

# Lancaster Farming

## OPINION

### Good Dinner For Thanksgiving And Every Day

Traditionally, Thanksgiving has been a time for families and friends across the nation to gather together, give thanks for all that we share, and usher in the holiday season. Though the way we celebrate Thanksgiving differs from family to family and region to region, one part of the tradition remains constant: the bountiful feasts that are prepared in homes throughout the country.

Without the hard work and ingenuity of America's farmers, our traditional feasts would not be possible. Food starts with the farmer. Daniel Webster (1782-1852) said in a speech about agriculture, "When tillage begins, other arts follow. The farmers therefore are the founders of human civilization."

Turkey is a popular dish at Thanksgiving. But so are all other meats. Breads and rolls, vegetables, potatoes, cranberries, and wine are included on the menu too. Whatever you had for your Thanksgiving meal last Thursday, remember all the food came from the farm. Be thankful for farmers who take the risks of weather and markets to see to it that you have not only a good Thanksgiving dinner but a good dinner every day of the year.



**Now Is The Time**  
By John Schwartz  
Lancaster County Agricultural Agent

#### To Prevent Thrush

Thrush is a frequent and often recurrent problem during the winter months, according to Lori Little, Lancaster County 4-H Animal Science Agent. Thrush is a fungus or bacterial infection which occurs in the frog of the hoof. It is characterized by a dark, foul smelling discharge which causes the frog to become mushy and soft. Thrush thrives in wet, dirty conditions.

A clean dry stall and daily hoof care will prevent the problem. To treat thrush, clean out the hoof completely and apply a chemical sterilant, such as iodine, formaline or copper sulfate. Be careful to treat only the affected area so it will not dry out the entire sole of the hoof. It may be necessary to trim away some affected portions of the frog. Do this very carefully as to not draw blood. Thrush responds quickly to treatment as long as the stall conditions are modified.

#### To Caulk Cracks

As much as 30 per cent of a home's heat may be lost through leaks and cracks. Doors, windows, chimneys and the foundation of the house offers opportunities for heat leakage, according to Robert Anderson, Lancaster County Extension Agent. Good quality caulking will help prevent much of this heat loss resulting in a savings of heating dollars and a warmer room.

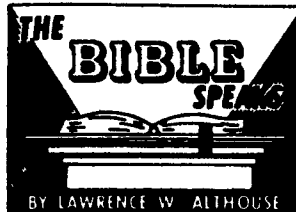
Before starting the job, identifying the main areas of heat loss. Check spaces where pipes, wires, cables or water faucets enter the house. Check around doors and window frames where the frames meet the walls. Look under window sills and between porches and the main portion of the house for identifying where the leaks are, select the proper caulk for the job. Generally look for caulking mate-

rials which have a high to water, are easy to use and are paintable.

**To Keep Antifreeze from**  
Robert Anderson, Lancaster County Extension Agronomy Agent, reminds us when changing your antifreeze or checking your radiator, be careful of any spills. Do not leave spills without cleaning them up first. Do not leave open containers of antifreeze sitting around to be spilled.

Many pets enjoy the sweet taste of antifreeze. Ethylene glycol, the main ingredient in antifreeze is extremely toxic if ingested by pets. Always clean up spills containing antifreeze immediately. Also, dispose of old antifreeze properly. Keep new antifreeze in the original containers with the safety type caps in place.

*Feather Prof.'s Footnote: "A warm smile is the universal language of kindness."*



**WHO CAN ENDURE THAT DAY?**  
November 30, 1997

**Background Scripture**  
Malachi 2:17 through 3:18  
**Devotional Reading:**  
Malachi 2:17 through 3:5

Our concept of God doesn't permit us to think of him as ever getting tired. But, if it were possible, it would be human beings who could do it! That God isn't ever exhausted certainly is not from lack of tryig on our part.

