



OPINION

Change Your Circumstances

You can place annoying circumstances into two categories: those circumstances you can change and those you cannot. Often the proper application of faith, ingenuity and hard work can do wonders for the rough spots in life. But what makes Murphy's Laws so appropriate at times is that they are so often true. Who can seriously argue with the fact that, "nothing is as easy as it looks; everything takes longer than you think; and if anything can go wrong, it will"? Other "truths" we have discovered over the years include:

"A day without a crisis is a total loss."
 "The other line at the bank always moves faster."

"The only tool you can't find is the one you're looking for."

"The repairman will never have seen a model quite like yours before."

"A socket dropped while repairing the combine will roll underneath and locate itself in the exact center."

"There will always be at least one handful of hardware remaining after the completion of every major repair job."

"The light at the end of the tunnel is often the headlamp of an oncoming train."

Once you have concluded that there are things in life you can't change and learn how to laugh, you become a pretty formidable foe to the hard times that life brings.

Respect A Loaded Gun

We have a sad story to report this week. A 59-year-old farmer who farmed all his life, raised his family and built a fine reputation in his community has had an accident.

While transporting a 300 gallon sprayer tank of diluted herbicide and insecticide, the hitch broke at the point where he needed to ford a small stream. Before the farmer could react the sprayer tipped up and spilled about half tank of the mix into the stream. Fish and other aquatic life were killed in the stream. Even after 36 hours, fish one half mile down stream from the accident were acting crazy—gulping for air.

The farm family feels so sorrowful about the accident they

can hardly talk about it. We only mention it here to once again, as forcefully as possible, remind farmers that when we handle chemicals we have a God-given public trust to be absolutely flawless in our precautions for safety.

These materials are lethal. That's why we apply them to weeds and worms. And used properly they are a benefit to agriculture that we cannot afford to be without in these days of modern farming.

But we must handle these materials as we would a loaded gun—pointed in the right direction with the proper buckshot and gun powder in the shell. A word to the wise is sufficient.



NOW IS THE TIME

By Jay Irwin

Lancaster County Agriculture Agent

For Haylage and Hay Making

Good quality forages can help farmers generate more cash income with little to no additional expense. And, what farmer couldn't use that right now! Cows produce more milk and livestock gain more rapidly on higher quality forages. The need for purchased concentrates is also generally reduced. So, if you are growing forages, concentrate on improving forage quality and nutrient yield per acre.

Most important to quality is stage of maturity at time of harvest. For established stands of alfalfa, harvest the first cutting at the late bud stage; later cuttings can be harvested in the late bud to

early bloom stage....about 35 to 42 days after the previous cutting. To enhance the vigor and longevity of the stand, at least one of the cuttings should be allowed to bloom. Similarly, the first cutting of a new seeding of alfalfa should be made in the early bloom stage.

Grasses should be cut in the boot stage of maturity, just as the heads are beginning to emerge.

To Be Aware of Corn Insects

With the increased trend toward no-till corn planting or minimum tillage, we can expect more problems with corn insects. Past experience shows this. We urge corn growers to inspect their fields frequently to observe any feeding on small plants. You can have cutworms, stalk borers and armyworms at any time feeding on the corn plant. The Agronomy Guide lists several materials for the control of cutworms and armyworms, including Sevin, Lorsban, Furadan or Dylox. The stalk borer is very difficult to control because they work inside the corn stalk.

Flea beetles are another insect that may feed on small corn leaves; they create small holes in the leaves but seldom do extensive damage. Sevin can be used to eliminate these small insects, if it is serious enough. Keep an eye on the corn field for the first several weeks and avoid serious insect injury.

To Continue Forage Feeding

Dairymen and beef cattle producers should continue to feed some dry matter while the animals are on pasture. The feeding of hay or silage when the cattle are turned out to pasture will result in more uniform production. Also, keeping some dry matter in the ration will help prevent serious scouring and bloating.

Some producers provide this forage by way of a portable hay or feed bunk in the pasture area. The animals should consume some of the dry forage along with lush spring pasture. The hay should be fed early in the day, before the herd goes to the new pasture. Later in the season the stored hay or silage will continue to be useful when growth slows down due to dry weather and high temperatures.

To Read The Label

I am sure you have heard this suggestion before, however, it is still very important to all farmers and gardeners.

Every pesticide carries a label with directions; this should be read and followed during the application of the material. Don't make the mistake of applying the material in error. The labels are required by law and should be respected by the user.

Serious losses may occur, if the directions are not followed. Materials should always be kept in their original container and stored in a separate place under padlock.

FARM FORUM OUR READERS WRITE

Dear Editor,

The Irish Dairy Venture in Georgia is an insult to this country's fine dairy farmers.

While this country was built on free enterprise, it was not established with a foundation of false pretenses. It is my understanding that the Irish firm applied for and received industrial development loans. These loans have lower interest rates than standard farm loans. Someone appears to have been willingly or inadvertently misled.

A grave injustice has been done to the American farmer, the backbone of this country. It is they as well as the American public who will pay for this demoralizing "venture."

Today dairymen are voluntarily leaving a way of life, not just an occupation, due to the milk surplus. Yet the government has seemingly abandoned the farmer by allowing our shores to be invaded by foreign investors who will further weaken this troubled industry.

I urge every red-blooded American farmer to write to their Congressman and present their views on this subject. It is one way we can prevent it from happening in the future.

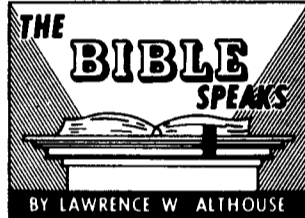
Sincerely,
 Name Withheld
 Bucks County

Thursday, May 22

Annual Awards Dinner, Pa. Horse Breeders Assoc., Hershey Hotel.

