

Brijbasi Spirit

WEEKLY JOURNAL OF NEW VRINDABAN, COMMUNITY PROJECT OF ISKCON, FOUNDER-ACARYA, HIS DIVINE GRACE A.C. BHAKTIVEDANTA SWAMI PRABHUPADA. PRINTING ALL THE NEWS OF NEW VRINDABAN.

HARE KRSNA, HARE KRSNA, KRSNA KRSNA, HARE HARE/HARE RAMA, HARE RAMA, RAMA RAMA, HARE HARE

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DEAR GODBROTHERS,

Please accept our most humble obeisances at your feet. All Glories to our illust-

rious Spiritual Master, His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada! Who has so kindly appeared here in New Vrindaban in the form of his timeless instructions.

We should be back again on the photo-offset press sometime in the near future. The A.B. Dick people came out and fixed the press, but until we have a guarantee of a warm place to work it, we cannot use it. Meanwhile we will continue to use this very nice Spirit Duplicator process.

We hope this issue of The Brijbasi Spirit is as pleasing as the wonderful fall colors surrounding the transcendental abode of New Vrindaban. Krsna Himself says that the season of Autumn is the most beautiful.

In this issue we have many wonderful contributions, including notes from the Sankirtan Party, Varnasrama College, The different farms and many more areas of our growing varnasrama community. We are always praying that Their Lordships Sri Sri Radha Vrndavana Candra will give all the Brijbasia increasing service in which to purify our existence. Hari Bol!

Your worthless servants,

The staff

SRI UPADEŚAMRTA

HOW TO MAINTAIN DEVOTIONAL ACTIVITIES TEXT 9

vaikuntha janito vara madhupuri tatrast rasotsavad
vndaranyam udarapeniremanat tatra pi Govardhanah
radhakundaṁ ihupi gokula-pateḥ premamṛtaplavanat
kuryad aśva virajato giri-tate sevam viveki na kah

Translation

The holy place known as Mathura is spiritually superior to Vaikuntha the transcendental world, because the Lord appeared therein; higher than Mathura-puri is the supremumane forest of Vṛndavana on account of Kṛṣṇa's rasa-līla pastimes; and better than the forest of Vṛndavana is Govardhana Hill, having been raised by the divine hand of Sri Kṛṣṇa and on account of His various loving pastimes thereupon; and super excellent above all Sri Radha-kunda stands supreme, which is overflowed with the ambrosial nectarine prema of the Lord of Gokula—Sri Kṛṣṇa. Therefore, who is that intelligent person unwilling to serve this divine Radha-kunda situated at the foot of the sacred hill Govardhana.

Purport

In the creation of the Supreme Personality of Godhead, the spiritual world is the three-fourth portion of the total creation and is the most exalted region. Naturally, the spiritual world is better than the material world. But although appearing in the material world, Mathura and the adjoining areas have been considered to be superior to the spiritual world because the Supreme Personality of Godhead appears at Mathura. The interior forest of Vṛndavana is still more preferred than Mathura because these dvadasa-vana, twelve forests, are each famous for different pastimes of the Lord. Thus the interior Vṛndavana forest is better than Mathura. But better than the Vṛndavana forest is the divine Govardhana Hill because Kṛṣṇa lifted the Govardhana like an umbrella upon His lotus-like beautiful hand to protect His associates, the denizens of Vraja, from the torrential rains sent by the Angry Indra, king of the minor gods; and also because it is at Govardhana Hill that Kṛṣṇa grazes the cows along with His cow-herd friends; and there also He has His rendezvous with His most beloved Sri Radha and engages in loving pastimes with Her. And Radha-kunda, at the foot of Govardhana is higher still and supreme above all because there love of Kṛṣṇa overflows. This divine Radha-kunda is preferred for residence by the advanced devotees because at this place there are many memories of the eternal loving affairs (rati-vilasa) between Kṛṣṇa and Radharani. It is recounted in the Caitanya-caritāmṛta (Madhya-līla) that when Sri Caitanya Mahāprabhu first visited the area of Vrajabhūmi, He could not at first find the location of Radha-kunda. This means that Sri Caitanya Mahāprabhu was actually searching for the place where Radha-kunda was situated. At last He found out the holy spot where there was a small pond. He took His bath in that small pond and directed His devotees that the actual Radha-kunda was situated there. Later the pond was excavated by Lord Caitanya's devotees headed first by the six gosvamis Rupa and Raghunātha Dāsa, etc., and presently there is a large lake known as Radha-kunda. Śrīla Rupa Gosvami has given so much stress on Radha-kunda because of Sri Caitanya Mahāprabhu's desire to find it out. As such, who would give up Radha-kunda and try to reside in other places? No person with transcendental intelligence would do that. However, the importance of Radha-kunda could not be realized by other Vaiṣṇava sampradāyas, nor can persons who are not interested in the devotional service of Lord Caitanya Mahāprabhu understand the spiritual importance and divine nature of Radha-kunda. Therefore, Radha-kunda is mostly worshipped by the Gauḍiya Vaiṣṇavas, or the followers of Lord Sri Kṛṣṇa Caitanya Mahāprabhu.

Thus ends the Bhaktivedānta purport of text 9 of Śrīla Rupa Gosvami's SRI UPADEŚAMRTA.

WHO'S A PERSONALIST?

Kṛṣṇa Consciousness is everywhere because Kṛṣṇa is everywhere. Kṛṣṇa is the Supreme Lord, the Personality of Godhead. He lives far away, in the Spiritual World, but He also lives within the heart of every living entity. Everything, being part of Kṛṣṇa, must depend on Kṛṣṇa.