In the Book of Malachi, therefore, we have to keep in mind that the prophet is speaking only figuratively when he says, "You have wearied the Lord with your words: (2:17). I know the feeling. If religion were primarily a matter of the words we speak, we'd all be religious masters. How easy it is to go on verbally about religion without demonstrating our words with deeds. Sometimes I ask, "Lord, don't you get tired of all these words, words, words?"

Of course, it is not our words but our deeds that tell the most about us. Very often, I think, we use words as a substitute for deeds. Words become a wall that hides us — or at least we think it hides us. In Malachi's own day people were questioning how God could be just, yet permit injustice. Mockingly, they said, "Everyone who does evil is good in the sight of the Lord, and he delights in them."

Or, more directly: "Where is the God of justice?" This all sounds somewhat blasphemous, but let's be honest, isn't that the way we think sometimes? Don't we wonder how God can possibly permit evil to flourish and good to be trodden into the dust.

#### WHICH EVIL MAN?

I believe it was St. Augustine who told about two Christians who were having a knock-down, dragout dispute (not exactly the way St. Augustine described it). One man, lifted up his voice and cried, "Oh Lord, strike down and punish this evil man." The heavenly voice replied: "Which evil man?" Lots of us are anxious for God's judgment to come upon the earth because we assume that that is bad news for our neighbors and good news for us. What we are overlooking is the Bible's insistence that judgment is bad news for all of us. (The Bible also tells us the good news of God's grace.)

So it was in Malachi's day, too. Lots of the people were eager for God's judgment because they believed it would fall on someone else. "Behold, I send my messenger to prepare the way before me," says Malachi, "and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold he is coming, and who can stand when he appears!" (3:1,2). The answer: no one.

The purpose of God's judgment, according to Malachi, is not to destroy the evil malefactor, but to refine him or her. Here Malachi is using a technical term which is applied to burning a metal ore to rid it of all its impurities. "For he is like a refiner's fire . . . he will sit as refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, till they present right offerings to the Lord" (3:2b,3).

#### 'THE EVIL ONES'

Do you remember how bitterly disappointed Jonah was because Nineveh repented and thereby escaped God's judgment? Jonah preached doom to the people of Nineveh, not so that they would repent, but because he wanted to see vengeance against these people. Just as God sent a refiner's fire, not to destroy the sons of Levi, but so that they could again "present right offerings to the Lord," so he sent Jonah to Nineveh so that they might be spared.

We need to be very careful when we nurse the desire for vengeance in our hearts, even when that vengeance is supposedly in defense of God's honor. In his book *The Urge to Punish*, Professor Henry Weihofen quotes Nietzsche: "Distrust all in whom the impulse to punish is strong." Weihofen goes on to comment, "No one is more bitter in condemning the 'loose' woman than the 'good' women who have on occasion guiltily enjoyed some purpose dreams themselves. It is never he who is without sin who casts the first stone."

"But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?" By ourselves, none of us. With the grace of God, all of us.



### FARM FORUM

A special message to the Minnesota Milk Producers Association — You don't throw something out, unless you have something better to replace it with.

Also, to the U.S. Senators, U.S. Congressmen, and some farm organizations that urged the dairy industry to become deregulated — The potential problems that exist today are only part of the problems that would be created with complete deregulation. The formula used by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has been criticized by various people for many years and certainly the formula has been further scrutinized during the last year as a result of the serious decline in milk prices paid to dairy farmers all across the United States. (Example: federal order #2 Blend Price in August 1997 dipped to the 1979 level — August 1979, \$12.33 per cwt.; August 1997, \$12.22 per cwt.)

