



OPINION

A Look To The New Year

We come to the end of a year again. The "old" year, 1992, is past and the "new" year is before us.

As we reflect on the past and make resolutions for the future, we must make some personal adjustments. The key to these adjustments comes from our willingness to say good-bye to some things we cannot keep. Farming is such a roller coaster. The markets go up and down. The children get sick. The excellent cow dies. Or the barn burns.

The key question: when everything else fails, what holds you up? Do we have an inner resolve that carries us through?

A lot in life is not fair. Many occurrences are out of our control. But we must let some things go with the old year, the income you should have had or the cow that should have settled, or the children who left home—we need to say good-bye to the things we cannot keep.

The unkind word someone said to you or about you or the angry exchange you gave to someone else, these must go, too.

If we can't say good-bye, we will not have energy to spend on new and exciting possibilities that come to us with each new page of the 1993 calendar.

So, when we ring the new year next Tuesday night, let's forget the things of the past we cannot change and cannot keep and move on to creative ways to do better in the new year.

This will insure that our wish for you will come true—our wish for a "Happy New Year To All!"

Farm Calendar

Saturday, January 2

Sunday, January 3

Monday, January 4

Water Rights, Water Law, and Irrigation Management meeting, Lancaster Farm and Home Center, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
To Will Or Not To Will, Tulpehocken Young Farmers, High School Library.

Tuesday, January 5

Northwestern Pa. Forage Schools, Log Cabin Restaurant, Waterford, thru Jan. 6.

Wednesday, January 6

Farm/Municipal Composting Field Days, Preston Boop's Briar Patch Farm, Mifflinburg, 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Dairy MAP-Managing For Success, Family Time Restaurant, York, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., repeats Jan. 20.

Franklin County Dairy Day, Kauffman's Community Center, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Thursday, January 7

Regional tomato growers meeting, Thompson's Dairy Bar, Lackawanna County, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Farm Financial Management Workshop, Mahantorgo Fire Company Hall, Pitman, 7 p.m.-9 p.m.

Friday, January 8

Northumberland County Winter Conference, Otterbein United Methodist Church, Sunbury, 10 a.m.-3:15 p.m.

Raleigh DHIA Records Workshop, Bart Fire Hall, Georgetown, 12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 9

Pa. State Farm Show, Harrisburg, thru January 14.

Leader's Conference, Linganore United Methodist Church, Unionville, Md., 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Baby Lamb Survival Conference, Dept. of Ag, Rt. 92, Tunkhannock, 9:30 a.m.-noon.

Sunday, January 10

Monday, January 11

Raleigh DHIA Records Workshop, White Horse Fire Hall, White Horse, 12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Tuesday, January 12

New Jersey annual vegetable meeting, Trump Taj Mahal, Atlantic City, thru Jan. 14.

Evergreen Plant Identification, Lehigh Co. Ag Center, Allentown, repeats Jan. 13, 19, 20.

Pa. Flying Farmers, Farm Show Complex, Room D, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Dairy Cow Nutrition Short Course, Cecil County Extension, Elkton, Md., 10 a.m.-2 p.m., repeats Jan. 19.

Wednesday, January 13

Vet. Assoc. annual dairy meeting, (Turn to Page A11)

Farm Forum

Editor:

The front page article of the Dec. 19, 1992 issue of *Lancaster Farming* — "Curator Says Present Agriculture To Become Obsolete" — could shock the bejeepers out of a farmer who has seen the price of corn drop from more than \$3.50 per bushel 10 years ago, to less than \$2.50 this year.

However, don't sell the farm yet!

It is obvious that Mr. (Dr. G. Terry) Sharrer (curator of agriculture at the Smithsonian Institute) is a theorist and definitely not a pragmatist.

That is the entire problem with our world today — we are following the theorists rather than the pragmatists, and look where we are headed.

Sixty years ago, we followed theorists who said we could borrow and spend the world into prosperity. What happened?

Follow the news. We have borrowed ourselves into slavery to lenders.

Several decades ago, they spoke



NOW IS THE TIME
By John Schwartz
Lancaster County Agricultural Agent

To Make Plans For 1993 Farm Show

Next Saturday marks the opening of the 1993 Pennsylvania Farm Show.

Some of this year's highlights include a life-size butter sculpture depicting an old-time ice cream vendor, baby animal learning center, cooking demonstrations by student chefs, ice sculptures, and a "ton of change" fundraiser for 4-H.

Special events include Scooper-bowl Saturday where a \$3 charitable contribution entitles you to all the ice cream you can eat, rodeo on Saturday, sheep to shawl contest Monday, Folk Dance Festival on Monday night, horse and pony pulling on Tuesday and Wednesday nights, and Dairy Fun Night on Tuesday evening.

