



OPINION

Rediscover Enthusiasm

Stan Deen gave the Lancaster County Extension directors and their guests some food for thought Monday evening. Deen thinks adults need to show the younger generation some enthusiasm for living. He should know since he teaches teenagers at Gardon Spot High School. "Sometimes we don't let our young people see we are enjoying life," he said. "You need to look at yourself as a reflection. Learn from your failures. Don't be afraid to take chances."

He told the group of his experience taking care of his mother who at the age of 70 experienced a stroke. Son and mother turned the experience, with possible negative ramifications, into a learning experience with positive results.

Often times the heroism of those with handicaps put us to shame. The word futility even sounds ugly. It implies that in my situation I may think I'm worthless, useless or trivial. My efforts are a waste of time.

In "Breaking New Ground", a newsletter for farmers with physical disabilities, a warning against this kind of thinking is given. Don't give in to that barn

yard residue. Don't let anyone, especially yourself, persuade you that life doesn't have worth. From the moment of your conception you had value. And your life will always be worth living.

George Moyer, Myerstown R1, now gives a safety program for farmers since going through an experience where he stepped into a harvester's universal drive shaft and lost his left foot. At the time he thought his farming career was ended. But neighbors and friends kept his farming operation going until he could recover. He learned much about his friends. And he learned about himself. He learned to make adjustments. Now he uses his experience to help others see the danger of farm equipment.

Deen further recommended that we stop believing everything we hear. "So much that is fed to us in the media is negative," he said. "We need to focus on the positive. If you have a problem, find someone else you can have a burden for. Work to help that person, and you won't have time to think about yourself," Deen said. "Learn to stay out of step. Rediscover enthusiasm."



NOW IS THE TIME

By Jay Irwin

Lancaster County Agriculture Agent

To Take Time To Be Safe

Once every four years the average farm laborer can expect to be injured so severely that medical attention is required. Our safety engineers tell us that agricultural workers are much more susceptible to accidents and injury than industrial workers.

Many pieces of farm machinery need to be repaired and adjusted on the job. Some of this is done while the machinery is operating and on the run. This is dangerous and we urge you to stop the machine and shut it off before any adjustments are made. Just a few seconds of patience could save a life or a vital part of the human body. Farm machinery has replaced the dairy bull as the main cause of farm accidents. Keep in mind however, it is not the machinery that is at fault in most cases, but the operator who does not take time to be safe.

To Plan For Fall Seeding

The late summer and fall seeding season is coming rapidly; August seedings of alfalfa should now be in the planning stage. Winter oats, barley and wheat seedings should be planned and orders placed for the right kind of seed. Don't wait until seeding time and then discover the supply is exhausted. Certified seed is highly suggested in order to realize the most from all inputs.

If you plan to use homegrown seed from a healthy field, the seed should be tested at the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture seed lab; don't waste time and money on poor quality seeds; you could be spreading disease and more weeds.

To Determine This Winter's Feed Needs

Harvest time is usually one of the best times for buying good quality feeds at a reasonable price. In addition to price being more reasonable you also have more time to shop for the kind of feed you need, and to negotiate prices and purchasing agreement. Take a good look at your hay supply; the dry season in the southern states is forcing those farmers to buy early, so the price per ton will move up as the season progresses.

Can you afford to make advanced purchases at current interest rates? That depends on the price savings you can negotiate plus the value of any additional production you can obtain from your cows. The added production could be your biggest benefit if

advanced purchases enable you to assemble sufficient quantities of fairly uniform quality feeds far enough in advance of need to give you ample time to develop a balanced ration.

To Understand The pH Effect on Pesticides

Many pesticides, particularly the organic phosphates such as Cygon and Diazinon and Carbonate insecticides such as Sevin and Furidan are decomposed quite rapidly by alkaline water (pH 7.0). The decomposition is due to alkaline hydrolysis of the molecule which is converted to a form that is frequently inactive.

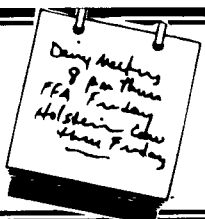
For this reason, in areas where water supplies are greater than pH 7.0, better pest control will be obtained if the pH is lowered to a range where pesticide stability is maintained. For most insecticides the optimum pH is below 6.0. Let's look at a few examples of how pH affects stability of pesticides.

Dylox decomposes rapidly above 6.0 pH—at a pH of 8.0 in only 63 minutes, a pH of 7.0 only 386 minutes and a pH of 6.0 will require 89 hours to decompose. Sevin will be 50 percent decomposed within 24 hours in a 9.0 pH water.

As a general rule, most pesticides undergo some degree of hydrolysis in alkaline solutions. If you experience a situation with a high pH water, we suggest you look for another source of water with a lower pH rather than try to change the pH of your water supply.

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Farm Calendar



Saturday, July 19
Pa. Cattlemen's Field Day, Rolling Ridge Farms, Karns City. Contact Lowell Wilson, 814-863-3659.
Grand Squares Dance, East Petersburg Fire Hall, 8 p.m.
Summer Picnic, Pa. State Beekeeper's Association, Delaware Valley College, Doylestown.
Mid-Atlantic Classic Hampshire Sheep Show and Sale, Manheim Fairgrounds.
Pa. Ayrshire Field Day, Paul Kemerer Farm, Latrobe.
Berks County Night at Reading Phillies; between games promotion.
Tenth annual Snitz and Knepp Festival, Enders Grove, 4 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Shippensburg Fair, Shippensburg; continues through July 28.
Lancaster County Horse Roundup, Lower Hopewell Horse Center, Lititz.

