



OPINION

Friendships Across Farm-City Fencerows

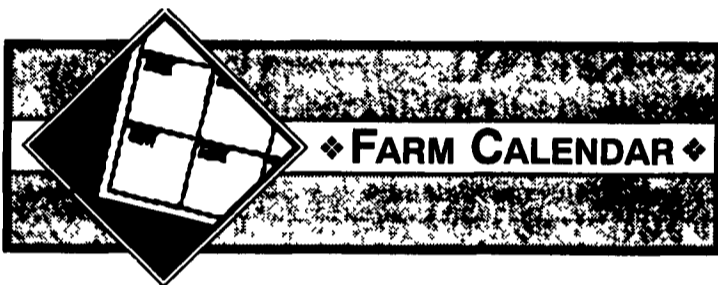
Next week is National 4-H Week. 4-H'ers from around the nation are joining together to celebrate the youth organization and the ideals for which it stands.

When you ask someone to visualize a 4-H member, he may think of a young boy leading a cow around a show ring or a girl baking cookies. The Lackawanna County cooperative extension reports that 4-H isn't just cows and cooking anymore. It is camping, fishing, pet care, leadership skills, crafts, sewing, shooting, archery, public speaking, gardening, child care, financial management, woodworking, and much more.

4-H is an informal learning experience for all boys and girls, ages 8 to 19. An educational program of the land grant universities, 4-H focuses on developing the whole person, symbolized by the 4-H's head, heart, hands, and health.

The 4-H program reaches youth through community clubs, special interests groups, and school enrichment programs. With the help of adult volunteer leaders, each 4-H group designs its own program to help members "learn by doing." In Pennsylvania 4-H members have over 200 projects from which to choose.

Our hats are off to all the 4-H members and their volunteer leaders, as well as the extension personnel who provide the backbone of the programs. Because of 4-H not only do many youth gain experience in practical arts, they make friendships across farm and city fencerows that can last a lifetime.



Saturday, October 5
Maryland Chapter of the Walnut Council, Denton and Preston, Maryland.

Falmouth Goat Race, Governor's Stable Park, 8 a.m.

Sunday, October 6
National 4-H Week, thru Oct. 12. Pa. Association of Conservation District's Annual Conference, Willow Valley Resort.

Solanco Young Farmers' family picnic, Aument farm, Shoemaker Road, 1 p.m.

John Deere Antique Tractor Collectors' Show, Pikeville Equipment, Inc., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

49th Joint Annual Conference of State Conservation Commission and Pa. Assn. of Conservation Districts, Willow Valley Family Resort, Lancaster.

Monday, October 7
Holidaysburg Community Fair, thru Oct. 10.

Manheim Community Farm Show, thru Oct. 11.

Septic Sand Mound Workshop, Days Inn, State College, 8:30 a.m.

Two-session program on farm record keeping, extension office, Towanda, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Also Oct. 14.

4-H Achievement Night, Dauphin County Agricultural and National Resource Center, Dauphin, 7 p.m.

District 18 meeting for Dairy Farmers, Greenvillage Drive-in Family Restaurant, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, October 8
Ephrata Area Young Farmers' Meeting, Adamstown Equipment, 7:30 p.m.

Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc. annual meeting, Delmarva Conference Center, Delmar, Md.

ADADC Dist. 16 meeting, Mainsburg Community Center.

Wednesday, October 9
ADADC Dist. 7 meeting, Warrenside Tavern, Bloomsburg, NJ, 7 p.m.

Thursday, October 10
Unionville Community Fair, thru Oct. 12.

Pa. National Horse Show, Farm Show Building.

1996 Chesapeake Bay Program Conference, Ramada Inn, Market Square, Harrisburg, thru Oct. 11.

ADADC Dist. 10 meeting, Brisben Baptist Church, Brisben, N.Y., 8 p.m.

ADADC Dist. 17 meeting, Gibson Grange, Gelatt, 8 p.m.