Governor's Day on Sunday starts with a nondomination service, the Governor's Review, and entertainment by the Hegeman String Band, the draft horse hitched competition, and the Junior Tamburitians of South Hills. The show also features many commercial exhibits, animals, Pennsylvania commodities, and the Food Court.

Admission is free and there is a \$2 per vehicle parking fee. The Farm Show runs from January 9 to the 14.

To Name A Guardian

Alan Strock, extension farm management agent, reminds us it is very important to choose a guardian to manage our affairs when

we are no longer capable of doing them ourselves.

Sometimes those who are still alive but incapable of managing their affairs seem reluctant to name someone to take care of matters. A legal guardianship assigns responsibilities of one person to another, enabling the guardian to have access to bank accounts and other investments, pay bills, make purchases, and in general take care of the ward's financial transactions.

People who need a guardian because they are physically or mentally unable to manage their finances receive one either by assigning one themselves or having the court appoint a person.

When the court appoints a guardian, they consider kinship and geographical proximity. The court may appoint someone that you would not have chosen yourself. In addition, a court-appointed guardian faces a tremendous burden of paperwork and bureaucracy.

The solution is easy. With the help of a lawyer, perhaps the one who wrote your will, draw up a

simple durable power of attorney that will assign responsibility to a guardian of your choice.

The problem with a durable power of attorney is that it must be drawn up when the person is still capable of making important legal decisions. When you are incapacitated, it is too late.

To Have A Happy 1993

We are beginning a new year with new hopes, ideas, and challenges. Now is a good time to gather the family around and share dreams and hopes for 1993.

Discuss things you would like to do as a family — changes that need to be made and accomplishments to be achieved.

By spending time talking and dreaming, we can make 1993 a very happy and prosperous New Year.

Best wishes as you work to make your dreams come true.

Feather Prof's Footnote: "If there's a better way to do it . . . find it." — Thomas Edison



ARE YOU A CHARISMATIC
January 3, 1993

Background Scripture:

Acts 2

Devotional Reading:

Acts 2:14-21

I've been asked that question quite a few times over the years. Sometimes it has been asked by someone who wanted to know if I was of a kindred Pentecostal spirit. Others have wanted to be sure that I wasn't "one of those". I'm not sure how satisfying my answer has been for either of these camps: "Yes, I'm charismatic; all Christians are".

Charisma, of course comes from the Greek word for "gift" and it is particularly used in the New Testament to denote the spiritual gifts which God gives to his people. Although, according to Paul, the gifts of the Holy Spirit are diverse (1 Cor. 12), he implies that all true Christians experience God's Holy Spirit and are gifted by him. So, to be a sincere follower of Jesus Christ is to be gifted by God in one or more ways — in other words, charismatic.

GLOSSALALIA

I'm aware, however, that in our time the word "charismatic" often is given a much narrower definition and in the minds of many refers solely to those Christians who seek and find those spiritual gifts given in a state of ecstatic fervor — most often, glossalalia or "speaking in tongues," an experience that Paul termed the least of gifts and which in ancient and contemporary times has divided the churches. In 1 Corinthians 14:18, 19 Paul says:

"...nevertheless, in church I would rather speak five words with my mind, in order to instruct others, than ten thousand words in a tongue".

I have no problem with those Christians who "speak in tongues", but neither am I willing to grant that their experience is normative for charismatic Christianity. The ecstatic experience is not for all Christians and the particular experience of the glossalalia people is not broad enough to cov-

er all of the work of the Holy Spirit.

Actually, the Pentecost experience of Acts 2 is a broadening, rather than narrowing experience. For one thing, the Holy Spirit came upon all — not just the more devout or doctrinally correct — who "were all together in one place" (2:1). We don't know whether those gathered together were 12 or 120 in number, but the writer of Acts tells us, "And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit" (2:4). This was an inclusive, not an exclusive or divisive experience.

GOOD NEWS, NOT BABBLING

This experience is also quite different from what Paul speaks of in his letters to the church at Corinth. There, they spoke in unintelligible sounds, like the glossalalia of today. But the writer of Acts tells us that all the disciples "began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance" (2:4). These were not unintelligible sounds but foreign languages, for there were lots of foreigners in Jerusalem from "every nation under heaven" and "each one heard them speaking in his own language" (2:6). This was not incoherent babbling, but the good news of Jesus Christ in a variety of foreign languages — the writer of Acts suggests at least 15.

So, instead of dividing this great throng, the gifts of the Holy Spirit actually united these people. As Theodore P. Ferris says, "They were a group of people who probably had nothing else in common save this one thing: they loved Jesus".* When people love Jesus, no matter how diverse they may be or varied the means in which they express their love of Jesus, the gifts of God's Holy Spirit unites them and reaches out to unite the world as well. In that, we are all charismatics and pentacostals.

* (The Interpreter's Bible, Vol. 9, Abington Cokesbury Press, 1954, p. 38).

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