He is called Hṛdeśa, or one who lives in the heart. Consciousness of the supreme friend and supreme owner of everything lies dormant inside everybody. To return people to this pure consciousness which burns out all ignorance is the purpose of our movement. People are receiving books and taking prasādam in the streets of cities and towns all over the world. The present Back To Godhead presents New Vrindaban in photographs and information portrays us as the most genuine example of a varṇaśrama dharma community existing in the world. Every issue of BTG urges people to visit us to learn more about Kṛṣṇa and His flawless system for progressive human society. Almost 1 million copies of BTG will fall into the hands of men and women this month. Many of them will be particularly impressed with the transcendental aspects of this colony. It is no hopeful thinking that people will be arriving here in ever-increasing numbers to see New Vrindaban. Already hundreds of people are writing letters expressing a desire to come see us and perhaps join up with us after only seeing a tiny advertisement for New Vrindaban which was printed in one issue of the Mother Earth News magazine, cramped in along with 23 pages of similar advertisements promoting alternate lifestyle communes and homesteads.

Faster than we realize it New Vrindaban is already becoming known as one of the places to go to get away from the city. We have been mentioned in Esquire magazine as a religious commune of down-to-earth austere, monastic lifestyles and the farm is pictured in the big Kṛṣṇa Consciousness promotional movie which is being made available to network TV stations for the general viewing public. The point is that Kṛṣṇa is sending people here now and will be sending more and more. This settlement with cows and devotees and Kīrtanananda Mahārāja and most important of all, ~~Śrīla Prabhupāda~~ Śrīla Prabhupāda and Śrī Śrī Rādhā Vṛndāvana Candā, is a very holy place.

Not so long ago there may have been a more easy-going pace and most anybody was happy to sit down and chat with a newcomer. But now we are 150 people just feeling a slight surge of forward movement and we are finding ourselves too busy to spend much time with the guests who meander up to have a look see. To more effectively deal with this most important function the Spirit will be collaborating with Paramābrahma das and providing the names of certain people who will be designated to care for the particular needs of the guests. This doesn't lessen the responsibility of each devotee to take a moment to make friends and welcome people when they are encountered just arriving or walking around visiting. Nobody has to tell farmers to hold up for a while to visit. The whole procedure is nothing more than being personal. This applies to the guests at the feast also. You can introduce yourself and ask where people are from. Then make them aware that they are among friends. Stress the fact that they must be glad to get away from the crowds and the pollution, and get them to agree that the whole world is getting more and more fouled up, just because people are being kept ignorant of the Vedic way to live naturally and enjoy in a more real way. Once they are feeling a little more confident you can ask them what they do and then explain how varṇaśrama dharma is structured to let everybody perfect their talents while they gain knowledge of the absolute truth. Anybody can see that we aren't exactly a hippy farm or a religious retreat, but they can't know exactly what sort of spiritual community we are until we explain how we chant mahāmantra, take prasādam, and discuss the Vedic literature. That's enough information to start with and each of these items can be mentioned as elements of the lifestyle which all visitors are requested to experience. Remember, we are personalists and we care about all of Kṛṣṇa's children. One boy wrote that he'd written to so many communes but of the few that answered, none of them had invited him. He confessed that he was writing all of them just to make friends with somebody. Jai, All Glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda. Who is the mercy incarnation for the whole world. — Srivas das

SKP

Hari Bol New Vrndavan Spirit Souls

travelling along in a song
spreading the transcendental message of Lord Caitanya
GOVINDAM ADI PURUSAM TAM AHAM BHAKTAM

remembering Vrindaban!--
and it's only by Srila Prabhupada's causeless mercy
that we can sing the Lord's Holy Names
HARE KRSNA HARE KRSNA KRSNA KRSNA HARE HARE
HARE RAMA HARE RAJA RAJA RAJA HARE HARE

a golden temple on four wheels
trying to please Kirtanananda Maharaj
with special kinds of deals
"hi, what's happening? hey, you're really far out
take this beautiful book...
aren't these pictures incredible...
you know, George Harrison is a good friend of ours'...
we're feeding starving children...
you could help with twenty dollars, you know...
you're so nice...
sure, twenty dollars will feed a child for a whole month...
oh wonderful!! here, take this book too and show your friends.
hey, can you say Hare Krsna? far out. Hare Krsna."
and so Dharmatma Dasa and the Vrndavan Mothers
become more convinced with the Bliss of Samkirtan

matra sparsas tu kaunteya
sitosna sukha dukha dah
agamapayino 'nityas
tams titikhsasva bhārata (Bg 2.14)

"O son of Kunti, the nonpermanent appearance of happiness and distress and their disappearance in due course, are like the appearance and disappearance of winter and summer seasons. They arise from sense perception, O scion of Bharata, and one must learn to tolerate them without being disturbed."

i look in the back of this incredible carrier
and i take in an enlivening sight
there's Mother Mahara and Mother Cuppy
discussing a Krsna Book story
Mother Virmala and Mother Jagaddhatri
reviewing Gita solokas for the BIG QUIZ tomorrow
Mother Suksmarupini singing another Bhaktivinode favorite
and i'm just starting to get a little taste of the wonder in
SRI CHAITANYA CARITAMRTA
which lies in my lap waiting patiently for me to return
and our fearless leader, Dharmatma Dasa
is driving this nectar load to new grounds of distribution
he has the earphone plugged into a Prabhupada lecture
and appears to be seriously absorbed
the GOLDEN GARUDA is humming enthusiastically
with Krsna lilas

ye yatha nam prapadvante
 tamstathaiva bhajamy aham
 mama vartamanuvartante
 manusyah partha sarvasah (Bg 4.11)

"All of them as they surrender unto Me, I reward accordingly. Everyone follows My path in all respects, O son of Prtha."

we are so fortunate to have Dharmatma Prabhu's association
 we're trying to be submissive--
 but only a fixed-up devotee could handle six women
 in such close living conditions
 he's teaching us so much about a good service attitude
 and the necessity of being KRSNA CONSCIOUSLY engaged
 ALL THE TIME
 we're so grateful to be receiving such personal instructions
 on the concept of DUTY
 and to be given the facilities to act in this knowledge
 SRILA PRABHUPADA, SRI KRSNA CAITANYA, RADHA VRNDAVA CANDRA
 and our beloved KIRTANANANDA MAHARAJA
 are so kind to let us engage our wild unruly senses
 in this mind delivering process
 and yes

