Brijbasi Spirit

Weekly Journal of

New Vrindaban

COMMUNITY PROJECT OF ISKCON

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KRISHNA CONSCIOUSNESS INC.

FOUNDER — ACARYA, His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

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

The Brijbasi Spirit, Vol. 1, issue number 33. Printed at Bahulaban, New Vrindaban. Free to New Vrindaban residents; 25¢ single issue and $12.50 for a year's subscription (52 issues) elsewhere. Donations are gratefully accepted to offset the printing cost.

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DEAR GODBROTHERS,

Please accept our prostrated obeisances at your feet. All Glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada, Jagat-guru, whose pure Krsna Consciousness is pervading and sustaining the ISKCON branch of the Caitanya Tree. Let us offer him our obeisances again and again, for he is truly mercy personified and without his grace we would all surely have remained in the most degraded conditions of life, wallowing in the darkest regions of ignorance.

This issue of The Brijabasi Spirit includes a little known essay written by His Divine Grace, on Truth and Beauty, causing us to once again appreciate the real Truth and Beauty of the Absolute. Also this week there is a very nice story from Mother Kunti devi about how Sri Krsna came to Madhuban over the last couple years. And of course there are the many interesting reports about the progress of transcendental service throughout the community.

We humbly request that you will accept this poor attempt at a Vaisnava newspaper and pray along with us for the intelligence to do a nice job for Krsna. Hoping this meets you all in blissful serving mood.

-- the staff

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VAISNAVA CALENDAR

Mon. Dec. 9: Utpanna-ekadasi
Tue. Dec.10: SR. 6:10. Ekadasi-parana---before 9:43 am. Dis. of Srila Kaliya Krsnadasa Thakura and Srila Narahari Sarakara Thakura.
Wed. Dec.11: Dis. of Srila Saranga Thakura

TRUTH AND BEAUTY

The following is an essay by His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada.

It has often been argued whether truth and beauty are terms compatible with one another. One would agree willingly, some say, to express the truth, but since truth is not always beautiful--indeed it is frequently rather startling and unpleasant--how is one to express truth and beauty at the same time?

In reply to this we may inform all concerned that Truth and Beauty are indeed compatible terms. Truth which is Absolute is always beautiful. It is so beautiful that It attracts everyone, including Itself. Truth is so beautiful that many sages, saints and devotees have left everything for its sake. Mahatma Gandhi, the idol of the modern world, dedicated his life for experimenting with Truth, and all his activities were targetted toward Truth only.

Why Mahatma Gandhi--every one of us is drawn by an urge towards Truth, because it is not only beautiful, but possesses all power, all resources, all fame, all renunciation and all knowledge as well.

Unfortunately, people have no information of the actual Truth, and 99.9 per cent of men in all ranks of life are following the principles of untruth in the name of Truth and its quest. We are actually attracted with the beauty of Truth, but we are, since time immemorial, habituated to love untruth in the name of Truth. And therefore, to the mundane thinker, Truth and Beauty are incompatible terms. Mundane truth and beauty are explained as follows:

A man fell in love with a beautiful girl. He was very powerful and strongly built, but his character was doubtful. The girl, meanwhile, was not only beautiful in appearance, but also saintly in character. As such the beautiful girl did not like the proposal of the powerful man. The powerful man, however, insisted upon his lustful desires, whereupon the beautiful girl requested the man wait for only seven days and after that she fixed up a time when they could meet. The strong man agreed, and with high expectations began to count the hours, waiting for the moment when he was fixed to meet the girl.

The saintly girl, however, in order to manifest the real beauty of relative truth, adopted a means which is very instructive: She took a very strong dose of purgative medicine, and for seven days continually she passed loose stool and vomitted all that she ate. All the loose stool and the vomit she stored up in suitable reservoirs. As a result of this laxative medicine, the so-called beautiful girl became lean, thin as a skeleton, and turned gloomy of complexion, with her beautiful eyes pushed into the sockets of the skull.

At the appointed hour, she was waiting anxiously to receive the man in love.

The man appeared on the scene well-dressed and well-behaved, and asked the waiting girl, who was depressed in appearance, about the beautiful girl who had called him

(Continued on the next page)

TRUTH AND BEAUTY (Continued)--

there. The man could not recognize the waiting girl, as the same beauty whom he was asking for. The girl was in a pitiable condition, and the foolish man, in spite of repeated assertions, could not recognize her. All due to the action of the medicine.

At last the girl told the powerful man the story of her beauty, that she had separated the ingredients of beauty, and stored them up in the reservoirs. She told him that he could have and enjoy the juices of beauty stored up in the reservoirs, if he wanted them. The man agreed to see the juices of beauty, and thus he was directed to the store of loose stool and liquid vomit, which were emanating unbearable odors. Thus the whole story of the liquid beauty was disclosed to him. The characterless man, by the grace of the saintly girl, was now able to distinguish between the shadow and the substance, and thus he came to his senses.

That is the real position of every one of us who are attracted by false material beauty. The girl above-mentioned developed a beautiful material body as she desired in her mind, but she was actually apart from that temporary material manifestation of body and mind. She is in fact a spiritual spark, and so also is the man in love, who was attracted by the false skin of the girl.

Many great thinkers, poets, artists and people in general, are deluded by the outward beauty and attraction of the relative truth, and are unaware of the spiritual spark which is both Truth and Beauty at one and the same time. The spiritual spark is so beautiful, but upon leaving the body no one any longer wishes to touch it, even though the body may be decorated with the most costly jewels.

