



OPINION

Good Works!

Good things about farm youth programs surfaced at the Manheim Fair FFA and 4-H livestock auction last Friday evening. Record total receipts were received by the young project owners. But the real story is about selling and reselling these animals to benefit community projects.

Hoss' Steak and Sea House bought the grand champion steer and donated the steer to be resold for 4-H and FFA projects. Stiegel Construction bought the steer the second time.

Casey High, owner of the grand champion steer, bought a lamb and had it resold to benefit the 4-H livestock judging team's travel fund.

The Seibert family bought a lamb and had it resold to benefit the FFA greenhouse building fund. Larry and Carol Huber and Ken Witmer got into the act as this lamb was resold two more times for the same cause.

But the gift with feeling was recorded when Katye Allen, who had been given a bottle lamb to raise by Kirt Diffenderfer, donated all the proceeds from the sale of her lamb to Clare House, a home in Lancaster for battered and abused women.

Without telling anyone, Dorothy Heistand came to the sale to buy this lamb and paid \$9 a pound or a total of \$846 in memory of her late husband Walter. Walter and Dorothy had been long-time 4-H leaders in the community.

A few tears were shed at the memory of Walter, the impact of the generosity of a little girl and her lamb, and the needs of the occupants of Clare House, spread over the consciousness of the crowded sale barn.

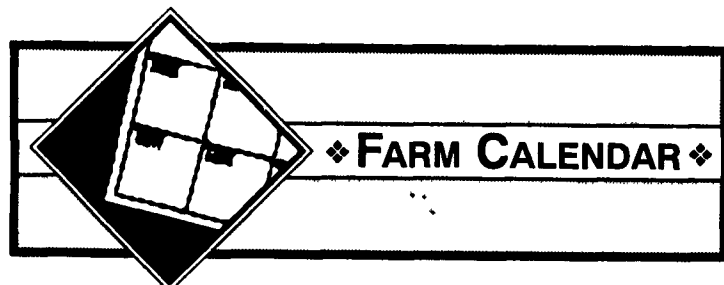
And before the emotions could quite calm down, it was announced that the gift lamb would be resold for additional support of the home. Lancaster Ford added another \$258 to the fund for a total gift of more than \$1,100.

Last week, our editorial focused on bad examples set by adults and youths in showing their livestock. This week we are happy to report that we saw some great examples of what's good about youth programs and the adults who lead them.

And these kinds of "good works" were not limited to Manheim. Over and over again during this fair season from June to October, charitable causes were supported by special donations from buyers at youth livestock project sales across our large coverage area.

To say "keep up the good works" seems a bit inadequate in light of all the good works that have been done. But we are going to say it anyway.

"Keep up the good works!"



FARM CALENDAR

Saturday, October 21

Olde Queen Anne's Days, Queen Anne's County 4-H Park, Centreville, thru Oct. 22.

Blue Mountain Antique Gas and Steam Engine Association Fall Harvest and Sawmill Show, Jacktown Community Center, Bangor, thru Oct. 22.

Dairy and Animal Science Student Open House, Penn State.

16th Annual Woodsboro Fall Festival, Woodsboro, Md., thru Oct. 22.

Sunday, October 22

Horse Trials, Baby Novice Through Open Novice, Thorncroft, Malvern.

North American Maple Syrup Council annual meeting, Ambassador Hotel and Convention Centre, Kingston, Ontario, Canada, thru Oct. 24.

Pa. State Grange Annual Convention, Radisson, West Middlesex, thru Oct. 26.

Monday, October 23

ADADC Dist. 14 meeting, Tally Ho Restaurant, Kanona, N.Y., 7:30 p.m.

Pa. State Grange Annual Convention, Radisson, West Middlesex, thru Oct. 26.

Tuesday, October 24

Lancaster County Poultry Association annual banquet, Willow Valley Convention Center, Willow Street, 6:30 p.m.

USDA Livestock Export Workshop, Sherton Inn, Ithaca, N.Y., thru Oct. 25.

Nutrient Management Regulation/Legislation meeting, Lebanon County Ag Center, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Wednesday, October 25

Alternative Ag Fall Farm Tour to visit farms in Charles, St. Mary's, and Calvert counties, Md.

Dairy Cattle Foot Care barn meetings, Crystal Spring Farm, Schnecksville, 10 a.m. and WoBo Farms, Ottsville, 1:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 26

Using Small Grains/Brassicas to Extend the Grazing Season, Nevin and Audrey Mast Dairy Farm, Oley, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.



Now Is The Time

By John Schwartz

Lancaster County Agricultural Agent

To Watch For Moldy Feeds

Glenn Shirk, extension dairy agent, warns us that moldy feeds may be a problem this year.

We had the right conditions around harvest time to cause mold growth, especially in corn. With mold growth comes mycotoxin formation.

Shirk also reminds us that feeding moldy feed may be very costly. It affects animals in various ways. Pigs, horses and poultry are more sensitive than ruminants. However, molds and mycotoxins can affect ruminants. Young, unhealthy and stressed animals are more susceptible.

