



# OPINION

## Antagonistic Groups

### Successfully Discuss Concerns

It may not have been a Camp David accord - no pacts were finalized - but a recent symposium in which two historically antagonistic groups discussed the future of animal agriculture was more than a successfully run forum on controversial agricultural topics.

The Northeast Regional Symposium, Future Trends in Animal Agriculture, sponsored by PennAg Industries, Ephrata, was held last week at the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, Md.

It was designed so that representatives from animal agriculture production organizations and animal protection groups could discuss animal welfare and environmental concerns.

More than a well-run seminar?

Much more than that.

It was a glimmer of hope that reasonable people can sit down in good faith and talk without fear.

As trite as it may seem, the occurrence of such a discussion seems to have been a lost ability among people.

At public meetings, on Congressional and Senate floors, in dealing with neighbors or nations, discussing topics rationally, without apparent anger or displayed disgust has become a rarity.

There have been many zealots for many causes over many years.

Zealots grab public attention. They do it in the same way that purposefully misleading, sensational headlines or cheap slapstick routines take hold of American attention.

It wouldn't be so bad if such people and tricks were not taken seriously. But zealots and others who use emotionalistic drama, do little to further understanding and growth for mankind.

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## Farm Calendar



- Saturday, March 31**
- Kentucky National Ayrshire Show & Sale, Kentucky Fair & Expo Center, Louisville, Kentucky.
  - Llama Show and Sale, Farm Show Building, thru April 1.
  - Pennsylvania Beef Expo.
  - Susquehanna Co. Holstein Club Tour, New York.
  - Equine Symposium and Trade Show, David L. Lawrence Convention Center, Pittsburgh, 8:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
  - Pa. Junior Ayrshire Show, Lewis-town, 12:45 p.m.
  - Pa. Guernsey Breeders Blue Halter Calf Sale and Bred Heifer Sale, Chambersburg.
  - Chester Co. Master Gardening Expo, Oakbourne Mansion, Westtown Township, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
  - Luzerne County Cooperative Extension pesticide update training, Penn State Hazleton Campus, 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
  - Newspaper shredding operation demonstration, David and Rebecca Smith farm, Sugar Grove, 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
  - 1990 annual Dairy Tour to Cumberland Co., Bucks County

- Bank Corp. Center, Cross Keys, 7:00 a.m.
- Sunday, April 1**
- Daylight Savings Time!**
- Pennsylvania Beef Expo.
- Monday, April 2**
- Farm Labor Conference, Bigler-ville Fire Hall, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
- 1990 Northeastern Dairy Conference, Stouffer Rochester Plaza Hotel, Rochester, New York, thru April 3.
- Sheep Shearing Schools, Carl Gadsby farm, Grove City, 9:00 a.m., thru April 3.
- Berks Co. Conservation District and ASCS Banquet, Shartlesville Grange Hall, 7:00 p.m.
- Lancaster County YF Volleyball

## Farm Forum

**Editor:**  
I am writing in response to the Lancaster Farming Opinion section - "FFA Teachers Send Open Letter to Pennsylvania Governor". I believe that Mr. Frederick's letter should also reach our Secretary

of Agriculture, our Secretary of Education, and our legislators. It has been an established fact that Pennsylvania ranks last (50th) in state employees per capita population. And the evidence of  
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**NOW IS THE TIME**

By Jay Irwin  
Lancaster County  
Agricultural Agent

#### To Control Wild Garlic

Dairy farmers who pasture their milking herd have the most to lose if they do not eliminate wild garlic from their pasture fields. This fast growing wild onion is already growing in pastures and other grass areas.

The young plants are much easier to kill with herbicides than mature plants. We suggest that the plants be sprayed very soon with 2,4-D. This has proven effective in keeping the young plants from maturing; by spraying early in the spring the legumes in the pasture area will not be injured. Since the wild garlic plant is very well rooted, it may take several sprays over a period of two or more years to eliminate the weed from the area. Don't wait until the plants are mature to make this spray application. Follow label directions when applying any pesticide.

#### To Inspect Pasture Fields

It won't be long before some permanent pastures will be ready to graze. I am afraid that some may be grazed before they are ready. However, another area that I would like to review, is that you should walk over the pasture areas before livestock is turned out. Remove all trash to prevent injury and poisoning. Unfortunately, people still use the rural areas to dispose of their solid trash. Some of this may contain glass or poi-

- Tournament, Solanco High School, 7:00 p.m.
- Frederick Co. Holstein meeting, New Midway Fire Hall, Maryland, 7:00 p.m.
- Berks Co. 4-H Horse Education Night, Berks Co. 4-H Center, 7:00 p.m.
- Surface Water Treatment Workshop for Small Communities,  
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sons that will be harmful to livestock. Remove the litter before the livestock has a chance to become involved. If there is any evidence in the trash reflecting the guilty party (addressed envelopes, etc.), this information should be given to local officials. Most township regulations do not permit dumping of solid waste on private property.

