

BY CURT HARLER, EDITOR



Lancaster Farming says...

Always a new twist at Farm Show

After 65 years and a host of triumphs and disasters, the Pennsylvania Farm Show remains the premiere agricultural show in the Northeast

Sometimes it seems like the same old routine of shows, meetings, and judging. But turn your head for a second or two and glance back at the Farm Show and suddenly it's alive with new twists and wrinkles.

The hog shows times will catch many spectators by surprise. By the time you read this editorial most of the judging in all eight open swine classes will be completed, the ribbons awarded. Judging began on Saturday morning at 8 a.m.

Despite the usual grand opening ceremonies Sunday afternoon, the show will be in full swing by the time the Governor makes his appearance to get the ball rolling.

Carcass lamb judging also will be finished. That competition starts

Saturday at 6 p.m.

Open sheep classes traditionally start on Sunday. This year's 11 a.m. start also jumps the gun by a couple of hours on the official opening.

The early hog judging, due to late approval of the show, is a bit to the exhibitors' advantage. They can show without listening to popping drink cups and without putting up with curiosity seekers. The open classes will be out of the Complex before junior hogs come in.

On the minus side, it'll take a lot of interest in hogs or carcass lambs and a good grasp of the schedule to get a farmer to Farm Show Saturday. There will be no chance to see the usual commercial exhibits since the main exhibition floor will be closed until 1:30 Sunday.

There will be some reorganization of the 13 acres of exhibit space under the Farm Show roof.

Aisles on the main floor now run

crosswise to give better traffic flow from one area to the other. They are named after commodities produced in the state. The main floor covers roughly four acres, and on days like Wild Wednesday when over 100,000 people will be at the Show, mobility is a must.

There's a new Farm Show Director, too. Horace Mann is back in harness temporarily. He replaces Hugh Coffman who resigned the position last month.

Mann is remembered with respect for the job he did at Farm Show a decade ago. There's an interview with him on Page 1. It's worth reading.

There'll be the crowning of a Potato Queen — the first since 1957 when the Potato Blossom Queen program was dropped after 21 successful years. We hope the 1981 queen marks the start of a long dynasty.

The premiums offered are up to a "whopping" \$109,743 for the 2000 head of beef and dairy cattle, swine, sheep and horses and 2000 poultry birds who make the trip to Harrisburg.

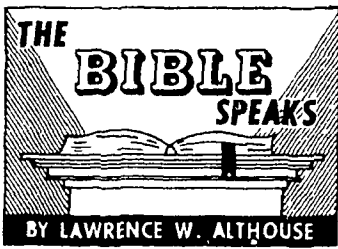
Many of the 220 commercial exhibitors aren't overly pleased they must pay the \$1 parking fee just like visitors. They feel they pay enough for their booth not to be nailed for daily parking.

Still, all of the old familiar faces will be there. And a number of new exhibitors will dot the Complex.

We must confess to a certain interest in booth 374 at the Show. It's located by the door leading to the Small Arena and the Sheep barn, just across from the Ford Tractor display.

LANCASTER FARMING, for the first time ever, will be represented at the Show. Stop by, say hello.

And enjoy the 1981 edition of Pennsylvania Farm Show.



WORDS TO LIVE BY January 11, 1981

Background Scripture:
Matthew 6 through 7

Devotional Reading:
Ephesians 3:1-12.

Someone once said, "What you are speaks so loudly that I cannot hear what you are

saying!"

Try beginning your day with those words for the next several weeks. They could make a difference in your life.

Christianity has traditionally been a religion of words. The laws of the Old Testament, the Good News of the New, the preaching, teaching, witnessing, and liturgies, hymns, and caritatas, the books, pamphlets and brochures. And at the heart of all these the words of Jesus Christ.

It is easy to understand, then, how so much emphasis came to be placed on verbalization. What traditionally separates Christians from one another

has been the particular ways in which different groups have verbalized their beliefs. The Inquisition and all heresy crusades have been based upon the words with which Christians have chosen to express themselves.