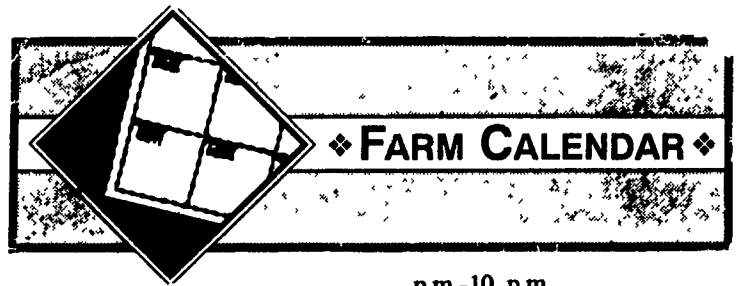
An additional cloud appeared

over the dairy farmers' financial horizon on November 3, when Judge David Doty of the fourth Division of the Federal District Court in Minnesota ruled in favor of the Minnesota Milk Producers, et. al. and disallowed the USDA from using the Class I transportation differentials as a method of determining the value of Class I (fluid) milk in most of the federal milk marketing orders.

While several people are dissatisfied with various differentials in the federal milk marketing orders, you certainly do not advocate a move such as the complaint in front of Judge Doty, unless a better plan is in hand.

Further complicating the issue was the fact that Doty's order was signed on November 3, but was not received by the USDA until November 5. This was done at a critical time, because many of the administrators in the federal orders start compiling their pay

(Turn to Page A35)



### FARM CALENDAR

**Saturday, November 29**  
4-H Hoedown, Berks County 4-H Center; 8 p.m.-11 p.m.

**Sunday, November 30**

**Monday, December 1**  
York County Holstein Association fall tour of New Bolton Center, meet at extension office at 7:45 a.m.

**Tuesday, December 2**  
Nutrient Management Workshop, Tranquility Methodist Church, Andover, N.J., 10 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Nutrient Management Workshop, Somerset County extension office, Bridgewater, N.J., 6

p.m.-10 p.m.  
Farm Financial Management Workshop, extension office, Salisbury, Md., also Dec. 4, 9 and Jan. 6 and 13.

**Wednesday, December 3**  
Nutrient Management Workshop, Columbus Grange Hall, Columbus, N.J., 10 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Nutrient Management Workshop, Salem County extension office, Woodstown, N.J., 6 p.m.-10 p.m.

**Thursday, December 4**  
Environmental Commission Regional Public Roundtable, National Institute For Environmental Renewal, Mayfield, 1

p.m.-4 p.m. and 6 p.m.-9 p.m.  
Passing On the Farm Workshop, Schoonovers Restaurant, Middlebury.

Farm Financial Management Workshop, extension office, Westminster, Md., also Dec. 11 and 18 and Jan. 8 and 15.

**Friday, December 5**  
Northeast Lamb Pool, Troy Sales Barn, Troy, grading 9 a.m.-noon, sale 3 p.m.

Tulpehocken Young Farmers Family Night, Tulpehocken High School, 7:15 p.m.  
**Saturday, December 6**

**Sunday, December 7**  
Maryland Farm Bureau meeting, Sheraton Fontainebleu, Ocean City, Md., thru Dec. 10.

**Monday, December 8**  
Lancaster County Tobacco Auction Season opens.

**Tuesday, December 9**  
Ephrata Area Young Farmers Meeting, Asset Allocation, Ephrata High School, 7:30 p.m.  
12th Regional Meeting on Practical Biosecurity For Poultry, University of Delaware, Newark, Del.

Ag Service School for Pa., Williamsport.  
ADADC Dist. 21 meeting, Timber Wolf Restaurant, Darien, N.Y., noon.

Berks DHIA Banquet, Berks County Ag Center, noon.  
Maryland Farm Bureau's 82nd Annual Banquet, Sheraton Fontainebleau, Ocean City, Md., 5:45 p.m.

Lancaster DHIA Banquet and Annual Meeting, Good 'n Plenty Restaurant, Smoketown, 11:30 a.m.

Farm Financial Management Workshop, extension office, Cecil County, also Dec. 11, 18 and Jan. 13 and 20.

Delmarva Milk School, Howland, 6 p.m.

(Turn to Page A35)

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