"surrendering can be fun!!!"
 it's the highest trip we've ever been involved in
 and it's infinitely saturated with SUPREME pleasures
 SO WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?
 this ain't even our time that we're wasting

you know?

we must stop intoxicating ourselves with nonsense
 and let this devotional service be our life and soul
 i see these unfortunate cows
 apparently so content to graze in the field
 little do they know
 what ol' Farmer Bummer's gonna do to them one day
 and i hear my mind say
 No - I don't wanna do this
 she has not realized

WHO she is talking to

tad viddhi pranipatena
 pariprasnena sevaya
 upadeksyanti te jnanam
 jnaninas tattva darsinah (Bg 4.34)

"Just try to learn the truth by approaching a spiritual master. Inquire from him submissively and render service unto him. The self-realized soul can impart knowledge unto you because he has seen the truth."

— Mother Mira Bai

Monday was Fort Hood payday and amidst the tanks, jeeps, drug dealers, rip-off artists, prostitutes, junkies, animal slaughterers, hog-faced HP's and other kali-yuga horrors, Krsna guided the "Mothers" TSKP on their mission distributing Srila Prabhupada's books and bringing Sri Laksmi devi back home. Before being heavily run off base ~~400~~ 400 BTG's, 51 Gitas, 27 HK's, 8 MOD, 8 GWT were distributed in just a few hours. All Glories to Sri Sri Radha Vrndavana Candra Samkirtani

— Dharmatma Dasa

VRINDABAN NEAR-DISASTER

At 10:15 Thursday night Mangalananda das, who had gone into the Vrindaban temple to chant japa, heard strange noises—"Like a big fire crackling." Upon investigation he observed the stovepipe in the temple red hot and in a hole above the mantle he could see sparks flying up the chimney. So he immediately woke up Gaurachandra das, who sleeps in the temple as guard. After observing the situation he immediately came upstairs to wake someone up who, as he said, "Might have had experience with the situation before." He tried waking Gatravan Das but somehow wasn't successful. Then he remembered that I had come up that night from Bahulaban so he woke me up. I immediately jumped up and put on my pants and went downstairs and also observed the red hot pipe. The first thing I thought was to pour water down the chimney. Gaurachandra asked if the Deities should be taken out of the building and I said, "No, not unless it is absolutely necessary."

I then ran outside to see how I could get on the roof to pour water down the chimney, at which point I observed sparks shooting out of the top of the chimney like fireworks. It blew my mind; I expected fire any minute. I then remembered that you could climb out the prasadam room window right up onto the roof. So went upstairs and climbed out the window and Gaurachandra handed me a bucket of water and I poured it down the chimney. Then we went back down into the temple where Mangalananda informed us that a little water had come out but the pipe still looked red hot.

Gaurachandra and myself went out to get more water from the bath house at which time I observed that the sparks had pretty much stopped shooting out of the chimney. I then went back out on the roof and poured three more buckets of water down the chimney. That pretty much cooled things down. Leaving Mangalananda in the temple, Gaurachandra and myself went to investigate, to see if any beams in the building might be singed. There were none so I poured a few more buckets of water down the chimney and everything seemed pretty much under control. Mangalananda went and took rest and Gaurachandra and I waited to make sure nothing would start again.

So someone on each farm should be appointed to go up on the roof and clean out all the built-up wood sap from in the chimney of the houses. The best method is to get a long chain, which can be borrowed from the horse barn at Bahulaban if you don't have your own, and keeping hold of one end, drop it in your chimney and move it from side to side, knocking out all the garbage. If no one can do it to your house, come and see Urdhareta das or Jagat-trata das. Jai, All Glories to Srila Prabhupada!

--- Jagat-trata dasa

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MILK KITCHEN

Milk is regularly being sent to all the farms, and Bahulaban uses 12 gallons per day for devotee milk prasadam.

The morning milk is once again divided up after the milk fast as follows—Bahulaban 12 gallons, Madhuban 8 gallons, Vrindaban 4 gallons, Gurukula 2 gallons. So this means that an initial 25 gallons or so of milk is used (Morning milk) by all the temples. The remaining 20 gallons or so is used for yogurt, buttermilk, cheese, curd, etc.

Rasagulla and galub-jamins will very soon be canned for sale throughout ISKCON. Taru das is expertly cooking gulab-jamins for Their Lordships Sri Sri Radha Vrindavana Candra's pleasure. On the devotee milk preparations agenda will be butter-milk (new variety) and yogurt on warmer days.

The milk kitchen devotees would like to present at this time a beautiful prayer from the Caitanya Caritamrita (ch. 211)

"O my Lord, the merciful Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu, I pray that on the surface of my desert-like tongue, let there be the nectarine flow of the Ganges water of your transcendental activities—which are full with lotus flowers of dancing and loud chanting of the Holy Names of Krsna, which is the abode of unalloyed devotees who are compared with ducks and drills and bees and is full with a melodious song on account of easy flowing." — Garga R. das

MADUBAN DIARY

DESCRIPTIONS OF AUTUMN

As described in Krsna Book the appearance of Autumn in Vrindavana is very noteworthy. We here in New Vrindaban have noted the appearance of autumn and find that we also have dancing peacocks, clear reservoirs of water and wandering cows. However, due to this age of Kali Yuga sometimes we can only appreciate the perverted reflection.

"Everything becomes naturally beautiful with the appearance of the autumn season."

Summer was wonderful--so many green beans for the kitchen, green leaves for the altar, but Autumn has glorified Sri Sri Radha Madhava with red maple, gold sassafras, scarlet dogwood and what was that beautiful gold and red vine??--oh no Daivata, that's poison ivy.