These Words Of Mine

Jesus himself seems to pave the way for our preoccupation with words. As he comes to the close of the Sermon on the Mount, he says: "Every one then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house upon a rock..." (7:24) But if we examine what Jesus says to us here, we find that it is not just a matter of hearing

the words (or reading them), but of doing them.

In fact, the whole Sermon on the Mount, an particularly Matthew 6 and 7, emphasizes the Gospel, not so much as words to believe, as to live by. It is the doing rather than the saying that Jesus emphasizes. Thus, he chastizes the piety of words and outward appearances, "Thus when you give alms, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by men. And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites, for they love to stand and pray in the street corners, that they may be

seen by men" (6:2,5) "And in praying," he continues, "do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words" (6:7)

By Their Fruits

Jesus warns his disciples against false prophets. "And how will we know them? Shall we judge their words, their ideas, their doctrines? No," says Jesus, "You will know them by their fruits" (7:16,20) Like trees, they will not be judged on the basis of the signs that are hung on them, but by the fruit they bear. So Christians will be judged, not by their pronouncement, not by the way they verbalize their Christian discipleship, but

by the fruits that their convictions produce.

And what are their fruits? but deeds, acts, efforts, works, accomplishments, service to others? "Not every one who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my father who is in heaven" (7:21) Yes, believe the words, say the words, but don't stop there, for you must do these words to live by.

(INDIA & NEPAL, 'A Spiritual & Cultural Journey,' with Larry Althouse, March 20-April 10. For information contact New Dimensions Center, 1st U.M. Church, Ross & Harwood Sts., Dallas, TX 75201)



NOW IS THE TIME

By Max Smith, Lancaster County Agricultural Agent
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clover seed in the winter wheat crop. In addition, folks who order their seeds early have a better chance of getting the variety and quality of seeds wanted. In many cases the supply of the popular seeds will not meet the demand. Then we have to take what is left. Be a good farm and garden planner and order your seeds early this year.

TO SEGREGATE FARM SHOW ANIMALS

The Pennsylvania State

Farm Show is the big event in our state this coming week. In spite of the winter month and the usual bad weather, the show attracts a large number of animals. Show regulations do a pretty good job of protecting these show animals and in building up resistance to a number of infections. However, the animals in the home herd or flock may not have that treatment and resistance.

Therefore, it is very important to keep these two groups of animals separate for at least 30 days after the show. Segregation and sanitation are still very important practices in the

livestock world. We have known of Farm Show animals that were returned to the farm and remained in good health, however, the rest of the animals in the barn came down with shipping fever or some other infection. Don't take chances by mixing the home animals with Farm Show animals, or with newly-purchased animals. Give them a 30-day period without this dangerous exposure.

TO EVALUATE SEWAGE SLUDGE

The use of sewage sludge as a farm fertilizer is getting more and more attention. In the first place, the supply of

this organic material is increasing and secondly, we are learning more about its proper use. The farmers that have been utilizing sludge have recognized its fertility value with limitations. To those who are considering the use of sludge on their land, we support the idea but caution that every land owner should become well acquainted with both the advantages and disadvantages of sludge. All disposal plants distributing sludge should know the exact content of the material relative to fertilizers and heavy metal content. This latter item is the dangerous ingredient, too much heavy metal content will limit the use of the sludge. When used in excess, sludge will make the soil toxic to plants because of excess amounts of heavy metals. We urge the consideration of sludge as a fertilizer when available, but warn about the danger of heavy metal content.

TO AIM FOR EFFICIENCY

In any kind of livestock production it is very im-

portant that we make a special effort to get efficient weight gains or milk production. Healthy animals is the place to start. Be sure you are not feeding either internal or external parasites; they will cost you money. Adequate supplies of both salt, minerals, and fresh water at all times are other practices that help give cheaper results. Too many animals are restricted in their intake of these items. In most cases water is the cheapest and most important daily intake, in cold weather warm water will encourage consumption, and when we have animals drinking a lot of water, they will usually be doing very well. We must try to improve efficiency at all times in order to realize any profit.

Farm Calendar

Today, Jan. 10
New Jersey Holstein meeting, Watchung View
(Turn to Page A29)

CHRIS CLOVER

