

Tailings & tidbits

BY DICK ANGLESTEIN

Memorial Day

Memorial Day, the first holiday of the sun and fun season, is just about upon us. Most farmers are hoping for a lot of sun, but there won't be too much fun.

Quite a few will likely devote Monday to cutting hay or getting the last of the corn in if the weatherman cooperates.

But no matter how you spend the holiday, let's remember that the first patriots to fall in battle defending this country were farmers -- those "embattled farmers who fired the shot heard round the world."

Back during the midst of the Bicentennial bash in 1976 I was on a photo trip to Concord, Mass. I visited the Old North Bridge outside of the town where those patriot farmers traded "ball for ball" with the Redcoats and officially birthed this nation.

As I recall, the old detraction I noticed around the bridge and the Minuteman monument was the profusion of discarded beer and soda cans, many of which had bright red, white and blue markings commemorating the Bicentennial.

Take note: PFA -- a bottle bill could have been used back then, too.

Congratulations

And speaking of the PFA, our congratulations on their new expanded office facilities at Camp Hill. An open house was held there this week.

The PFA computer, closed-circuit TV and taping studio facilities, among other additions, are quite impressive.

Noxious Weeds

The Pennsylvania Noxious Weed Committee met this week in Harrisburg. A story on Page One tells about the session.

But we have a few editorial comments:

First, if a meeting is going to be held farmers deserve better than a 40 percent turnout of committee members. Only two of the five members showed up. If members are so busy, pick another time. How about a 5 a.m. breakfast session, farmers would be able to make that. If an annual session can't be fitted into those busy bureaucratic schedules, then get some new members who can come.

Second, the committee's lawyer opened the session by saying it had been properly advertised under Sunrise requirements in the Harrisburg Patriot newspaper. We wonder how many farmers in Pennsylvania subscribe to the Patriot?

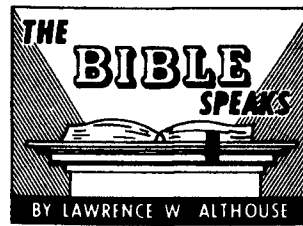
Third, hearing some farmers speak up at the meeting, we're convinced more than ever that what's needed in government everywhere is more hard-headed, no-nonsense Dutchmen who tell it like it is.

PDA Mailroom

Note to the PDA Mailroom: Check your addressograph equipment. We got eight copies in the mail this week of the Pa. Grain Report that's published on the market pages. We only need one. And, oh yes, Mr. Harrisburg postmaster: From Tuesday to Friday is too long a time for a first class market report to come from PDA to us.

Stewartstown Library

Our apologies concerning the story a couple of weeks ago about the farm book collection at the Mason-Dixon Library in Stewartstown. The telephone number at the end should have read (717) 993-2404.



WAITERS AND HEALERS
May 27, 1984

Background Scripture:

James 5.

Devotional Reading:

1 Timothy 6: 3-10.

If you'll remember, as we began the Epistle of James, I indicated that it is usually regarded as a type of "wisdom literature," the apostle's concern being to help his readers to find the wisdom by which they as Christians live their lives. Thus, it is appropriate that James brings his epistle to a close with a final few words to sum up the essence of this wisdom.

AWAIT THE END

So, the first part of James 5 is devoted to reminding his readers to always keep in mind the end to which they have been called. The rich are reminded that their wealth will not survive to that "end." The poor are reminded that neither will their poverty be part of that fulfillment. "Be patient, therefore, brethren, until the coming of the Lord" (5:7a). As the farmer must patiently wait for the fruit of the harvest, so the Christians must patiently await the coming of the Lord. "As an example of suffering and patience, brethren, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. Behold, we call those happy who are steadfast" (5:10,11).

So, one of the final words of

wisdom is "patience."

But this "patience" is not that of an inactive waiting. Once again, James emphasizes doing: "Do not grumble, brethren, against one another, that you may not be judged" (5:9). In other words, while they are waiting for God's fulfillment, they are to live in harmony with what they are waiting for. It is to be an active kind of waiting, instead of a passive one.