"In the Srīmad Bhagavatam it is recommended that tapasya or penance should be accepted for realizing the Supreme Lord. By accepting austerity in devotional service, one regains his spiritual life, he enjoys unlimited spiritual bliss."

Srila Prabhupada says that an early cold shower is not an austerity but "Common sense." As I carry the freezing cold water to the unheated tin shed my mind frantically searches for an answer "Why? why? why? Your skin will fall off if you do this. "I'm not this body," my intelligence answers feebly. "Why, why, why?" my mind is demanding more. "It's only temporary."--strike two. Prabhupada says even if it's "a little chilly" one must do this. It wasn't so bad after all.

The autumnal battle--spirit vs. matter.

But the men are very rapidly completing a shower in the furnace room. Madhukara, Daivata and Kṛpacarya are pouring a new cement floor fixing doors and windows. Oh no! when it's finished and I can shower in comfort I will again have to face the duality, "am I really doing this for Prabhupada?"

The Gurukula boys take a japa walk every morning after arti--bedecked with gloves & hats & coats they gather outside Radha Madhava's back door each morning, interrupting their japa they humbly accept maha prasada. Vrindavana! where great saints & devotees pilgrimage from temple to temple.

"Vrindavana forest improved from the rains and was replete with ripened dates, mangos, blackberries and other fruits."

After the first big frost the harvesting of Madhuban garden was undertaken and found to be replete with beets, carrots, beans, squash and chard.

"The cows being fed by new grasses became very healthy and their milk bags were all very full. When Lord Kṛṣṇa called them by name, they immediately came to Him out of affection and in their joyful condition the milk flowed from their bags."

Satya and Bhumi were ready to milk--their milk bags fat and full, but they were nowhere to be found. Daivata called affectionately--louder and louder. The search continued all morning. Extra milk was sent up from Bahulaban for making burfi. Finally very late in the morning they were found past the Sky View Inn.

"In the rainy season, when the clouds appear for the first time, after seeing their appearance the peacocks begin to dance with joy...we have practical experience of this, our students...having come into contact with devotees, are dancing like jubilant peacocks."

On the coldest morning with no fire this jubilant peacock removes all his clothing except his dhoti and dances, dances, dances. He enlivens all the other devotees. This is Pournima das and we are very fortunate to have him and his mother Sucitra with us.

I don't know whether this devotee is a dancing peacock or a blooming lotus flower but Dharmakala is reflecting her service. She dresses Gour--itai every morning and churns butter all afternoon. She is very blissful.

"Soon all the reservoirs become very clean and pleasing and the refreshing air was blowing everywhere because of the appearance of autumn."

The little well at the back of the temple is revived after the summer drought. It is again providing buckets of clear and cold water for Their Lordships and a nice meditative walk for Their devotees. Another reservoir is being exposed across the street. A well is being dug for Vahna's house. It will be completed by Dec. 1. All Glories to Vrindavana!

—Mother Kunti

Every Sunday evening in Vrindaban the brahmacaris assemble for Ishtagosti. For the past few weeks Kirtanananda Maharaja has graced the meetings with his presence. The following is a presentation of the Ishtagosti for September 29, 1974.

Brahmacaris working in the garden explained the occasional need to taste vegetables or fruits to determine their ripeness or sweetness, and they inquired about eating fruit found on the ground on the farms. Kirtanananda Swami set the matter straight. No apple tasting or cabbage tasting without first offering to Kṛṣṇa. Kṛṣṇa is always the first to enjoy. Eating fruit any time we come upon it is a dangerous chain. We see something and we think I want that sense object, such as an apple, etc. Obviously this is not the proper attitude and such indulgence will surely be an obstacle to One's devotional progress. The same restraint must apply to other foodstuffs cooking or cooked before they are offered. Something smelled is considered half-eaten. Devotees should understand that our activity is not one of cooking food. The prasadam tastes nice according to how much love and devotion went into the cooking.

Sri Galima prabhu mentioned that Gurukula had a different translation of Caitanya Caritamṛta and inquired about our policy with regard to reading books or hearing lectures by Vaisnavas other than Srila Prabhupada. Maharaja answered that we should be like a small child who takes things offered by his parents and has little trust for others.

With regard to cleanliness Damodara Pandita dasa asked about the ways a devotee becomes contaminated and what clothing is offensive in the temple. Maharaja explained that any clothes worn in the outhouse or which have been worn passing stool should not be worn in the temple. He qualified this by explaining that it is not our desire to become fanatical but that the purpose is to remember Kṛṣṇa. If one has a coat or/and clothes reserved for contaminating duties that is nice.

When questioned about adding the worship of the Shalagram Shila stone Maharaja said

that Deity worship should not be changed suddenly or whimsically. Things should be changed as they can be performed with confidence and continuance. Also in reference to worshipping the Deities, Maharaja expressed his desire that we should establish nice kirtans with qualified leaders.

With regard to new translations of prayers he said to stick with the old translations until we hear that there is something better. In this way we stay safe. On that note the meeting ended.

* * *

SURASHI NTCAR

Ghee is the very essence of the cow's blood. It is the taste everyone is searching for. The karmis are killing animals looking to please their tongues. But we know the art of extracting this taste in its purest form—ghee—without any killing. And because the taste of ghee is the highest, ~~making~~ the highest realization, once one tastes it he loses his attraction for meat. Srila Prabhupada has said this. If we give the karmis nice prasadam cooked in ghee they will give up their meat eating, otherwise it will be impossible.

To the best of our knowledge, New Vrindaban is now putting out the most ghee of any location in this country; at least of any temple—I don't know of any karmis who have stumbled upon this magic process. We are averaging 125 lbs. of ghee per week. There are now 2 red pickle barrels full of ghee and yesterday we began the third. No one has ever seen such a stash. This reminds us of a couple years ago when Amburish das was setting aside one quart of ghee a day to surprise Maharaja when he returned from Mexico. Each day now we are producing as much as Amburish saved up in 2 weeks. Considering this growth in just 2 years, at the same rate 2 years from now we should be producing upward of 500 lbs. of ghee daily or more. It may seem unlikely, but just remember who we're working for.

