

BY CURT HARLER, EDITOR



Lancaster Farming says...

They're pulling with a purpose

There's one of those fine stories that seem to be less and less frequent these days coming out of Berks County.

Farmers, it seems, tend to be at the center of a number of the 'good news' items appearing in the papers these days.

In an era of wars and muggings, fraud and political dishonesty, it's good to see a community pulling together for a common goal.

Berks County Agriculture Center has a 10.2 acre tract of land leased from the County for 99 years.

At present there are a couple of large horse rings, a pond and a two-story announcers stand on the lot. But the farm community in Berks County has a larger vision of what could be done with that acreage.

They want to put up a \$550,000 4-H community center on that property. And they don't really want to go begging the government for the

half million dollars they need.

Instead the farm community is banding together to hold a number of benefit sales. There'll be a dairy calf sale to kick off the fund drive. It will be followed by a hoedown, feeder calf sale, craft sale and a general livestock sale — all with proceeds going to the community building project.

The dairy sale will be held at Leesport on November 22. Already over 100 calves have been donated by Berks County farmers. They range from top dam and sire animals down through grades.

Of course, the Berks Countians are not so provincial they would refuse donations from neighboring counties, too. Buyers from anywhere are welcome at the sales.

The hoedown is slated for November 29 at the Hamburg Field House. The feeder calf sale will run December 5 at Leesport.

Of course, three or four sales won't generate the funds needed to put up a 10,000 square foot multi-purpose building and the 60 by 240 foot pole barn with a 60 by 60 show ring inside.

The Berks County project will continue over three years. A number of farm businessmen have pledged sizable donations to be made over the three years of the fund drive.

But the major push for money will be held between November 21 and June of 1981.

Construction for the project is scheduled to begin after the ground thaws in the spring.

Anyone who has ever thought about trying to raise a half million dollars can appreciate the task ahead of the farm community in Berks County.

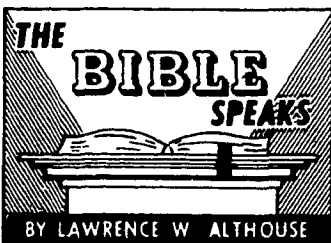
Several years ago, Lancaster County went through a similar fund raising effort.

The county's \$375,000 Farm and Home Center project, initiated in 1965, called on the public for financial support. But five years after the Lancaster project was begun it still was \$128,000 in the red. Continued donations in subsequent years finally erased the debt.

But the memory of the struggle should linger on in Lancaster Countians' minds.

Now Berks County's farmers are pulling together with a purpose of community spirit, determination, and a gung-ho attitude can carry the day, the youth of Berks County can look forward to having a fine center in the near future.

Unfortunately, it'll take money, too. But with a little help from their friends in neighboring Lancaster, Lebanon, Schuylkill, Lehigh, Bucks, Montgomery and Chester Counties, the Berks project should be a roaring success.



BY LAWRENCE W. ALTHOUSE

TRANSFORMING THE FEAST

November 9, 1980

Background Scripture:
Acts 2 through 3.
Devotional Reading:
1 Thessalonians 4:1-12.
Many Christians assume

that Pentecost was instituted as a Christian feast on the day that is described in Acts 2. But Pentecost was not something new, it was an old and traditional celebration in the faith of Israel. Acts 2 does not speak, therefore, of the first Pentecost, but rather of an old feast that was suddenly and dramatically transformed.

For centuries the Jews had celebrated Pentecost - literally 50 days after the Passover - as the feast honoring the giving of the law to Israel. Following the destruction of the temple in 586 B.C. and the Babylonian captivity of the people, the

law emerged as the central focus of Judaism. It was an honest and sincere attempt to construct a whole way of life that would be positively responsive to the will of God. Yet, regardless how sincere this attempt was, it somehow failed to fulfill the ancient promises of the people of Israel.

WHEN PENTECOST HAD COME

It was for the purpose of celebrating the revered feast of Pentecost that Peter, the apostles and a company of believers was assembled together in one place. It was in keeping with what they had learned from Jesus. The

Master had respected the law, even though he interpreted it differently and sometimes went far beyond the law in his teachings.