#### To Ventilate Stables

Stables can be very difficult to ventilate in the spring of the year due to frequent and drastic changes in weather. It is important to have a constant change of air to control temperature and humidity and to keep odors and bacteria to a minimum, and this should be done without creating cold drafts on the animals. That means the windows, doors and vents need to be adjusted frequently throughout the day as weather conditions change. This is not convenient to do, but it is a very necessary chore. Many of these adjustments can be automated by installing thermostatically controlled fans and self-adjusting air inlets, both of which need to be properly installed and maintained.

For good herd health, be sure

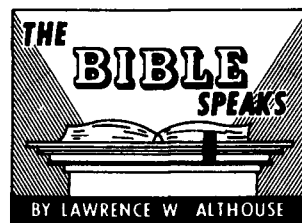
your barns are properly ventilated this spring. It will help improve animals' appetites and reduce the problem of respiratory ailments associated with warm, stuffy barns.

#### To Know About a Powdered Milk Product That Tastes Like Milk

Have you ever tried to drink a glass of reconstituted non-fat dried milk? Chances are, it did not taste like whole milk.

According to Glenn Shirk, Extension Dairy Agent, researchers in Illinois have discovered a formula for mixing precise amounts of water, soybean oil (or other vegetable oils) with non-fat dried milk. The ingredients remain in suspension, once mixed and the product tastes like the real thing, whole milk. Like milk, it can also be pasteurized.

A concentrate mix, could be purchased and kept frozen until needed. Or, if refrigeration is lacking, the ingredients do not have to be frozen; they can be purchased separately and mixed precisely according to the formula. Marketing details are yet to be worked out.



**WHAT IS TRUTH?**  
April 1, 1990

#### Background Scripture:

John 18:15-27.

#### Devotional Reading:

Romans 7:15-25a.

The maid's question was direct: "Are not you also one of this man's disciples?" Peter's response was no less emphatic and direct: "I am not."

Peter would not later be able to say that he didn't understand the question or that his reply had been misunderstood. It was a clearcut case of denial on his part. What could have made him give such an answer in light of his earlier pledge in the upper room: "Lord, why cannot I follow you now? I will lay down my life for you" (13:47). Had he not meant this vow? I think he was quite sincere at that moment. He said it and he meant it. But in the courtyard of Annas, his fear was greater than his loyalty.

#### THREE DENIALS

Can you not understand how Peter felt? Have you never made a vow which you didn't keep? Have you never backed down on good intentions because you were afraid? I have, and for pretty much the same reason that Peter did. I was afraid. Afraid of what? Afraid of being thought different from other people. Afraid of being thought weak or not a "regular fellow," or even unsophisticated. Yes, at times in my life, I have been a closet Christian — willing to practice in secret what I didn't want anyone to know publicly. I

like to tell myself that, if I had been there with Peter, I wouldn't have said "I am not," but who knows what one will say until we actually stand where Peter did.

Jesus had foretold Peter's lapse of loyalty that night in the Upper Room. "Will you lay down your life for me? Truly, truly, I say to you, the cock will not crow til you have denied me three times" (13:38). And that's exactly what happened at the house of Annas. Can you imagine how remorseful Peter must have felt shortly thereafter? Despite his protestations of loyalty, he had betrayed the Master, just as surely as Judas did.

#### WHY AND HOW?

But there is a big difference between Judas and Peter. Peter was redeemed, while Judas wasn't. Terrible as Peter's denial was, God was able to free Peter from his guilt and the disciple became God's great apostle. On the contrary, Judas never recovered from his own treachery. Was it because God could not forgive Judas? No, I think it was because Judas could not forgive himself. Something in his nature kept him from seeking Jesus' forgiveness. Perhaps he was just too proud!

But the important question is not why Peter denied our Lord, but why do we? Or better, perhaps, how we deny him. In what ways do you fail to fulfill your vows to Christ? When do you let him down? How are you disloyal to him? In other words, how do you say "I am not" one of his disciples?

If Peter had been my trusted disciple, I don't know that I would have forgiven him. Yet, because Jesus was willing to redeem Peter, he saved a life that would have been otherwise lost to the church. There can be life after we've said, "I am not."

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UNCLE OTIS MUST BE DOING A LOT OF WORK ON HIS BARN ROOF. I SAW HIM UP ON THE ROOF ALL DAY YESTERDAY AND WHEN I DROVE BY THIS MORNING, I SAW HIM ON THE ROOF AGAIN...

OH NO!



Dave Carpenter

WHAT?

I WENT OVER TO BORROW OTIS'S LADDER YESTERDAY MORNING, I COULDN'T FIND HIM, SO I JUST TOOK HIS LADDER — FROM THE SIDE OF THE BARN