(Continued next page)

MI NECTAR (Continued)—

are standing on the shore of an ocean of ghee.

| date | cream | butter | ghee |
|-----------|---------|------------|-------------|
| Sunday | 14 1b. | 23 3/4 lb. | 35 3/4 lb. |
| Monday | 39 3/4 | 32 3/4 | — |
| Tuesday | 35 1/2 | 28 1/2 | 37 |
| Wednesday | 34 | 25 1/2 | 19 1/2 |
| Thursday | 36 1/2 | 23 1/2 | — |
| Friday | 34 3/4 | 24 1/4 | 35 |
| Saturday | 14 1/2 | 23 3/4 | — |
| total | 244 1b. | 182 lb. | 127 1/2 lb. |

* * *

IN THE WOODS

Friday was the day Bhavishat and I made our first oxen powered wench. It really works. It's the most farrest out thing since Kirtanananda Swami got his dhoti eaten up by Rhima. The planning of the desing for such a big ox wench goes to Bhaktie Bill, a great Vaisnava. I offer all my respects to Bill and to Bhavishat Das who has been so kind to hear with me to cut all the wood while I worked on the wench. When Vrindavan becomes deep rooted in your heart like it has in mine you just want to build it. All Glories to Kirtanananda Swami who is my intelligence. I hope you all come down to see New Vrindavan's portable ox wench. All you need is a little desire.

Here is a little note for all you wood burners out there. You can burn ellum only if it's dry. Don't try to burn half dried or green. It will set your pipe afire. And only burn it if your pipes are well protected from the walls and floor. Be sure to clean your pipes about every 2 months. Take a chain and let it down your chimney an swing it around.

Also you can burn dry ellum with half green wood like oak, locust or cherry and beech makes a nice bed of coals but not much flame.

We're making a new resivore behind the horse barn. It will take me about 4 days to clear all the trees out then about 3 weeks to build it. The building is done by bulldozers. I don't know just what the

water is going to be used for but I figur it to be about 1/2 million gallons, half the size of the big resivore in the back. Then I can start gathering your long awaited winter wood. Hari Toll!

Your worthless
servant In the Woods,
Romharsan Dasa & crew

P.S. Please be carefull about fires. A ounce of prevention is worth a gallon of watter.

* * *

BLACKSMITHING

This week in the blacksmithing department Bhakta Gregg worked on a reach for a wagon, made a 4-horse evenner, disassembled the top of Maharaja's chariot, welded 2 bars across the Bahulaban maha cabinet, helped Romharsan on his log pulling equipment and started making anew plow blade. Damodara Pandita worked on the extension for the forge building. Both also did a number of o'd jobs, for other departments.

* * *

Hemispheric BOILER Transition

The hemispheric cooker and boiler is being transferred and assembled in Tulasi's greenhouse at Bahulaban by Gatravan das and Bhakta Bill Jones. Advantages to this are that the greenhouse will be constantly, evenly heated all winter by the heat given off by the boiler/cooker, this way it will be next to the milk separator and all the carrying of milk back and forth will be eliminated, and also the whey from making curd can simply be drained off.

* * *

COWS

All Glories to Their Lordships Sri Sri Radha Vrndavana Chandra!

Nectar has really been coming thick through the Harvestore unloader. There were remnants both for the devotees and the cows, as haylage and cloth from Kirtanananda Swami's dhoti continue to flow out. It looks like there will be enough cloth so that every Brijbasi who wants a transcendental remnant from Kirtanananda Swami's dhoti can have it. Just come by the barn starting Monday and ask for the nectar. The cows are eating more haylage every day. Saturday we finally completed making one full turn covering the whole floor of the silo. Now it's in high gear and feeding fast. Better quality haylage came out yesterday, hopefully it should continue.

Rex came out again Wednesday and showed us how to castrate our bulls into oxen. It's a fairly simple process using sharp knives and clean surroundings. Now with Krishna's help we can cut all our own bulls. Eurusottama, Bhadrasesa, Partha, and Kalanoma, were done by Rex as we watched closely. Then we went to Gurukula. Yasodanananda & Chandra we cut by the careful guidance of Rex as he watched and gave instructions.

Mother Rocana is milking 20 lbs. of creamy milk (highest butterfat % cow in the barn now) every day. She is grazing daily in the grass between the old and new barn.

Pevahuti, Kathadasi and Lila, all holstein, with a little Guernsey in Lila, all arrived at Bahulaban this week to be bred. Basya, a jersey, is also here from Nandagram and will be coming fresh soon with a Brown Swiss calf. Bela was bred by Sanatana early this week. Satya, once bred by Prajapati, is back from Padhuban for another try, this time at Vrindaban.

During this recent cold spell this week all the cows went way down as you can see by the daily milk totals for the week.

A little added nectar this week. Ambika has so far this lactation (period of milking) given in the last 270 days 12,748 lbs. of milk, averaging for the lactation at 47

lbs. per day. Dvarakadham has given 12,596 lbs. in 250 days, averaging 50 lbs. per day thus far.

