

BY CURT HARLER, EDITOR



Lancaster Farming says...

TMI fly rumor melts down

For a while, it was the most charming rumor about nuclear power to be spread since Met Ed's public relations people stepped off the podium.

Since the near disaster at Three Mile Island nearby farmers have not been bothered by flies, the story went.

The rumor turned up at various spots in Pennsylvania, in Maryland, and even in casual conversations with farmers in Alabama.

Sorry to say, but the story just isn't true.

Geary Huntsberger, whose York County farm operation includes land all around Met Ed's Three Mile Island site, and even on the Susquehanna River islands near TMI, says he's heard the rumors, too.

He's likely to chuckle as he swats his hand through the air at a flying black speck. "Maybe that one was just lucky," he'll muse.

Other farmers on both sides of the River report no fewer and no more

flies than in past seasons. Even with fly-free date several weeks past, the little pests still are around to make cows twitch their tails. So it looks like it's back to sticky strips for fly control.

They say every cloud has its silver lining. But the silver lining at Three Mile Island—if indeed there is one—is not fly control.

In fact, for most farmers the good news may be the recently released recommendation by the President's Commission on the Accident at Three Mile Island.

Members of the Commission voted to recommend a halt in the construction of new reactors until the groups recommendations for improving nuclear safety have been adopted.

Even that may not be enough for the members of the Wayne and Susquehanna County Farmers' Associations.

The Wayne County group has gone

on record as flat-out opposing any and all nuclear plants. Members confirm the problems at Three Mile Island were on their minds when they voted their opposition to nuclear plants.

In Susquehanna County the recommendation closely paralleled the President's Commission recommendation that no more power plants be permitted for a while—with the farmers concerned primarily about the problem of disposing of nuclear waste.

At the moment, Pennsylvania Farmer's Association policy is pro-nuclear with attached warnings about the problems of waste disposal.

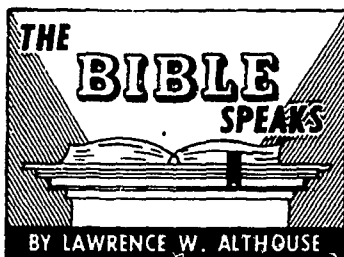
It should be noted, however, the policy was formulated back in the good old days when farmers and others did not have to worry about having their homes, buildings and land located near a nuclear power site.

While the President's Commission on Three Mile Island has no legal powers and can only make recommendations to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, its proposal makes sense.

If nothing else, it could encourage Congress to approve pending legislation requiring a moratorium on nuclear power plants and discouraging lenders from putting money in such plants.

While a return to the "dark ages" would do nobody any good, leaping into the nuclear age without sufficient safeguards is plain stupidity.

We applaud the farmers of northeastern Pennsylvania for their stand on nuclear power. And we'd like to see other groups, organizations and associations join in passing resolutions to require attention be given the investments of farmers and other citizens of the state rather than crying over the investments of the utilities which are supposed to be serving them.



A SPIRITUAL DIET

Lesson for October 28, 1979

Background Scripture:
Philippians 4.
Devotional Reading:
1 Peter 1:3-9.

Thirteen years ago when the U.S. Department of the Interior was in the midst of "Project 66" to improve many of our national parks and historical sites, a certain area of one of the parks was to be closed down for several years so that it could recuperate from excessive use by tourists and campers. This confronted the National Park Service with a most difficult problem: the bears in this park had become so accustomed to handouts and the theft of food from campers, that they had forgotten how to provide for themselves and would probably starve. All

proposed solutions seemed either too risky or excessively expensive.

Following Their Food

At last a forest ranger came up with an idea that was so simple that it had completely escaped his superiors: move the bears from one area of the park to another by leaving trails of food! The bears would follow their food! And it worked.

There is a kind of principle in life that all living things follow their food. If you don't believe it, try having a picnic somewhere outdoors and as soon as you open your food

basket you will find more animal and insect life than you would have dreamed existed! Or, if you have an overwhelming desire to see a cockroach, just leave some food around your house for a few days and you will find that these insects follow their food.

