafting a letter to the Farm Show, telling that the "beef people thoroughly enjoyed the split show, finding it the smoothest job ever done."

Darcey went on to say that he had no complaints about the show whatsoever, and said that he thought those in charge should be commended.

His only concern was that he hopes in the future that there will not be a possibility of the beef exhibitors being prejudiced against by the dairy people. He noted that there had been some talk of limiting beef entries and this, he firmly stated, the beef people do not want. They wish to bring as many animals to the Farm Show as they want.

He added that he hopes that the Farm Show will be able to salvage the appropriations to build a new pole barn for the beef animals but until such a barn is built, "we will live with the facilities available."

The shorter time that the cattle were at the Farm Show, he reasoned, resulted in healthier cattle and less expenses for the exhibitors.

Representing the Charolais exhibitors, Roger Mitchley, stated that he had no objections to the split show. His only suggestion would be to have the shows rotated. This year the Charolais, which arrived on Tuesday along with the rest of the cattle, showed on Wednesday. He thought a fair system would be to change the show schedule every year.

He stated that the Charolais Association recommended that the Farm Show be extended from Saturday to the following Sunday so that the dairy show could be longer and the dairy and beef shows could be mixed, with some of both being at the Farm Show.

He said he liked the way

the show was run this year, that there was more room, and the show was not rushed.

For the Angus exhibitors, Walter Laird, echoed the above thoughts, saying that he liked the split show, and thought it was a good idea, at least until the new building was built. He noted that without a split show, there would be a 20 to 30 per cent

cut in cattle exhibited, and that, he stated, he was against.

Each year, expenses of showing the cattle are up, he added, but this year expenses were down, due to the amount of time at the show. He added that this year he thought he had the least number of complaints from exhibitors also.

Pennsylvania cattlemen elect officers

MECHANICSBURG - J. Paul Espy, Tyrone R1, a Huntingdon County cattle feeder, was elected president of the Pennsylvania Cattlemen's Association at the organization's recent annual meeting in Mechanicsburg.

Espy has served as vice president of the association and was chairman of the membership committee.

Elected vice president was Galen Dreibelbis, of State College, a Chianina breeder. Dreibelbis is serving as director of the northeast

region of the Chianina Association.

Reelected secretary was Dr. Lowell L. Wilson, professor of animal science at Penn State, and reelected treasurer was Ray Bratton, a Charolais breeder from McVeytown.

The Pennsylvania Cattlemen's Association co-sponsors several programs for all segments of the beef industry, including commercial cow-calf production, feeder cattle, finishing programs, purebred breeders, and marketing personnel

Farm Calendar

Monday, Jan. 22
Dairy Interests Day, Sheraton Motor Inn, Bordentown, N.J. 12 noon.

Tuesday, Jan. 23
Ephrata Area Young Farmers meeting on dairy calf hutches, at the high school, 7:45 p.m.

Delaware Pork Producers annual meeting, Harrington, Del.

Cattle Feeders Day at the Lancaster Farm and Home Center, all day, begins at 9:30 a.m.

Garden Spot Young Farmers meeting on dairy management, at the high school, 7:30 p.m.

Farm income tax meeting, Country Cupboard Restaurant, Lewisburg.

Orchard management school, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Penn State Fruit Research Lab., Bigler-ville.

Thomasville 4-H Club meets, 7:30 p.m. at the 4-H Center near Bar.

Solanco Young Farmers meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the high school. Topic dairy nutrition.

Pennmarva annual meeting, Hunt Valley Inn, Cockeysville, Md. 10 a.m.

Carroll County, Md. Mid-Winter Farm Meeting, County Ag Center, Westminster.

Wednesday, Jan. 24
Regional ASCS meeting, 10 a.m. Hershey Hotel, conference begins 10 a.m.

Maryland Holstein Association Convention, Venice Inn, Hagerstown. Sale tomorrow.

Meeting on solar grain drying, 1 p.m. at the Berks County Ag Center.

Farm income tax meeting, Leibys Ice Cream House, Tamaqua.

Delaware Dairy Day.

Thursday, Jan. 25
Lancaster County Farm and Home Foundation dinner meeting, 6.30 p.m. at the Farm and Home Center.

Secure tickets by Monday, Jan. 22 by contacting Howard Campbell, 717-392-4911.

Lancaster County 4-H Tractor Club organizes, 7 p.m. at Messick Farm Equipment, off Rheems Exit of Route 283.

School for orchard management continues at Fruit Research Lab., Bigler-ville, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

York Agribusiness seminar, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Avalong's Restaurant, York.

Farm income tax meeting, Cleaverack Electric Building, Tunkhannock.

Beef Ball planned

FAIRFIELD - At a recent meeting of the Adams County Beef Producers Association, Miss Cindy Leonard, Gettysburg R2, was selected the 1979 Adams County Beef Queen. Miss Leonard will be formally crowned at the Association's Third Annual Beef Ball on February 17, at Schottie's Restaurant in Littlestown. The Runner-up is Miss

Dawn Keefer, York Springs R2. The third contestant was Miss Barb Wood, Orrtanna R1. Both winners received a gift certificate and all contestants received a Christmas plant.

Anyone wanting ticket information on the Beef Ball is asked to call Faith Peterson at 717-259-0250, or

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