Here are the cow production statistics.

| cow | amount | butterfat % |
|------------|-----------|-------------|
| Rati | 382.1 lb. | 5.1 % |
| Iravati | 367.1 | 5.1 |
| Satyabhama | 336.4 | 4.0 |
| Parvati | 327.8 | 3.5 |
| Pritha | 326.2 | 3.8 |
| Sarasvati | 311.9 | 3.4 |
| Rohini | 307.8 | no test |
| Bhadra | 270.0 | 3.9 |
| Laxmi | 262.8 | 4.1 |
| Cintamani | 261 | 3.6 |
| Rukmini | 256 | 4.2 |
| Ambika | 229.9 | 4.2 |
| Dvaraka | 201.7 | 3.5 |
| Sati | 189.9 | 4.0 |
| Goloka | 182.3 | 3.8 |
| Yasoda | 171.1 | 4.0 |
| Kaliya | 163.9 | 4.8 |
| Rabbri | 142.5 | 3.6 |
| Rocana | 139.8 | 5.4 |
| Syama | 101.3 | 4.7 |
| Isani | 87.9 | 4.3 |

Total daily productions were:

| | | |
|-----------|----------|------------|
| Saturday | Sept. 28 | 771.2 lbs. |
| Sunday | Sept. 29 | 763.0 |
| Monday | Sept. 30 | 743.9 |
| Tuesday | Oct. 1 | 718.2 |
| Wednesday | Oct. 2 | 698.9 |
| Thursday | Oct. 3 | 633.1 |
| Friday | Oct. 4 | 685.4 |

The total production for the week was 5013.7 lbs. The average daily for the herd was 716.0 lbs. and the average daily per cow was 34.9 lbs.

ALL GLORIES TO THE SURABHIS OF NEW VRINDABAN!

— Amburish dasa

VARNASRAM COLLEGE

Krsna says in the Bhagavad-gita, chapt. 3, text 21 that, "Whatever action is performed by a great man, common men will follow in his footsteps. And whatever actions he sets by exemplary acts all the world pursues."

One of the qualities of the living entity is that he is dependent. We are all looking for someone to emulate, someone we can look up to. The business of the Varnasrama College is to engage young devotees with some one they can follow and respect. Since it is our nature to surrender to someone we have to use our intelligence to engage these boys in the kind of active service that they like and at the same time follow someone they can respect. This will make the boys happy and Krsna Conscious provided the authority is Krsna Conscious.

This culture is superior to any other culture because God is at the center. All our activities are eternal and give us eternal joy. One has to understand Krsna Consciousness by his intelligence, not that I blindly follow some rules and regulations. The boys are at this point. If the boys are not trained up to use their intelligence then simply at 15 or 16 they leave for the karmi world of frustration, as we have seen happen to 2 young devotees.

Right now the boys are trying to find some engagement they can settle into and find that person they can look up to and respect. If anyone is willing to give this personal association and training contact either Hyranyagarbha or myself about this.

Our curriculum at Grukula is that all the boys are taught in the morning from 8:45 to 11:30. They have Sanskrit, English, Math and Geography. Hyranyagarbha has given them a Sanskrit test today and the following scores are:

Stavya-85, Ekendra - 67, Dwarkadish -48, Jagadananda - 9, Tausteya - 15.

Also at least 2 times a week each boy gets to spend one night at Bahulaban and one night at Vrindaban. A lot of spiritual variety is needed so the boys won't get bored.

Plans are being made for February and March of next year to take the boys to India for a tour of the Holy Places. It should be bliss.

All Glories to Sri Sri Radha Vrindavana Candra!

Your servant
Sri Galima das brahmacari

* * *

-NAMA HATTA-

Nama Hatta is in need of volunteers to help out in developing New Vrindaban's first general trade store. Grhasra women especially are invited to offer their time. This program is developing too slowly due to insufficient help and winter is coming up very much faster than we have been able to serve the increased needs of the community. Gopinath Dasa or Mother Suchitra may be contacted in this regard.

* * *

LOST AND FOUND

LOST: A pair of grey work gloves: leather palms and fingers, cloth wrists. They disappeared Wednesday from the Bahulaban porch vicinity at prasadam time. If they are found, please return them to Bhagavat-ananda das or Damodara Pandita das. A reward is pending.

FOUND: A Timex watch. See Mother Lakshma.

* * *

LIBRARY

We've been having a small problem with overdue books lately. Please Brijbasis, realize that many of these books are essential or very much needed by others. Those with overdue books are: Mother Visvadhika, Kripacarya dasa, Sudanu das, & Dwarkadish das.

CONSTRUCTION

HAVE MORTAR, WILL TRAVEL

The construction crew finished laying the blocks for the back wall and side walls. They are ready to pour the concrete for the lintel, a beam of concrete that is layed over the existing blocks and over the windows to provide a structural basis to hold the windows in and support the next layers of blocks. Also they are ready to pour the concrete columns that will greatly strengthen the building. Concrete is poured into a column laced with steel rods that are ridged. These ridges provide a pulling and catching situation so that the rods don't slip out of the concrete. This is called a mechanical bond. The same principle of such concrete columns is what gives the strength to such structures as the Golden Gate Bridge. Also, the blocks are 12" thick and weigh 65 lb., not 40 lb. as mentioned before.

Saturday is the day the marble cutting and polishing machinery was supposed to have come, but instead it is coming today. The crew was busily clearing under the shelter next to the construction site so as to store building materials there and possibly the machinery.

Earlier in the week there was a construction meeting, taking long range look at construction. Seven hills have been picked out and there will be seven temples built on them. There will be a crew laying block and pouring concrete in the good weather and the activity in the winter will be interior refinishing, such as plastering, marble cutting & polishing, painting, etc. Concrete can't be poured in the winter because the freezing stops the chemical reaction and weakens the structure. Right now we have approximately one month to finish pouring concrete and laying blocks. Also, all progress, past, current and projected, will be plainly presented on a graph.

Asked to give some inspiring words, Kirtanananda Swami said, "Krsna doesn't need big numbers. What we need is big faith in Krsna. Then it will happen."

Jai! All Glories to the service of Bhagavatana Prabhupada's construction crew!

* * *

NEW ARRIVALS

In the past week several new devotees have arrived here in New Vrindaban--two householder couples and a brahmachari.

The brahmachari is Bhakta Jim. He's a real nice devotee from New York and is currently helping out at Mandagram and in the field and horse dept.

