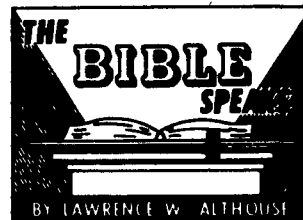


NOW IS THE TIME

By Jay Irwin

Lancaster County Agriculture Agent
Phone 717-394-6851



**TO COMMAND
OR TO APPEAL?**
October 27, 1985

To Hunt Safely

The small game hunting season will open next Saturday. We need to remind ourselves to be courteous and considerate while hunting on farms. We encourage all hunters to practice good relations between farmers and hunters. Criticism of hunting often starts because a few hunters forget the landowner is his host. By observing a few sensible hunting manners, hunters will keep themselves from becoming uninvited guests.

Most landowners permit reasonable hunting. Asking permission to hunt is a small courtesy in return for a pleasant day in the field; yet too few people follow this rule. Landowners may actually need protection from indifferent, careless and destructive hunters. When the trouble starts, many farmers post their land for protection from irresponsible hunters.

It takes very little time and costs nothing to observe a few common courtesy rules while hunting: ask permission before hunting, close gates, pick up litter after eating lunch and stay out of unharvested crops. Keep a safe distance from

buildings and livestock while hunting and be sure to respect the property of others as you would expect others to respect yours.

To Pick and Store Apples

Whether you grow apples or just like to eat them, it's important to store them properly.

Cool apples will keep longer. Ideally, they should be stored at 33°F, at 90 percent humidity, and in dim light or darkness.

Now as to picking; it's a good practice to store the fruit in shade as it is picked, then allow it to stand in the orchard overnight to cool. Then, place the apples in storage early in the morning before the temperature rises too much.

If you leave apples in a packing shed or in piles under the tree for one week, you'll shorten their storage life by about five weeks. So, keep apples cool, maintain good air circulation during storage, and your apples should keep a long time.

To Check Ventilation Equipment for Winter

Exhaust fans in dairy and poultry houses have a heavy ventilation job to do. They remove

moisture and dust, and in many cases run almost continually from October to April.

To make your ventilation system ready for winter, several items may need attention. The fan blades, motor enclosures and louvered shutters need cleaned frequently. Loose belts are common on belt driven fans. Fan output varies directly with fan speed. A 10 percent loss in RPM's of the fan means a 10 percent loss in air delivery.

Check the thermostat for accuracy by hanging a thermometer beside it for easy comparison. Be sure the sensing element is clean and free from dust.

For Farm Show Entries

January and the Pennsylvania Farm Show seem like a long time away. But, really it is not, because now is the time to be making your livestock and dairy entries for the Pennsylvania Farm Show. Just a reminder that Nov. 5 is the deadline for these entries—and that is close at hand. So, if you are interested in exhibiting at Farm Show, you can obtain entry blanks and a premium book from your County Extension Office.

Background Scripture:

Philemon; Galatians 3:23-29; 1 Corinthians 12:12, 13.

Devotional Reading:

Galatians 4:1-7.

I must confess that the first time I studied Philemon, I was somewhat uncomfortable with this letter. It was during the 1960's and America was embroiled in the struggle for civil rights. Although not militant, I believed—and still believe—that our nation was long, long overdue in practicing what it preached, both politically and spiritually. Inequality and segregation were by-products of the evil institution of slavery.

It was evident to me that, although Paul himself did not sanction slavery and went out of his way to proclaim oneness in Christ, he seemed considerably less than forth-right in attacking this evil when he had the opportunity. He was an Apostle. Couldn't he have commanded Philemon to release Onesimus from his claims of slavery? The fact that he did not issue this command seemed to me an embarrassment—evidence of the same kind of wishy-washing behavior for which he had condemned Simon Peter.

BOLD TO COMMAND

Paul says, "...though I and bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, yet for

love's sake I prefer to appeal to you...I appeal to you for my child Onesimus..." (8-10). If Paul could have commanded Philemon to renounce his claims against the slave Onesimus, why didn't he? If, as he says, "I would have been glad to keep him with me...but I preferred to do nothing without your consent..." (13, 14), why did he sent Onesimus back to Philemon?

Paul's reasoning more clear to me now than it was then: in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own free will" (14b). A Philemon who understood the claims of Christian conscience against slavery was more desirable to Paul than a Philemon who simply acceded to Paul's command. Either way, Onesimus would have his freedom (unless, of course, Philemon failed to heed Paul), but with Paul's approach of appeal instead of command, Onesimus could have both his freedom from slavery and the riches of Christian brotherhood.

MORE THAN SLAVE

Actually, if you examine this letter carefully, you will find that Paul was not being wishy-washy; he reminds Philemon of his right to command, he urges him to receive his former slave as you would receive me," and he concludes strongly. "Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say" (v. 21).

