

## Up Ag

By Dick Anglestein

It's altogether fitting that the beginning of Spring is observed as Ag Day and launches a week of agriculturally related activities on the local, state and national levels. The article that begins on Page One and another on Page D11 lists some of the many activities planned in various areas.

Spring has long been recognized as a time of renewal, particularly in agriculture. After several months of dormancy, the land is reawakened as field activities resume again.

This year, more than ever, Spring is being welcomed as a time of renewal. A new beginning is particularly appropriate this year because the recent past has not only been a winter of customary dormancy, but also a winter of economic difficulties and problems in agriculture.

But just like the signs of Spring that are beginning to appear around us, there are signs that agriculture may be starting up that long road out of its winter of economic problems. That road back is expected to be rather long and there undoubtedly will be some hidden curves ahead.



In this new beginning earmarked for Monday, Ag Day, everyone in agriculture should make a resolution of personal renewal. Let each of us renew our personal conviction to boost agriculture every chance we get. Let's talk up agriculture every chance we get.

As a symbol of this personal renewal, Lancaster Farming's Sue Thomas designed the accompanying logo. It simply states: UP AG.

Boosting agriculture every chance we get won't make this road back any shorter. But it might smooth it out a bit.

When you're boosting something -- and particularly something as important as agriculture, you got to be optimistic. When you promote something, there's just no room for pessimism. And that's what is needed right now -- a return in full scale to the good old optimistic traditions of agriculture and everyone in it.

From time to time, you'll see our UP AG symbol in Lancaster Farming. We'll use it with stories that exemplify optimistic agriculture.

So as Spring and Ag Day get ready to dawn, let's UP AG UP with AG.

## NOW IS THE TIME

By Jay Irwin

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**To Control Wild Garlic**  
We may like onions in our hamburgers and in other foods, but very few of us like onion-flavored milk. This can easily happen on dairy farms where wild garlic plants are allowed to grow. Many pastures are infested with wild garlic. One of the best times to start control measures on this weed is early in the spring when the young plants are 4 to 8 inches high. An application of 2,4-D will knock them down. Follow the label for directions. When this is applied around the middle to latter part of March, little damage is done to any legumes in the area. If garlic plants are allowed to mature each year, the pasture area will become so contaminated that dairy cows can not utilize the grass.

**To Prevent Water Pollution**  
The quality of our water supplies is very important; in most cases it should receive more attention. Many people are bothered with high bacteria count and/or with high nitrates. Both of these are undesirable for both domestic and livestock consumption. When feedlots and barns are cleaned out

this spring, every effort should be made to incorporate this manure into the topsoil just as quickly as possible. With liquid manure, the soil injection type of spreader does an excellent job. With other types of surface spreaders, the manure should be disced or plowed into the topsoil soon after application; this is especially true on slopes above water supplies. The application of fertilizers warrants the same attention; mix it with the topsoil very soon after application. Also surface water should be directed away from wells or any other water supply.

**To Check Ventilation Systems**  
We are into the season of the year that ventilation is very important. The fans in our poultry houses and dairy barns have been working hard through the winter months. They have accumulated dust on the louvers and screens and developed loose belts, so they are less efficient -- in other words they are not moving as much air as they are rated.

This is a good time to go through you-building and clean the fan blades, the louvers and screens.

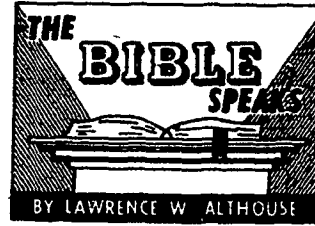
Tighten the fan belts, and be sure to check the inlet screens. Many times, in our poultry houses in particular, we're not getting air circulation because the air cannot get into the building. Clean these inlet screens so they are not restricting air.

Also, be sure to check the thermostats to make certain they are working properly. Poor ventilation can cause health problems in poultry houses and "off" flavored milk in dairy barns. This is a good time to take care of some of these inside jobs.

**To Care For Horses**  
Many horses and ponies are neglected this time of the year. When they're kept in a stable for long periods of time...such as during the winter...they can get out of condition. And they may develop some bad habits. But you can avoid this by following good management practices.

Your horses are natural athletes and need a daily work-out to keep their muscles, feet and legs in good condition. Twenty or twenty five

(Turn to Page A12)



ON SERVING TABLES  
March 20, 1983

Background Scripture:  
Acts 2:43 through 6:7.  
Devotional Reading:  
Isaiah 44:6-8.

Sometimes it is assumed that the lifestyle and organization of the earliest church (as recorded in Acts 2-6) is a model which we need to recapture in the life of the church today. Closer examination, however, indicates that their early life together was based upon two elements: one was the spiritual devotion which they shared and the other was the plans and means whereby they attempted to live out that devotion. The former was a gift from God; the latter the product of their human creativity. Therefore, it is only their devotion to God that we need to emulate, not the structure of their life together.