Caitanya das and his wife Mother Janavi devi arrived from the Chicago temple. Caitanya das was temp's commander and Janavi devi dasi did a lot of book distribution Sankirtan. They have come here to New Vrindaban to experience complete varnasrama life in a natural and fully spiritual atmosphere.

Raghunatha dasa and his wife Mother Ksana devi hail from Gurukula in Dallas. They are both brahmana initiates. Raghunatha taught Bhagavad-gita and Sri Sri Bhagavatam and was the supervisor for the ovinada boys (ages 5 - 7). He also taught mathematical qualities in the asrama, which is one of the heaviest parts of the whole teaching program. Ksana devi dasi taught and supervised the intermediate girls. They really wanted to come to the natural setting of New Vrindaban. Raghunatha Prabhu says that here everything is done in such a wonderful spirit of cooperation. Everyone is so much enthused to improve their own service. There is a tremendous feeling of unity, a real sense of working towards the same goal. His last statement was that he essentially came here seeking the shelter of Kirtanananda Maharaja. Jai!

ANNOUNCEMENT!

All devotees eligible for 1st or 2nd initiation must submit a request for initiation Kirtanananda Swami. Qualifications for 1st initiation candidates are having chanted 16 rounds daily, followed the 4 regulative principles & attended Mangala Arti, for 6 months. Candidates must also submit a paper (2 pgs.) entitled "What It Means to Accept Initiation From a Bonae Fide Spiritual Master." Candidates for 2nd initiation must submit a signed affidavit that they have chanted 16 rounds daily & followed the 4 regulative principles faithfully for at least one year since 1st initiation, & must submit a paper (2 pgs.) entitled "What It Means to be a Brahmana." All candidates accepted for initiation must pass an oral & written test on required prayers & Krsna Conscious philosophy. Required Prayers: Pancha Tattva Mahamantra, Mahamantra, Sri Sri Prabhupada pranami, Sri Gurvatakan, 3 Prayers to offer prasadam.

TALES FROM THE GARDEN

The garden crew engaged in such a wide range of activities this past week that I'll just list 'em and say something about each.

KRISHNA'S GREENHOUSE. Before we can erect it the site must be leveled. Hopefully that new John Deere tractor can do the job, but it's missing a small part and so we patiently wait.

BHOGA MANAGEMENT. Completely by Krishna's arrangement we find ourselves exercised in the care and handling of Krishna's bhoga. I mean totally exercised. Such special mercy. We are planting it, nurturing it, harvesting it, appropriating it for dahl, for feast preps, and emptying it as prasadam waste in the compost pit.

By witnessing the complete cycle it became obvious that we had to expand our service. We can either take an impersonal attitude (Why doesn't someone clean this bhoga room?) or personally take charge by surrendering more. Otherwise we get puffed up and think, Why should I clean this mess? I'm a gardener not a maid!! So, this past week we made the preliminary steps towards devising an intelligent method of bhoga handling. First the dirty work, i.e. cleaning the old mess. Next, map out a new self explained system so that home grown vegetables or imports from the karm world can be gracefully handled. Minimize ways by refusing to see bhoga or bhakti endeavor wasted. Of course there is no such thing as wasted bhakti.

As long as our desire is sincere, the results are secondary. But to see our desire fructify for Krishna and His devotees is the real nectar. So Krishna's giving us a glimpse of how much to plant next year, how to carefully store it, and how to appropriate it wisely. Want to know how much home grown vegetable was used in Radhulaban's dahl this past week? 1 bu. beets, 2½ bu. potatoes, 4 bu. turnip greens, ½ bu. green tomatoes, ½ bu. squash, ½ bu. califlower greens.

SOIL BUILDING. Every tomatoe, squash, bean and pepper plant was chopped into pieces and redistributed into the soil. We used a machete and a board. Next, these fragments were roto-tilled in and rye seed was planted and raked. Waste nothing.

COOPERATION BETWEEN DEPARTMENTS. The great sages in the field and crops dept., and the wood cutting dept. has been very conscious about saving broken lime bags, and ox manure for the gardens. Lime helps neutralize the acidity condition of clay soil. Ox manure of course is wonderful fertilizer.

Also, Dwarkadish, Ekendra, Taustya and Jagaddananda from the gurukula school have been helpful in picking vegetables and carting maple leaves to the garden. All Glories to their service.

DRYING EFFORT. The grand total on green beans and summer squash is about 4 shopping bags each. Right now we're concentrating on herbs like comfrey and mullein. Popcorn, sunflowers, and squash is being dried for seeds next year.

Madhuban Gardens. Considering the number of devotees, the garden can factually provide your needs temporarily. Still sitting in the ground are about 4 bu. beets, 1 bu. carrots, and some rhatibagas. If root crops get frosted over too much the exposed portion of the root crystallizes. Even if you harvest it the frozen part starts rotting and spoils the rest. So please Madhuban, pull those beets. Store them in damp sand if available and keep them from temperatures below 32 degrees.

Also there is 40 ft. of young collards. If you pack hay around them, collards can survive the winter. Fresh greens for the Deity in February. Imagine!

At Madhuban they nicely dried out much comfrey and have 2 barrels of green tomatoes salted, and ½ barrel of saurkraut saved. More info next week.

Your worthless servant,
Bhakta Terry

* * *

PASSTIMES AT GURUKULA

AS WE RECEIVE THEM, WE WILL BE PRINTING ARTICLES FROM OTHER AREAS OF THE ISKCON WORLD, SO THIS SEGMENT OF THE BRIJBASI SPIRIT WILL BE DEVOTED TO NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ISKCON NEWS.