Friday, May 23

Bradford County dairy princess pageant dinner, Troy Senior



FOR THE PERSON WHO HAS EVERYTHING
 May 18, 1986

Background Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12 through 13.

Devotional Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:6-16.

It is strange what people do with the Gifts God gives them. No sooner does he give them something special than they find some way of perverting the gift. Instead of the blessing it was intended to be, the gift becomes a bone of contention between God's children. Instead of gratitude, the gifts often inspire pride. Intended to enrich the human community, the gifts often become the source of division in that community.

Consider the gifts of the Spirit. In the early church God blessed the followers of Jesus with wonderful

High School, 7 p.m.
 Farmer's Forum, 7 p.m., Rutter's Restaurant, Red Lion.

Saturday, May 24

Rural Preservation in Pa. Conference, Stahr Hall, Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster.

Bradford County dairy festival and dairy princess pageant, Troy High School.

Wyoming-Lacawanna County dairy princess pageant, Moose Hall, Tunkhannock.

(Turn to Page A38)

spiritual gifts: the utterance of knowledge, wisdom, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, tongues, and interpretation. Given for the enrichment of the early Christians, the gifts soon became a cause for dissension and bitterness in the church. Instead of uniting congregations, the gifts seemed to divide them. Instead of making people more thankful to God, they seemed to become more prideful. Instead of inspiring love, the gifts engendered hostility.

ONE IN MANY

The list of God's gifts may not be quite the same today, but the situation is—people still pervert his gifts and thwart his will. Therefore, Paul's powerful message to the Church at Corinth is still very timely for us and our situation. In 1 Corinthians 12, Paul recognized the great diversity of gifts, varieties of service, and ways of working, but emphasized again and again that there was but one Spirit, one Lord, one God as source of that diversity. Instead of being separated by our variety of gifts, we are united by our common source.

Paul emphasized that all the gifts given to us from this common source are intended, not just for the enjoyment of the few, but to employ for "the common good." Thus, if you have a spiritual gift from God it is for the purpose of helping someone else. And, in fact, everyone is given some gift that is needed for "the common good." To be sure, some gifts are more spectacular, some more rare, but all of us are given something to contribute to others. So, just as we are one in the Source of our gifts, so we are also one in our need for each other's gift.

STILL MORE EXCELLENT

If you must contend over what is the highest of all God's gifts, says Paul to the Corinthians, then concentrate on that which is "a still more excellent way"—the peerless gift. For, without this gift, all other gifts are useless. And what is this gift that is higher than tongues, prophetic powers, the understanding of all mysteries, and faith that can move mountains? The answer: love—the love that puts all these gifts at the disposal of others.

For the person who has everything else, love is still the best of all gifts. For without it, they have nothing.

Based on copyrighted outlines produced by the Committee on the Uniform Series and used by permission. Released by Community & Suburban Press

Farm Calendar

Saturday, May 17

Goodville Fire Company Spring Community Sale, 9 a.m. to ?
 Quilt auction at 1 p.m., Goodville Fire Co., Rt. 23 between Blue Ball and Morgantown.

Bradford County 4-H Council meeting, Extension office.

Somerset County dairy princess banquet and pageant, 6:45/8 p.m., Somerset Country Club, Somerset.

Mifflin County dairy princess pageant.

Rabies Clinic, Rehrersburg Lions Grounds, Rehrersburg.

Sunday, May 18

Luzerne County 4-H Horse Club's Open Western Show, fairgrounds, Rt. 118 Dallas.

Centre County dairy princess pageant, Logan Grange Hall, Pleasant Gap.

Monday, May 19

Question and Answer Sheep Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Lancaster

Farm and Home Center.

Lancaster Area Sewing Network, 6:30 p.m., Horst Building, Delp Road, Lancaster. For more information, call Ms. Tammie Harsh at 285-4309.

Adams County Beekeepers meeting, 7 p.m., Gary Becker beeyard, 1719 Old Carlisle Road, Aspers.

Tuesday, May 20

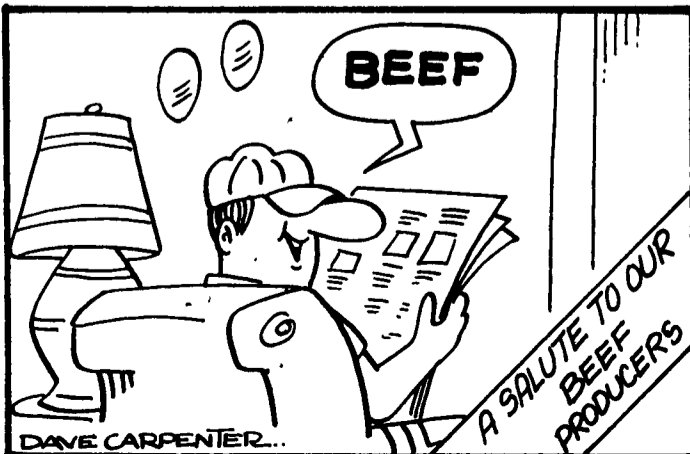
York County Tax Reassessment Meeting, Spring Grove Area Junior High School Auditorium, Roths Church Road, Spring Grove, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 21

Hunterdon County N.J. Agriculture Development Board Meeting, Extension Center, 8 p.m.

Veterinary Nutrition Forum, Host Town, Rt. 501 Lancaster. Dinner, 7 p.m.; program, 8 p.m.

Huntingdon County Holstein Director's Meeting, E. James McMath's, 7:30 p.m.



A SALUTE TO OUR BEEF PRODUCERS