### ALL THINGS IN COMMON

For example, Luke tell us that in the days following the first Pentecost "all who believed were together and had all things in common." Some have seized upon these words from Luke to suggest a primitive Christian communism: "And they sold their possessions and goods and distributed them to all as any had need" (Acts 2:44, 45). And: "...no one said that any of the things which he possessed was his own, but they had everything in common" (Acts 3:32). But this was not intended as a model for society, and not even

the church as a whole. This was a style of Christian sharing together that was a temporary response to the gospel of Christ. There is no suggestion in Luke that it was ever intended that forever after Christians were to be "together and have all things in common." In fact, what Luke is lifting up for us in these passages is not the form of their life together, but the motivating power behind it.

Actually, the form of Christians' life together was soon to change and would continue to change throughout the history of the church. Only the motivating power behind those forms was intended to last forever, not the forms themselves.

### IT'S NOT RIGHT!

God himself demonstrated that Christians must never take their own organizational and ecclesiastical inventions too seriously. In Acts 6 we have a record of the first church dispute: an argument on whether the food supplies were being evenly distributed between the two major groups. It is obvious that the apostles were annoyed by this dispute. "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables!" So they devised a plan to pick seven men to attend to the food distribution while the apostles "devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word."

Unfortunately -- at least for their organizational plan -- God did not co-operate. At least two of these table waiters, Stephen and Philip, are known to us primarily for the wonderful things they accomplished in preaching and teaching the gospel. The apostles' plan was for them to stick to waiting on tables, but the plan of God apparently took them beyond that. And that's why the Church is constantly being re-formed by God.

## Farm Calendar



- Saturday, March 19**  
Pa. Ayrshire Breeders Assn. annual dinner mtg., Embers Convention Center, Rt. 11, Carlisle 10 a.m.  
Bradford Co. Holstein tour  
Mercer Co. Small Farms Livestock Conference, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Extension Center  
Bucks Co. Dairy tour to Lancaster County, begins 7 a.m.
- Sunday, March 20**  
Lancaster Co. Grape Growers, Farm and Home Center, 1:30 p.m.  
Eastern National Benefit Barbecue, noon to 5 p.m., Frederick Nat'l Guard Armory, Frederick, Md.
- Monday, March 21**  
Adams Co. Beekeepers mtg. 7:30 p.m., Vo-ag Room, Biglerville High School  
Sullivan Co. Milking School, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., through Tuesday  
Bradford Co. Milking School, 10 a.m., Gardner's Inn, Sullivan Co. continues tomorrow
- Tuesday, March 22**  
Chester/Delaware Farmers Assn., spring banquet, 7 p.m., Guthrieville Fire Hall  
Schuylkill Co. Fruit Growers mtg., 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m., New Ringgold Fire Hall  
United Dairy Industry Assn., annual mtg., Hyatt Regency Dearborn, Michigan, continues through Thursday.
- Wednesday, March 23**  
DHIA directors and supervisors mtg., 11 a.m., North Towanda Church  
Hazardous Waste Seminar, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Sheraton Inn, Altoona  
Md. Holstein Assn. annual convention, Grantsville Holiday Inn, Garrett Co., continues tomorrow
- Thursday, March 24**  
Hunterdon Co., N.J. Plant Clinic, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m., Extension Center  
Progressive Pork Conference, Lancaster Farm and Home Center, 9:30 - 3 p.m.  
Lancaster Co. Conservation District Annual Banquet, Blue Ball Fire Hall  
Bradford Co. Extension Assn. Executive Committee mtg., 8 p.m., Extension Office  
Lebanon Holstein Club tour to Susquehanna and Lackawanna counties  
Bradford Co. Agronomy Day, 10:30 a.m. - 3 p.m., Wysox Presbyterian Church  
Lebanon Co. Conservation District dinner, 7 p.m., Heisey's Diner
- Friday, March 25**  
York Co. Extension annual mtg. and banquet, 6:45 p.m., Avalong's Restaurant  
Penn State Performance Bull Sale, State College, noon  
Bradford Holstein bus tour to western Pa., continues tomorrow
- Saturday, March 26**  
Equine Discovery '83 Horse Symposium, Holiday Inn, King of Prussia  
Equine Health Management Workshop, University of Delaware, John M. Clayton Hall, 9 a.m., \$50 fee, registration required  
Home gardening expo, Delaware Valley College, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Doylestown  
Performance symposium and private treaty sale, 10 a.m., Devereux Soleil Farms, Downingtown

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