

## It's time for horse trading

BY DICK ANGLESTEIN

It's time for some serious "horse trading" to be done in Eastern Lancaster County.

One of the most placid and picturesque towns in the area is Churchtown. It's the kind of a town you'd be proud to say you're from and the kind you'd like to go back to after retiring.

Churchtown is right in the middle of two opposing pressures that will have long-range impact on not only the predominantly agriculture nature of that area, but well beyond its environs.

The federally-sponsored project to clean up the ag pollution of the Upper Conestoga Headwaters is moving ahead and will now concentrate on a six-square-mile area near Churchtown. Thirty-five farmers will be asked to cooperate in the installation of better field and waste management practices to control the runoff of nitrates into wells and streams.

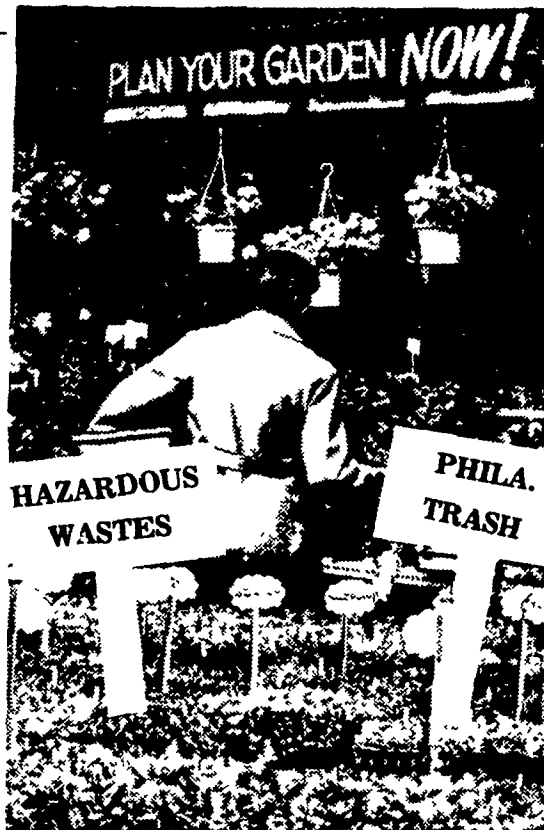
Eventually, it looks like as much as \$4 million in federal and farmer money could be invested in this project.

But also not too many miles away, neighboring farmers are faced with the proposed location of the hazardous waste dump.

State and local officials who are involved in the Upper Conestoga project and are asking farmers to cooperate admit that even they can't justify the two in their minds. On one hand, government is spending millions to clean up one type of pollution and, thus far, has not come out with a clear and definite statement that the dump -- another possible and more serious pollution problem -- just doesn't belong in the middle of a prime ag area.

To me, it's like feeding a lump of sugar to a horse with one hand and beating the daylight out of him with the other. Let's get these two hands together.

Yes, it's time for some serious horse trading. If the state and federal government wants farmers cooperation on the ag pollution, how



## Lancaster County The Garden Spot

Some strange new seeds being sown

about some reciprocal cooperation in opposing the dump.

You farmers have a big bargaining chip in this battle. Let's use it. Farmers have very little chips in their gamble to survive. So, when you got one, hold on to it and use it for all its worth.

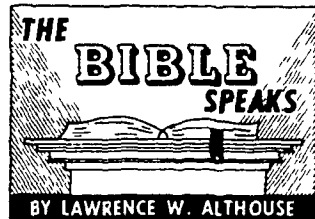
Concerns about the ag pollution stretch all the way to the Susquehanna Bay, where several states are getting together to save its ecological future.

I got a suggestion for Governor Thornburgh. I see that you plan to attend a fancy Choices for the Chesapeake gathering with the other governors on Dec. 7-9 at the George Mason University in Fairfax, Va.

There will be fancy dinners and luncheons. Probably some tasty Bay crabs.

There'll be an evening of folk music. And an address by famed oceanographer and TV documentarian Jacques Costeau.

I got another suggestion for the agenda. How about a gutsy statement opposing possible future pollution of this water system -- like a hazardous waste dump in Eastern Lancaster County.



### IMITATING GOD

October 23, 1983

Background Scripture: Ephesians 4:17 through 5:2; 2 Corinthians 5:17.

Devotional Reading: Titus 3:3-8.

Isn't it interesting that, when it comes to thoughts and ideas, we human beings do not hesitate for one moment to assume that we can think God's thoughts. Yet, when we pass from the realm of thought to action, we quickly recognize the impassable gap that lies between the human and the divine. We are all much more likely to speak great ideas about God than to do great things for God.