For more information on moldy feeds and how to prevent and manage them, read Glenn Shirk's article in this week's *Lancaster Farming*.

Proper action now could prevent serious problems later.

To Know About Junk Science

A coalition of food and nutrition professionals and scientists concerned about the proliferation of reports that exaggerate and distort science have developed a list of 10 red flags to help people spot "junk" science.

According to Dr. Janet Hunt, chair of the Food and Nutrition Science Alliance, people may use these tips to evaluate reports on nutrition and health issues before jumping to premature conclusions.

These 10 red flags of junk science are:

1. Recommendations that prom-

ise a quick fix.

2. Dire warnings of danger from a single product.

3. Claims that sound too good to be true.

4. Simplistic conclusions drawn from a complex study.

5. Recommendations based on a single study.

6. Dramatic statements that are retuted by reputable scientific organizations.

7. Lists of "good" and "bad" foods.

8. Recommendations made to help sell a product.

9. Recommendations based on studies published without peer review.

10. Recommendations from studies that ignore differences among individuals or groups.

To Keep Heifers From First Calf Heifers

Beef herds on heifer AI programs are finding that the replacement heifers retained from first calf heifers provide the best genetics, combined with low birth weight EPDs and high maternal value, according to Chester Hugh-

es, extension livestock agent.

Since these heifers are sired by calving ease sires, a majority of them will reduce frame size and be earlier maturing than heifers from mature cows.

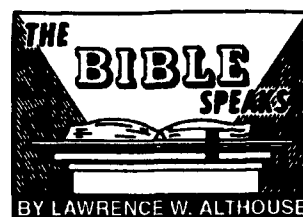
If your management is on target, these heifers will often be the older ones, ready to breed before the main cow herd.

In fact, one common mistake producers may make is selecting heifers on adjusted weaning weights, often ending up with many young heifers in their replacement group. These heifers could be 45 days younger than the majority of your calf crop and may not reach puberty in time to breed them ahead of the cow herd.

By choosing older heifers, you can avoid these problems and keep your replacements from the cows who calved first.

Good replacement heifers are certainly worth the expense of raising them. Knowing the genetic potential of the heifers and cows in your herd can help make important selection and culling decisions.

Feather Prof.'s Footnote: "Recognize your unique gifts and strive to maximize their use."



WHAT, NO FAVORITES?
October 22, 1995

WHAT, NO FAVORITES?
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Background Scripture:

Acts 10:1-11:18

Devotional Reading:

Acts 10:9-23

Some of us may not mind so much that God accepts others into his kingdom besides us and our kind, but it is disconcerting to learn that God has no favorites. At least that's what Peter tells us: "Truly I perceive that God shows no partiality, but in every nation any one who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him" (10:34,35).

And if you read these same verses in the Jerusalem, Moffat, and New English versions, it seems even clearer: "I now see how true it is that God has no favorites . . ." (NEB). Well, of course, we all know that, don't we?

But do we really believe it? Isn't favoritism what attracts some to a particular religious group — the opportunity to become God's favorites, to have the inside track, to stand in some special relationship with our creator? On a conscious level we would deny that, but this expectation often shows up in our unconscious attitudes.

"ALL THE PEOPLE"

For Peter this was a shocking discovery. As a Jew, he counted himself as one of God's chosen people. That conviction couldn't help but affect his thinking, as well as most of the first Christians. It was one thing to tolerate Gentiles among the followers of Jesus, but that didn't mean that Peter and the others accepted them as full-fledged disciples.

From our vantage point of time we can see how wrong they were, that the good news of Jesus Christ was not just for the Jews but for all people — just as the angels at his birth had proclaimed, "I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people" (Luke 2:10b), and Jesus had commanded

after his resurrection, "Go and make disciples of all nations . . ." (Matt. 28:19).

Yes, we are hardly in a position to condemn them, for Christians since then have hardly compiled a more attractive record. History reminds us of those painful episodes wherein Jews were hated and persecuted as "the killers of Christ." Most of us can remember when churches barred their doors to African Americans and when Protestants and Roman Catholics regarded each other as "the enemy" instead of "brothers and sisters." Of course, some of these prejudices still plague the Church.

ENLIGHTENED?

Today, some are as surprised as Peter was when they find that pastoral gifts fall upon women as well as men. It was only 40 years ago — a long or short period of time depending upon your point of view — that I was ordained. I thought then that I was very enlightened, but I must admit that I never dreamed in those days that there would ever be women clergy. It seemed part of God's great plan to keep that calling as an exclusive enclave for men.

No matter how reluctant Peter was to accept this message from God, we can appreciate what it cost him to acknowledge: "if then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us . . . who was I that I could withstand God? (11:17). That's what we must realize, too: to exclude other people on the basis that they are different from us, that their ways are strange to us, or that we have always believed that they were in some way inferior to us, means nothing less than withstanding God — a fearful position for any follower of Jesus Christ!

Even Peter's listeners had to acknowledge that: "When they heard this (Peter's testimony) they were silenced. And they glorified God . . ."

And so may we all.

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(Turn to Page A26)