HEAL WHILE WAITING

Furthermore, the activity that is to characterize their waiting is one that is focused on sustaining the fellowship of those who wait. Their eyes are not to be so fixed on the future that they are oblivious to the needs of the present. "Is any one among you suffering? Let him pray. Is any cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him... and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up..." (5:13-15a).

Although James' example is obviously a case of physical healing, it is also obvious that the healing is more than that of the body: "Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed" (16). And, "if any one among you wanders from the truth," they are to attempt to "bring him back."

Thus, although their face is set to the future fulfillment in Christ's coming, they are also to live fully in the present moment, caring for one another, praying for one another, and doing all they can to make and keep each other whole.

This is James' wisdom for those who followed Christ in the eras of the Christian church: wait and heal. His counsel is no less wise for those of us who seek to follow the Lord today.

Farm Calendar



Saturday, May 26

Bradford County Dairy Day Festival, Wyalusing; parade at 11 a.m.; pageant at 8:15 p.m.
York County Dairy Princess Pageant, 8 p.m., 4-H Center.

Monday, May 28

Memorial Day

Tuesday, May 29

19th Annual Spring Rally, Society of Farm Women of Pa., Hershey Convention Center.

Wednesday, May 30

Resource Roundup, Cook College, New Brunswick, N.J.

Thursday, May 31

Eastern Jr. Simmental Expo, continues through June 3 at Weston, W.Va.

Pa. Milk Production Advisory Board, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., PDA Building.

Friday, June 1

June Dairy Month Proclamation Party, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Capitol Rotunda, Harrisburg.

Saturday, June 2

Pa. Sheep Field Day, 9 a.m., Mercer County 4-H and Extension Center.

NOW IS THE TIME

By Jay Irwin

Lancaster County Agriculture Agent
Phone 717-394-6851



To Be Aware of Rabies

Pennsylvania has had cases of animal rabies for many years but the last several years has seen an increase. Rabies is transmitted through the bite of a rabies-infected animal, also through exposure of an open wound, a fresh abrasion, scratch, or mucous membrane to virus infected saliva from a rabid animal.

The symptoms of rabies in animals may vary from a quiet depressed state to a furious erratic behavior pattern. If you are bitten by any animal, wash the wound thoroughly with lots of soap and water; then IMMEDIATELY see your physician for medical treatment.

A suspected wild animal should

be humanely killed and the head taken to a laboratory for examination. Be sure it's packed in ice and delivered within 24 hours so as not to damage the brain. Deliver to Department of Health and Welfare, Pickering Way and Welsh Pool Road, Lionville, PA 19343 (phone 215-363-8500). Large animals (dog size and larger) should go to B.A.I. Laboratory at Summerdale, PA 17093 (phone 717-787-8808).

There is a danger that unvaccinated pet animals could contact the disease through exposure to rabid wild animals. Since there is no practical way to eliminate the potential contact, have your pets vaccinated by a veterinarian.

To Be Aware of Ticks

The tick season is here. These pests may be on almost any dog or person that walks through uncultivated fields or woody areas from May to September.

Ticks await their victims on low-growing shrubs and on tall grass. They attach to, and feed on the blood of dogs and humans as well as many other animals.

To control the American dog tick, first clean the area of tall grass and weeds on which the ticks await their victims. Also treat bushes 20 to 30 feet on either side of paths with either Sevin, Diazinon or Lindane. The dog should also be treated with a 5% Sevin dust at

(Turn to Page A12)

OUR READERS WRITE, AND OTHER OPINIONS

Scheps plan is 'pie-in-the-sky'

Dear Editor:

Farmers, who have suffered severe losses as a result of the Scheps Cheese bankruptcy and similar ones, deserve our support

and need our help. Scheps Cheese shippers have suffered non-payment for two months of milk production. Dairy surpluses, government assessments and lower milk prices created enough financial difficulties without the added hardship of losing two months of gross income.

We must work diligently to make certain that this tragedy is not recreated through some hoax, built around false hope. It's time to stop tinkering with the lives of farmers and their families. Every effort should be made to make certain that farmers receive every penny owed them, and that emergency economic loans from FmHA be made available to them.

The reorganization proposals to date for Scheps Cheese Company are nothing more than a cruel hoax, especially for the farmers suffering from disastrous financial hardship from earlier

(Turn to Page A12)

Otis