What happened to the little band of followers at that feast was nothing less than a major transformation of the whole meaning of Pentecost. While they sat or stood in an attitude of worship something surprising and startling happened. "And suddenly a sound came from heaven like a rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting...And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other

tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance" (Acts 2:1-4).

What the writer of Acts describes for us is an ecstatic experience. People were moved with great emotion, but it was something much more than just emotion - there was a sense of being filled with the power and presence of God. Instead of focussing upon the law, these worshippers found a new reality on which to base their faith: the experience of God within.

PROPHECIES, VISIONS, DREAMS

Unlike the "speaking in tongues" of which we hear so much today, this outpouring

of the Spirit was not sought and the tongues that were spoken were not gibberish, but languages which someone in the audience could understand. The important thing about the transformed Pentecost was that it testified to the important difference between the old and the new covenants: the old covenant was a school for the teaching of principles; the new covenant was a source of power to bring those dead principles to life.

The Holy Spirit transformed the feast of Pentecost into a celebration of God's power let loose in the world through his people.



TO REDUCE FEED WASTE

Feed grains and proteins are a big part of costs in most livestock production programs. With the possibility of feed costs going even higher in the years ahead, it is good management to be sure that

your animals are not wasting feed. I fear that too many self feeders are not properly adjusted; they permit too much feed to come down at a time. I have seen a good many hog finishing floors covered with wasted grains. This will be hard on profits.

All producers are urged to inspect their feeders frequently to be sure they are working well and not wasting costly feeds. Some may need repairs such as the case might be with feeding

bunks and troughs; at times they develop holes and the feed does not get into the livestock. Good management practices include no feed to be wasted at any time.

TO BE CAREFUL WITH SPACE HEATERS

When cold weather arrives we get many types of heating equipment. Most of these are quite acceptable providing they are properly handled and vented. In some cases the fumes from the fuel can be the cause of suffocation and bodily injury; in other cases, they can be a fire hazard. If temporary

heaters are used, we suggest that extreme care be used to be certain they do not make people sick, or present a health hazard. Your local fire department official, or a local plumber, might be the person to give additional suggestions. Don't take chances with the health of your family, or your employees.

TO CHECK FOR INTERNAL PARASITES

The winter feeding season is at hand. Many head of beef cattle are being imported into the county for fattening purposes. In addition, we have large numbers of young

dairy animals that are being raised for replacements. Any of these animals may carry heavy infestations of stomach worms. Normally, feeder calves that come from the southern states are often infested with internal parasites.

Also, on many local farms where cattle have been managed for years, the build-up of worms can become serious. We urge all

livestock producers to be sure they are not feeding worms in their animals. A fecal sample submitted to the local veterinarian is the place to start; he can advise the owner of the extent of parasite problem and what to use to eliminate the parasites. Healthy livestock are the only ones that can make efficient use of feed and all inputs. Don't waste

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NOW IS THE TIME

By Max Smith, Lancaster County Agricultural Agent
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CHRIS CLOVER



Farm Calendar

Today, November 8
North American International Livestock Exposition; Louisville, Kentucky; continues through Tuesday.
Cumberland Co. Farm Women's Convention; 10 a.m.; Embers Restaurant, Carlisle.
Lebanon 4-H Horse Club Banquet; 6:30 p.m.; Schaefferstown Fire Hall, Schaefferstown.
Beekeeper Seminar; 8:45 p.m.; Schmucker Science Center, West Chester State College, West Chester.

First Lancaster Co. Sheep Roundup; 12:30 p.m.; Jay Stauffer's farm.
Monday, November 10
American Agri-Women 5th Annual Convention continues through Thursday; Hershey Motor Lodge, Hershey.
National Grange Session; continues through November 18; Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
4-H Beef Roundup; Farm Show Bldg., Harrisburg.
Dairy Reproduction School for Cumberland and York farmers; 10 a.m.-3 p.m.;

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