Friday, October 11
Ag Marketing Conference, Holiday Inn, Bethlehem.

Saturday, October 12

Sunday, October 13

Monday, October 14
Poultry Management and Health Seminar, Kreider Restaurant, Manheim, noon.

ADADC District 6 meeting, Club 211, Middletown, NY, 7:30 p.m.

Berks Poultry Fanciers 1996 Fall Show, Berks 4-H Building, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Tuesday, October 15
Dillsburg Community Fair, thru Oct. 19.

Pasture Walk, David E. Beiler farm, Narvon.

Dairy Lea Coop Inc. Annual Meeting, Four Points Hotel, Liverpool, NY.

Pa. Council of Cooperatives Annual Meeting, Nittany Lion Inn, State College.

Pasture Walk Pequea-Mill Creek, David E. Beiler farm, 10 a.m.-noon.

Maryland and Virginia Milk Producers Cooperative District



Now Is The Time

By John Schwartz

Lancaster County Agricultural Agent

To Pick Up Farm Show Information

The premium list catalogues for the 1997 Pennsylvania State Farm Show have arrived at your local cooperative extension offices.

The premium list provides information on all the classes and competitions at the 1997 show. It has all the rules, entry forms, and closing dates for entries. Many of the classes have a Nov. 5 closing date while others have Oct. 28, Dec. 5, 15 and Jan. 9-11 closing dates. In addition, tentative schedule of events is provided.

The 1997 Farm Show will be held Jan. 11-16. Pick up your free copy of the premium list catalogue at your local cooperative extension office. Read carefully and make sure you make your entries in time.

To Check Forage Blower

A silage blower with a quarter inch too much paddle tip clearance suffers about a 20 percent loss in blowing power, according to Brian DeMaris, New Holland service engineer.

Blower paddle clearance should be checked and possibly realigned every year. This clearance test is the same for the discharge blower on your forage harvester as it is for the blower at the silo.

Clearance between the blower paddles and the outside band should pass over a dime but pick up a nickel at the bottom dead center. Paddle clearance should be tightest when the paddle hangs straight down to the bottom and increase as the paddle rotates upward to discharge the silage.

Without the greater clearance on the up thrust, the band would prob-

meeting, Fulton Grange Hall, Wakefield, noon.

Dauphin County Farm Bureau Fall Meeting and Banquet, Camp Hebron, Halifax, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, October 16
Swine Producers Network Meeting, Albright United Church, Sunbury 7 p.m.

Thursday, October 17
PVMA Annual Meeting, Host Farm Resort Oct. 17-20.

ADADC District 2 Meeting, Sahara Restaurant, Carthage, NY, 8 p.m.

ADADC District 12 Meeting, Sennett Church, Sennett, NY, 7:30 p.m.

Maryland State Grange Annual Session, Venice Inn, Hagerstown, thru Oct. 19.

Friday, October 18
Uniontown Poultry and Farm Show, thru Oct. 20.

Maryland Delaware Grazing Conference, Frederick Community College, thru Oct. 19.

Maryland State Grange Agricul-

ably overheat and rob power. Remember it is the little things overlooked now that waste time and cost money later.

If paddles are worn, they should be replaced. Normal wear would cause paddles to wear beyond adjustment in three to four years, depending on use.

To Conduct 17 Cent

Blower Checkup

According to Brian DeMaris, New Holland service engineer, you should give your forage blower a 17 cent power checkup.

DeMaris states all you need is a few minutes, a nickel, a dime, and two pennies.

First, place a nickel and a dime at the bottom of the blower case. Slowly, by hand, rotate the paddles in a clockwise manner pass the two coins. When properly adjusted, the paddle should pass over the dime but push the nickel up the side of the case to about the eight o'clock

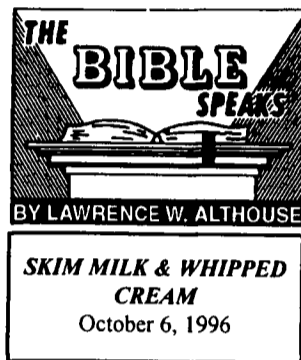
position before there is enough clearance to let the nickel slip by the paddle. If the nickel drops before this, the clearance is unnecessarily wide.