I do not regret crusading for civil rights. The civil rights laws enacted were very necessary. But neither am I so naive as to think that a law solves the problem. Far better for all, when we can do it with persuasive appeal, rather than use the last resort of command.

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Released by Community Press Service.)

Farm Aid money will help farmers with legal battles

ST. PAUL — From Farm Aid to legal aid, funds raised by dozens of country, rock and blues musicians will go toward fighting the legal battles of America's debt-ridden family farmers and ranchers. Singer John Conlee, a member of the board of directors for Farm Aid, is expected to present a check from the Farm Aid proceeds to board members of the Family Farm Defense Fund at a news conference at noon Oct. 21 at the Younkers Tea Room in downtown Des Moines.

National Farmers Union is one of the Family Farm Defense Fund's founders and is one of several rural organizations represented on its board of directors.

The Family Farm Defense Fund was incorporated last May to initiate litigation on behalf of family farmers and ranchers, conduct studies and prepare reports on the family farm system of agriculture. It is modeled on other highly successful legal assistance groups, including the Environmental Defense Fund and the Natural Resources Defense Council. The special Family Farm Defense Fund fills a void for family farmers and ranchers who face an increasingly complex legal structure and often can't afford to take legal action on their own.

The Farm Aid check will be used to hire a professional staff including public interest attorneys, whose first task will be to prioritize a number of cases already known to the Defense Fund and determine whether to take them into litigation, according to the Fund's executive director, Roger Blobaum. He pointed out that while the Fund's policy will be made by agricultural leaders serving on its board of directors, all legal decisions will be made by attorneys.

"We will try to identify cases where the outcome would affect thousands of farmers," Blobaum said. Generally, cases already known to the fund involve credit and farmers' rights.

"It is particularly gratifying to know that these funds will be used to protect the rights of farmers nationwide, touching the greatest number of lives possible across rural America," said NFU Executive Committee Chairman Harold Dodd of Illinois, who will represent the organization at the news conference.

"While the Family Farm Defense Fund for now may deal only with the pain and problems facing agriculture, it is necessary until better legislation can be provided. We believe that it is the Family Farm Defense Fund and

similar activities that will make agriculture's tomorrow brighter," Dodd said.

Conlee, in addition to being one of the organizers of the Farm Aid concert, performed the first benefit concert for agriculture last June. He is also one of the originators of the Family Farm Defense Fund and serves as its honorary chairman.

Members of the funds board of directors, in addition to NFU President Cy Carpenter who serves as vice chairman, are: National Farmers Organization President DeVon Woodland, chairman; Women Involved in Farm Economics President Sidney Beck, secretary-treasurer; Tim Wrage of the Farm Crisis Committee; National Grange Master Edward Andersen; and the Most Rev. Edward O'Rourke, Bishop of the Diocese of Peoria and former executive director of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference.



Farm Calendar

Saturday, October 26
Dairyman Inc. annual meeting, Middle Atlantic Division, Marriott's Hunt Valley Inn, Hunt Valley, Md.

Sunday, October 27
Poker Ride, 1:15 p.m., Our Gang Riding Club grounds, Hellam.
Standardbred Horse Sale, Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg.

Monday, October 28
Pa. State Grange Convention, Library Theater, Warren; continues through Oct. 31

Tuesday, October 29
ADA/DC District 16 meeting, Whitneyville United Methodist Church, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 31
Pa. Dairy Promotion Program Advisory Board meeting, Autoport Motel and Restaurant, State College; continues tomorrow.
Crop and Forage Show, Gettysburg Area Senior High School, 7:30 p.m. Open to Adams County Farmers.

Saturday, November 2
Lancaster County Farm Women Convention, 9 a.m., Farm and Home Center.

Monday, November 4
SE Christmas Tree Grower's meeting, 7 p.m., Penn State Campus, Schuylkill Haven.
Hog and Cattle Feeding meeting, Cumberland Valley High School Vo-Ag Room, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, November 6
Lancaster Conservation District monthly board meeting, Farm and Home Center, 7:30 p.m.
Pennsylvania Farmer's Union annual convention, Hotel Hershey.

Thursday, November 7
Fayette County DHIA annual meeting, 7:30 p.m., Glison's Restaurant.
Lancaster County Poultry Association annual banquet, Four Seasons Restaurant, Landisville, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, November 8
Keystone International Livestock Exhibition, Farm Show Complex; continues through Nov. 13.

1985 Southeast Holstein Seminar, Walkersville Fire Hall, Walkersville, Md.
Nittany Lion Fall Classic, Ag Arena, University Park.
Pa. Livestock Association annual meeting, Harrisburg East Sheraton.

Saturday, November 9
Cumberland County Convention, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Best Western Inn and Restaurant, Carlisle.
NAILE, Louisville, Ky.; continues through Nov. 22
Pa. State Beekeepers Association annual winter meeting and banquet, Country Cupboard, Lewisburg.