Sunday, July 20
Lancaster County Youth Conservation School; continues through July 26.
Clarion County Fair, New Bethlehem; continues through July 26.

Monday, July 21
Field Tour, Pa. Vegetable

Grower's Association, Rock Springs Ag Center near State College.
Big Butler Fair, Butler; continues through July 26.
Kimberton Fair, Phoenixville; continues through July 28.
Troy Fair, Troy; continues through July 26.
Huntingdon County Swine Fitting and Showing, Warriors Mark Grange, 7:30 p.m.
Huntingdon County Dairy Promotion Committee Meeting, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, July 22
Troy Dairy Fair, 4-H and FFA.
Conneaut Valley Fair, Conneautville; continues through July 26.
Jefferson Township Fair, Mercer; continues through July 26.
Huntingdon County Jr. Beef Fitting/Showing, Huntingdon Farm, Alexandria, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, July 23
Pa. State Shorthorn Show, Butler Fairgrounds, Butler.
Plainfield Farmer's Fair, PenArgyle; continues through July 26.
Lancaster County 4-H Dairy Roundup, Solanco Fairgrounds.

University of Maryland Tobacco Field Day, Upper Marlboro,

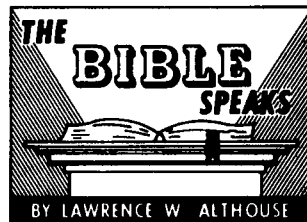
Md. Contact: Claude McKee, 301-627-8440.

Thursday, July 24
Troy Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Jersey Open Dairy Shows.
Sullivan County 4-H Fashion Revue.
Dauphin County 4-H Fair, Farm Show Complex; Continues through July 26.
York County Black and White Show, York County Fairgrounds.
Fayette County Fair, Uniontown; continues through Aug. 2.

Friday, July 25
Penn State Round and Square Dance Festival; continues tomorrow.
Troy Open Holstein Show.
Four-H Fair, Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg.

Saturday, July 26
Berks County 4-H Fair, 4-H and Ag Centers, Leesport.
Huntingdon County 4-H Horse Roundup, Wood Valley Wrangler Ring, 9 a.m.

Sunday, July 27
North American Alfalfa Improvement Conference, St. Paul, Minn., St. Paul Hotel; continues through July 31.



YOUR OWN SOUR GRAPES

July 20, 1986

Background Scripture: Ezekiel 18.

Devotional Reading: Ezekiel 18:14-20.

In 1973 Dr. Karl Menninger of the famous Menninger Clinic in Kansas wrote a book entitled, *Whatever Became Of Sin?* Even if you did not read the book, you may remember hearing of it and recall the ripple of surprise and shock that it caused both in the churches and among the psychotherapists. Here was a man of psychiatry proclaiming that the demise of the concept of sin is very destructive to both society and the emotional health of individuals!

I think it is time for someone to write a sequel: *Whatever Became Of Personal Responsibility?* Actually, these two concepts — a personal sense of sin and personal responsibility — go hand in hand

Annual Meeting, Pa. Bakers Association, Hershey Pocono Resort, White Haven.

Lebanon Area Fair, Lebanon; continues through Aug. 2.
Mercer County Pomona Grange Fair, Mercer; continues through Aug. 2.

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and both are equally unpopular today in our society and even in the churches. What concerns me is not so much the demise of these two ideas, but the demise of a society that turns its backs upon them.

WHOSE SOUR GRAPES?

Of course, I realize what has brought us to this point. At one time, our approach was at the extreme end of the spectrum. Whereas now we rationalize away both sin and responsibility, then we used to approach both of these in a rock-ribbed legalistic — and yes, pharisaic — manner. Because of this, the pendulum began to swing in the other direction. And, as always, the pendulum not only corrected the old excess, but it also swung too far and created a new one.

So, today, when we are confronted with human failure, we tend to try to find some way to rationalize it. "Yes, I goofed, but it wasn't all my fault." Of course, I'm an alcoholic: what would you expect with a childhood like mine?" "All right, I'll admit that was an unfortunate result, but no one's to blame — I was just doing what I was told to." Comedian Flip Wilson always had the Devil for which to blame his failures, but most of us can find a whole host of other persons or other factors to shift the responsibility.

In Judaism there was a belief that bad times were often the result, not of punishment for the wrong done by the present generation, but of God's practice of punishing not only the sinner, but his children and often his children's children. "The fathers have eaten sour grapes," they would say, "and the children's teeth are set on edge" (18:2).

YOUR WAYS & MINE

But God sent Ezekiel to tell the Jews in Babylonian captivity that they were wrong in thinking this way. If their teeth were "set on edge," it was because they, not their fathers, had eaten "sour grapes." The consequences of sin and failure therefore do not mean that God is unjust. "Is it not your ways," God asks, "that are not just?" It is our injustices that produce sour grapes in God's vineyard. If the grapes are sour, they're your own.

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