That cuts capacity and throwing distance. Remember to repeat the test for each paddle and make the necessary adjustments.

DeMaris suggests using the two pennies to adjust the paddles. Loosen the paddle mounting bolts and lay the pennies in the bottom of the blower case about an inch from each edge. Slide the paddle down so they touch the pennies. Proper clearance is a penny's width.

Using two pennies, one on each side, assure that the paddle will be square with the band. Then retighten the mounting bolts using a torque wrench. Make sure each bolt is retorqued on every paddle.

Feather Prof.'s Footnote: "Effort and courage are not enough without purpose and direction."



SKIM MILK AND WHIPPED CREAM

October 6, 1996

Background Scripture:

Jeremiah 5

Devotional Reading:

Jeremiah 5:20,21

As I write these words, we are in the midst of one of the three national political conventions. By the time you read this piece, the conventions will be over but the presidential political campaign will be in full swing. And between now and the election itself, we are not likely to hear the truth from anyone involved in the political process.

What if God were to say through a prophet today, as he once said through Jeremiah, "Run to and fro through the streets of (America), look and take note! Search her squares to see if you can find a man who does justice and seeks truth; that I may pardon her" (Jer. 5:1). Would they find such a person in your town? In your home?

You may think I am being too harsh on the politicians, but I am not blaming just them, but all of us for winking at patent dishonesty disseminated for the purpose of inflaming the voters to vote one way or another. We have accepted the premise that we cannot govern ourselves on truth alone. No one gets too upset when political candidates lie, for it is just the way "the game of politics" is played.

AS THE LORD LIVES

If you wonder what all this has to do with the prophet Jeremiah and the religion of Israel, look at his book and see why he is so pessimistic about his own people. "Though they say, 'As the Lord lives,' yet they swear falsely" (5:2). Jeremiah proclaimed doom, not because the people were lax in worship or public piety, but because their morality had become utterly corrupt.

And their corruption is not just a mistake of understanding, but a stubborn willfulness: "Thou hast smitten them, but they felt no anguish; thou hast consumed them, but they refused to take cor-

rection" (5:3). The people have been arrogant in their corruption: "They have spoken falsely of the Lord, and have said, 'He will do nothing; no evil will come upon us, nor shall we see sword or famine'..." (5:12).

These words first spoken more than 2,500 years ago are no more obsolete now than then. Do they not speak of our own morality today? Are these words not appropriate for us: "When I fed them to the full, they committed adultery and trooped to the houses of harlots. They were well-fed lusty stallions, each neighing for his neighbor's wife. Shall I not punish them for these things?" (5:7b,8).

DEFENDING THE NEEDY

During the political campaign we will hear a lot about public welfare and each party will try to persuade the public that they are the ones who will act in the best interests of the needy. But the words are barren without deeds. The people of Jeremiah's Day were also full of words, but the words were insincere and self-serving. So Jeremiah prophesied: "They know no bounds in deeds of wickedness; they judge not with justice the cause of the fatherless, to make it prosper, and they do not defend the rights of the needy. Shall I not punish them for these things?" says the Lord... (5:28,29z).

How did the people in Jeremiah's day become so contemptuous of the Lord? How have we? Isn't it because they persuaded themselves that they could continue in their corruption with no fear of consequences? "But this people has a stubborn and rebellious heart; they have turned aside and gone away" (5:23). It was not that they didn't know better — there were prophets enough to warn them — but that, knowing better, they still trusted in deceitful words rather than in obedient deeds. "They have made their faces harder than rock; they have refused to repent" (5:3c).

Their problem is our problem too: talking whipped cream but living skimmed milk!

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