#### LIKENESS OF GOD

Writing to the church at Corinth, Paul instructed them: "Therefore, if any one is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away; behold the new has come" (2 Cor. 5:17). And the writer of Ephesians tells us: "put on your new nature" (4:24). The "new" that must displace the "old" is not just on the idea-level. The "new" is represented, not so much by the things we say or the ideas we express, but by the way we live. The world, in our times as much as in Christ's, is not so much in need of new ideas, creeds, doctrines, and theologies, as it is in need of new actions on the part of those who hold those ideas.

I'm not saying that there is no need for any further revelation

from God, but that our problem seems to be that we haven't yet begun to put into action the revelation we already have. The new life that Paul called for is still very much needed today. Even the worlds in which he described that new life are still relevant for us--speaking the "truth" with one another, not letting "the sun go down" on our anger, avoiding "evil talk," bitterness and wrath and clamor and "strife..." or to put it even more affirmatively: "be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." So, if there is to be any likeness at all between the Creator and his creatures, it is to be a likeness of infinite love, not infinite wisdom. As Ephesians states it: "put on the new nature, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness" (4:24).

#### WALK IN LOVE

There are numerous times in the Bible--and the history of the human race as well--when God has had to remind us that we are the creatures and he is the Creator. But, whenever his children have been accused of pretentiousness, it has only been when we have aimed too high with our human, finite ideas, when we have posed as understanding what only the Creator can understand.

God, it seems, has never chastised us because we have aimed too high with our deeds. If we are going to imitate God, that is where it must be: "be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us..." (Ephesians 5:1,2).

Thus, the "new creation" that we are called to be in Christ is summed up in one term that can never be presumptuous for us to attempt: "walk in love, as Christ loved us." If you're going to imitate God, let it be in love.

## NOW IS THE TIME

By Jay Irwin

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#### To Be Careful Around Manure Pits

This is the time of year that many liquid manure pits will be cleaned-out and spread on the land; the crops have been harvested and the ground is open enough to absorb much of the liquid; this is necessary rather than to apply it on frozen ground. A pass over the field with a disc will reduce the possibility of odors a great deal.

When these pits are emptied there is a danger of poisonous gases being present. If the mixture is agitated before being moved then good ventilation must be provided above the pit. Also, never go into a pit without a gas mask or some type of respirator. Keep in mind that these gases can be explosive as well as poisonous to man and beast. Special care is needed in and around liquid manure pits.

#### To Evaluate Farm Records

The 1983 cropping season is about over and soon it will be time to summarize your farm accounts and be reporting to the Internal Revenue Service. In addition to the need of good farm records for tax reporting purposes, I'd like to suggest these farm records be used for future farm planning and in making major farm decisions. When time permits and as the outside work winds down this fall, it is good management to spend some time in your office and do some "pencil pushing" regarding the most profitable parts of your farming business. Your records of success or failure of the various

enterprises are the best guide to future expansion or termination.

#### To Inspect Heating Systems

With colder weather upon us, we'll be using different types of heating units. In order to prevent the potential for fires and other problems, we suggest that all chimneys and flues be checked for cracks and places where sparks can escape.

In this part of the country, tobacco sheds have stoves to provide comfort for the winter job of stripping tobacco. Many of these have been in operation for many years and may need some attention. The mortar around pipes and between bricks may have fallen out; in many cases a repointing job with mortar will make the system much safer.

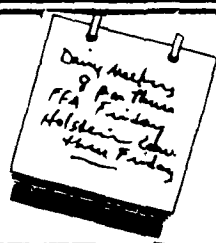
Don't take chances on a faulty system; it could start a major barn fire or the fumes could cause suffocation.

#### To Practice Good Public Relations

Farmers should be concerned about their image in the community. In most cases it's very good, and also the majority of non-farm people in the rural areas respect the needs and problems of the farmer. The image can be improved by getting better acquainted with your non-farm neighbors.

We urge farmers to invite their nearby neighbors to see their farm operations. In many cases a better understanding of the various farm operations will eliminate disputes and hassles about noise and odors.

## Farm Calendar



#### Monday, Oct. 24

Lancaster County FFA awards banquet at 6:30 p.m. at Kinzers Firehall.

11th annual session of the Pa. State Grange, Clearfield Holiday Inn. Continues through Wednesday.

PFA Policy Development Committee at the Sheraton in Harrisburg. Continues tomorrow.

#### Wednesday, Oct. 26

Pa. Poultry Federation Annual Conference at the Holiday Inn in Grantville. Continues tomorrow.

Pa. Grocers Association Pa. Products Promotion. Continues to Nov. 12.

1983 Ag Service Schools at 9 a.m. at the Bradford County Extension Office in Towanda.

Water Resources Meeting at 8 p.m. at Honesdale High School.

#### Thursday, Oct. 27

Pa. Holstein Association annual meeting and banquet.

Annual meeting, Agway Inc., Syracuse, N. Y.

Potato production field meeting at 3 p.m. at the Homer Courtright Farm, near Hamlin Corners, Wayne Co.

### Otis