Every day at Gurukula the world's happiest boys engage in bhakti-yoga naturally. Their "Park Period," or playtime, is really spontaneous exhibition of Krsna consciousness. Under the titles of "Salva's Airplane", "Dvaraka", etc., the children, especially the 7-9 year-olds, become enthralled with different pastimes of the Supreme Personality of Godhead. To illustrate: we are presently in the process of obtaining a few tons of sand (courtesy Local Highway Department) for the construction of the world's largest sand-box in our park. The park itself adjoins the temple building and measures something like 120' x 180'. The enlarged sandbox will be about 40' x 50'. The new facility will allow the construction of the excitedly awaited Dvaraka, of which a scale model (of about 30' x 20') has already been created. Every class, boy or girl, is captivated by the appearance of the surrounding walls, fortress towers, and multiple forts and residences of this transcendental sand-castle. Laxmi-Narayana, our temple-coordinator, has given his enthusiastic approval to the new project, while the Caitanya Boys (4-5 years) have concernedly undertaken increased chanting of the Hare Krsna Mahamantra in hopes of being taken seriously enough to be allowed a part in the building of the future City. Teachers included, everyone is looking forward to the project—we are going tomorrow to transport the necessary sand from Highway I-20.

Prabhupada wants us to find the ways and means to present Krsna consciousness in a way to attract the young minds at Gurukula. The Dvaraka project promises to be a success in this regard. Recently, also, Gurukula witnessed the flight of the Saubha, the metallic aircraft of the demon Salva. The imaginations of the boys and girls here are therefore naturally extended along the lines of the transcendental activities of the Supreme Personality of Godhead. So even their play becomes elevated and purifying. When Salva's airplane descended (from an altitude of almost 40') across our green field, the boys were almost in samadhi. We constructed an actual craft of wood, with authentic looking wings, fuselage and tail,

and spray-painted it silver and gold. The craft measured about four feet long with a wing-spread of about three and a half feet. We purchased three running wheels (I cannot recall exactly what they are called) and strung three light-weight cables from one tree to another at an incline. The running-wheels, such as would be used in a pulley-system, were nailed onto the wings and tail of the airplane and a pulley system was used to pull the craft up the cable-strings to a height of about forty feet. Then, as onlookers gasped, we would release the pull-string and the airplane would descend along the cables over a distance of a hundred feet. This was an immortal opportunity for the Radha-Kalachandji Neophytes (7-9 year old boys).

They were ready, bows in hand, for the attack of the famous craft. Arrows would then fly and the great Salva would be staggered by the strength of the soldiers fighting on the side of the Yadus. The silver ship would glide to a graceful halt a few feet from the base of the cables at the opposite tree—only to be launched again. Unfortunately, this Gurukula pastime play continued only for a limited period. One Sunday, as we were trying to act things out according to the presentation of His Divine Grace in the Krsna Book, a very transcendental thing happened. Just as the crash of Salva's airplane was being announced, the plane, struck by the forceful bolts of the Yadus, actually crashed. One of the cables snapped just as we heard, "With a crashing blow from Krsna's club, Salva's airplane burst into pieces and fell into the sea." Everyone was enlivened of course, but our cables cost Laksmi, as we cut the remaining ones up for bowstrings. (We have tried having real battles with foam-tipped arrows, but this didn't work, as the sides of the arrows would sometimes scratch us.) Anyway, Salva's airplane, and the Supreme Personality of Godhead, will always be remembered by the children of Gurukula. This was our real target. A Dvaraka project is next.

— Aksobhya dasa, Dallas Gurukula.

NEW VRINDABAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Minutes for 10/6/74

Attendance: Kirtanananda Swami Maharaja, Parambrahma das, Adi Pati das, Amburish das, Kasyapa das, Madhava Ghosa das, Daivata das, Paramananda das, Urdhareta das.

DEPARTMENTS Adi Pati das

- No progress on the greenhouse; the ground needs levelling first. This should be completed Monday.
- Madhuban gardens were very productive this year and the Madhuban devotees are able to store a substantial supply of bhoga for winter.
- A shed is being built at the Bahulaban garden site for the roto-tillers & equipment.
- Much time is being spent on composting for next year's gardens and also fall fertilization of the gardens.

Kasyapa das - Madhava Ghosa das

- Sautra das and the new tractor have been plowing at Nanda Gram this week and are progressing nicely.
- a threshing machine was purchased at an auction this week. We will use it on our first wheat crop this summer.
- Corn binding is to begin Monday morning at Nanda Gram. Mr. Floyd Caufield will be instructing us in this process and is selling us his corn binder.

Urdhareta das

- Fire extinguishers are being distributed and locations are: Vrindaban - 1, Madhuban - 1, New Barn - 1, Old Barn - 1, Bahulaban - 1, and Gurukula - 1.
- Illness: Sudamu - Taru's disease, improved condition due to staying off legs and drinking plenty of sassafras tea, a blood purifier.

Amburish das

- Bela bred by Sanatana and Satya rebred by Prajapati.
- Rex Woodruff castrated 4 bulls and taught Amburish the art and Amburish castrated into oxen two bulls that same day.
- Ratha dasi, Devahuti, Lila and Basya were brought to Bahulaban from Nanda Gram this week. Basya is due in a month to freshen from Arbor Rose Bauman Sugar Bay, a superior sire, Brown Swiss bull; our first Jersey-Brown Swiss cross.
- Milk production was down slightly this week and the butterfat is up! 30 lbs. more cream produced this week, just two weeks after we started feeding the haylage from the new Harvestore silos.
- Some fence repair was done this week on badly needed spots. More repair is needed.

Daivata das

- The basement shower and laundry room was completed for Madhuban residents.
- The well is dug at Vahna das's house construction site and a permit is needed to dig across the county road for a water line.

NEW BUSINESS --Gravel is needed for road building and repair at about 4 or 5 places at Bahulaban.
 --A system is needed for hauling haylage from the new barn to the old barn.
 --We need 'No Hunting or Trespassing' signs for all properties as hunting season starts soon.

OLD BUSINESS --Voters will be registering this week. All devotees over 18 are encouraged to register to vote. Consult Urdhareta das on Monday if you are eligible.

Meeting adjourned.