This is true not only in terms of physical food, but also our mental and spiritual food as well. We often speak of "food for thought" and wherever we provide mental and spiritual food of various kinds, certain realities are certain to follow. For example, if you spend lots of

time feeding your mind and spirit with thoughts of bitterness and envy, in time your mind and spirit will reflect these qualities. We often say, "You are what you eat," and this is true of the food of the mind and spirit, too. If you fill your mind with spiritually nourishing food, your life will certainly reflect it.

A Diet For The Mind

Emmett Fox used to propose what he called "a diet for the mind." It was a seven-day diet in which a person would make a conscious attempt to let nothing into his daily thinking but

constructive thoughts. Whenever anything negative or harmful came along, he advised, let it go right through your mind without stopping. The seven-day mental diet, he said, could not only change people's minds, but the world.

Paul has something of this in mind in Philippians 4 when he says, "Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."



NOW IS THE TIME

By Max Smith Lancaster County Agricultural Agent
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cases of mold has developed in corn that has blown down and is on the ground. In either case this corn needs some special handling to prevent it causing trouble in breeding animals. The amount of mold on the corn, the percentage that is moldy of the entire amount, will determine how it should be used. Chickens and any breeding animals should not be fed moldy corn or feed of any kind. Fattening hogs and

fattening steers are usually able to handle "low quality" grains as good as any farm animal. Moldy corn could cause breeding problems, or abortion, among breeding animals.

TO MANAGE HOG HERDS

The hog producers are facing a period of surplus production and depressed market prices; hog numbers seem to continue to increase in spite of much lower prices for each quarter of year.

Local producers are urged to market their hogs at handy weights rather than to feed them to heavier weights. Heavy hogs increase pounds marketed and help reduce prices. It might be a good time to cull poor producing sows; fewer pigs in the near future will help keep prices stronger. According to hog numbers and the outlook, it is a bad time to expand any hog operation. Instead of the 50¢ prices per pound of the

past, current expenses might have to be paid with 30¢ hog prices. Good management and planning is needed in the hog industry at this time.

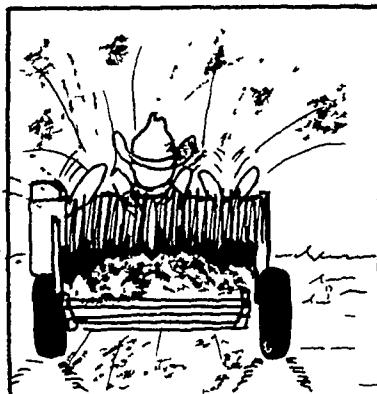
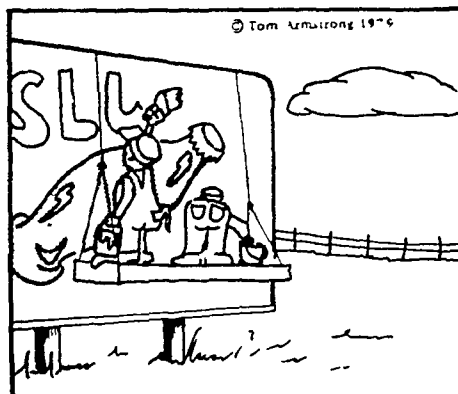
TO BEWARE OF BRUCELLOSIS IN HUMANS

Years ago brucellosis in livestock was a very common and serious disease. In the past decade the number of cases have been reduced due to good management and to vaccination programs. We urge local dairy and beef producers to

continue the vaccination of their young stock to help build resistance to this infection. Along with fewer animals infected there are less cases of brucellosis in humans in this country. Of the 172 cases of human brucellosis reported in 1978, 46% were among meat cutters and handlers; veterinarians accounted for 6% of the reported cases. Of all, cases reported the most common source of infection was the consumption of unpasteurized milk. Farm
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RURAL ROUTE

By Tom Armstrong



Farm Calendar

Today, October 27
Adams County Beef calf sale at South Mountain Fairgrounds beginning at 6 p.m.

Eighth annual Allegheny Co., Maryland "Apple Happening" at St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

Monday, October 29
Christmas in October at the Farm and Home Center, Arcadia Road, Lancaster today and tomorrow, 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Tuesday, October 30
The Dover Young Adult

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