

Progress . . .

BY DICK ANGLESTEIN

Next week, agricultural progress will be on display at Penn State. As we gaze at the millions of dollars and hundreds of acres of progress, our viewpoint will be directed toward the future. Progress and the future are synonymous. But progress and the future must always be tempered with the lessons of the past and the realities of the present.



THE BIBLE SPEAKS

BY LAWRENCE W. ALTHOUSE

THE WAY TO GROW

August 19, 1984

Background Scripture:
2 Kings 21:1 through 23:30.
Devotional Reading:
2 Kings 21:1-9.

Most of the most deeply spiritual people I know were not born that way. Rather, it seems that as they have met opportunities and challenges in life, they have responded by growing in ways that have led to new levels of maturity and spiritual vitality.

Correspondingly, most of the unspirited people I know were not born that way either. They have encountered similar opportunities and challenges along the way, but they have not responded by growing in the way of spiritual maturity.

REPAIR THE TEMPLE!

When Josiah became king of Judah at the age of eight, who could have predicted that this boy would prove to be one of Judah's greatest kings? His great grandfather had been the beloved Hezekiah, but his grandfather Manasseh had been one of Judah's worst kings, and his father Amon was also a disaster. The nation was headed downhill. How could this mere child halt this downward slide?

At the age of 18 Josiah made a momentous decision when he decided to have repaired the

temple which had fallen into disrepair and decay during the idolatrous times of his father and grandfather. This decision itself was hardly an act of piety on his part, but it was a first step that started the young king in the right direction. He realized that his people needed the temple worship that had fallen into disuse in the past two reigns. Furthermore, because Josiah made the decision to repair the temple, his life moved into a whole new level of spiritual growth. For, during the repair of the temple, Hilkiah the priest found an ancient scroll upon which was discovered the Deuteronomic law that apparently the people of Judah had forgotten.

Now, Josiah might have said the Biblical equivalent of "Isn't that interesting?" and let it go at that. But, according to 2 Kings, his reaction was dramatic: "...when the king heard the words of the book of the law, he rent his clothes" (22:11). Hearing the ancient laws for the first time, Josiah realized how far his people had drifted from their God and he was distraught.

HEART AND SOUL

At this point in his life, the young king made another dramatic leap forward in his spiritual growth. Gathering the people of Judah together in Jerusalem, Josiah read the book and took the lead for his people by personally renewing the covenant that his forefathers had made with the Lord. He and his people joined together in pledging themselves to live by the book and the commandments of God.

It had all started with a decision to repair the temple. And each time Josiah took a step deeper into his own path of spiritual growth and development. He wasn't born a better and more devout king, but he became that way because he was willing to grow.

- P**ast and present must never be forgotten as one looks ahead or else the path there will be aimless.
- R**eal can be the benefits of progress as long as the methods of attainment are as realistic as the goals.
- O**ur must always be the scope of progress -- not just mine. One person's progress can often result in another's decline.
- G**reat are the gains of orderly progress, but equally great can be the losses of disorderly progress.
- R**etention of the status quo is considered non-progressive, but actually it may be progress seasoned with common sense.
- E**ternal must be the land, from which all agriculture springs. Progress must always be concerned with its preservation.
- S**implicity -- getting back to the basics of what's really important -- is a form of progress sought by too few.
- S**ane progress is movement ahead that benefits all agriculture and not just the pocketbooks of a few.

So long, Laura - Best of Luck

This is the final issue of Lancaster Farming for Laura England, who has moved on to Interstate to practice her profession in the field of public relations. Hailing from a dairy farm family, Laura possesses a rare combination of

triple commitment -- to the betterment of agriculture, to professional excellence and to personal beliefs. And her work is an equally rare combination of youthful exuberance and mature context. Best of luck, Laura; ag needs more youthful leaders like you.

NOW IS THE TIME

By Jay Irwin

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To Ensilage Corn At The Proper Stage

Most of our corn crop looks real good this year and corn silage is an important part of the feeding program in dairy and feeder cattle. Harvesting corn silage at the right time is very important. I'd like to point out that more feed nutrients will be harvested if the ear can be allowed to mature into the early dent stage. Silage research reveals that corn made into silage in the silk stage will yield only 63% feed nutrients, while corn in the dent stage should give silage with 69% feed nutrients.

The important thing is to allow the ear to develop properly before ensiling, if at all possible. Corn silage is a valuable crop; let's make every effort to harvest the maximum feed nutrients.

To Use Equipment Safely

We are fast approaching the harvesting of nearly 200,000 acres of corn in Lancaster County. This harvest is the result of a big investment of time, effort and money. A good yield depends on your farming skills, land resources and a smile from Mother Nature. But whether it's free from costly mishap depends on how well you prepare your equipment and how safely you and your help run that equipment:

- * Operate and maintain all harvesting machines as directed in the operators manual.
- * Keep all shields in place.
- * Shut off the power before unclogging or servicing. Wait until all parts have stopped, especially on choppers and blowers.
- * Adjust ground speed to field and crop conditions.
- * Use caution on highways with SMV signs in place.
- * Keep children and non-workers off and safely away from harvesting equipment.
- * Look up as well as to the front and back when driving, moving or positioning tall equipment near overhead power lines.

Safety requires practice -- let's practice it every day.

To Apply Lime When Seeding Small Grain

Preparation is being made for fall wheat and barley seeding. This is an excellent time to apply lime. A soil test will indicate how much per acre, if needed. This is doubly

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Farm Calendar



Saturday, Aug. 18
Summer show and sale of Pa. Polled Hereford Association, Dayton Fairgrounds.
Central Regional Championship Holstein Show, Huntingdon.
South Central Regional Championship Holstein Show, Carlisle.
Ephrata Area Young Farmers Association ice cream social, Woodcrest Retreat.

Tuesday, August 21
Ag Progress opens at Penn State Rock Springs Research Farm, continues 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Thursday.
Northeast Regional Championship Holstein Show, Troy.
New Holland Beef Club Tour, Wilmer Yost Farm.
Wednesday, Aug. 22
Field Day, Pa. Simmental Association, Skytop Farm, Port

Matilda.
Pa. 7th Performance Tested Boar Sale, PDA's Meat Evaluation Center, State College, 6 p.m.
Thursday, Aug. 23
Southeast Pa. District 4-H Dairy Show, Kutztown Fairgrounds, continues tomorrow.
Friday, Aug. 24
Lebanon County Holstein Club Sale, 7 p.m., Lebanon Area Fairgrounds.