And because we are all after a false, relative truth, we find it to be incompatible with real beauty. The truth is so permanently beautiful that it maintains the same standard of beauty as it is for millions upon millions of years. Besides that, the spiritual spark is indestructible. The beauty of the outer skin can be destroyed in a few hours time by one small dose of strong purgative, but the beauty of Truth is always the same, and is indestructible just as it is. Unfortunately, mundane writers are ignorant of the beautiful sparks of spirit, as well as of the fiery resources of these spiritual sparks and their interrelations of transcendental pastimes. When these pastimes are displayed here by the Grace of the Almighty, the foolish persons who cannot see beyond the gross senses mistake such pastimes of Truth and Beauty as being within the same field as the store of loose stools and liquid vomit. Thus they come to despair, and then declare that Truth and beauty cannot be accomodated at one and the same time.

The mundane thinkers do not know that the Whole Spiritual Entity is the beautiful Person attracting everything as the Prime Substance, the Prime Source and the Fountainhead of everything that be. And the infinitesimal spiritual sparks, as parts and parcels of the Whole Spirit, are qualitatively the same--beautiful and eternal entities. The difference is that the Whole is eternally the Whole, and the parts are eternally the parts. Both of them are the Ultimate Truth, Ultimate Beauty, Ultimate Knowledge, Ultimate Energy, Ultimate Renunciation and the Ultimate Opulence.

Any literature which does not describe such Ultimate Truth and Beauty is a store of loose stools and liquid vomit of the relative truth. Real literature is that which describes this Ultimate Truth and Beauty.

* * *

DEITIES AND COOKING

This last Wednesday Kuladri dasa spent some time up at the isolated brahmacari asrama to see how nicely things were organized. He noted how Radhanath dasa was doing a wonderful job as head pujari. Having a small wood-burning cook stove in the pujari room for cooking Deity milk sweets, he is about 10 minutes ahead of every function, making sure that everything is all together. It reminded Kuladri of many temples in India--very quiet, simple and full of bhakti, "pure".

Their Lordships Sri Sri Radha Vrndavana Nath are displaying new, fresher features now as they underwent a few cosmetic improvements on their eyes and hair, and had the reddish-pink color touched up underneath Their feet and hands. Gaur-Nitai are also changing Their features, but are not quite finished yet.

All three sets of Deities on all the three farms--Bahulaban, Vrindaban and Madhuban--are displaying special mercy lately, rendering themselves dazzlingly effulgent and radiating great beauty. Kuladri explained that They were trying to capture the hearts of everyone here. Srila Prabhupada has given us the program, now we have to put ourselves in a position to accept it.

Kuladri, along with his wife Mother Kutila, is now acting as temple commander and head pujari at Madhuban, along with retaining his position as head pujari at Bahulaban for Radha Vrndavana Candra. He pointed out that the philosophy for his service up there was the same as for anywhere: "I try to improve the atmosphere of the Deities, then everything will come." To accomplish this he is initiating anumber of projects, the first of which is applying cow dung to the temple walls. This job is 9/10 done and the cow dung acts similar to plaster and as an insulator. It's being applied in swirls by hand on the walls and ceiling, and these will be whitewashed with a mixture including light pastel pigments of yellow, blue and red mixed in, just like in many of the finest Indian temples.

To improve cleanliness the water system is being finished up. This will also allow the Deities to have Their own water line in the pujari room. The kitchen will maintain a new high standard of cleanliness and organization, and also the electrical and lighting system will be improved.

And finally, Kuladri is thinking of a way to re-arrange the altar so that Their Lordships Radha Madhava are given more emphasis, in contrast to Madhuban's huge Lord Jagannath Deities, Who tend to have an overpowering presence due to Their size.

In the cooking department, this week, and every Sunday hereafter, the Sunday feast is being cooked only by men. Mangalananda dasa Brahmacari is heading it up.

Gopinath dasa has put forth considerable effort in organizing a full list of preparations that are offered to each set of Deities on all 3 farms at every offering. This complete Deity Menu will be published next week to portray how opulently the Deities of New Vrindaban are eating. All Glories to Sri Guru & Gauranga!

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KRSNA CONSCIOUS MARRIAGE IN NEW VRINDABAN

In the past our ISKCON Society has had some small difficulty in the marriages between devotees. A few of these couples would get married, but then after a while would falsely renounce each other due to a disturbance in their sense gratification. Such occurances are due only to relating on a mundane, bodily platform. Observing the anxiety and disturbance this was causing on those affected here in New Vrindaban, Kirtanananda Maharaja devised a system of marriage resembling closely that of the old Vedic system.

In the first marriage ceremony flowers are exchanged by the couple and verbal commitments are made to enter into household life as husband and wife, to serve each other in carrying out their Krsna Conscious duties in the context of marriage. There ensues a trial period to see whether they can make it together. For the first 3 months they are not allowed to live together; whereupon, if they are still holding true, they get legally married according to government law and begin living together.

(Continued next page)

KRSNA CONSCIOUS MARRIAGE (Continued)--

After a year, if everything continues to go nicely, a 2nd marriage ceremony is held, popularly called the Vedic wedding ceremony, which is signified by the tying of the man's doti to the woman's sari. This is a very formal and grand affair in which there is a fire sacrifice for purification, and the couple vow before the Deity to remain together as husband and wife. This is a solemn vow to be taken very seriously, and it is a great offense to break it. A man may renounce family life only if the children are old enough to care for the mother and/or when he has permission from his spiritual master or suitable authority to take up vanaprastha or sannyasa order of life.

In becoming householder one should be careful not to become grhamedhi, or unrestricted in family life, which is compared to the oxen absorbed in working so hard, trudging around and around, intently grinding a milling stone. Such grhamedhi is intent only on family enjoyment and works so hard for his wife and children. Instead one should become grhastha, a householder entering family life under the direction of scripture, practicing only restricted and regulated sense enjoyment under religious principles for the purpose of developing his spiritual life. One must never lose sight of his purpose in life--to perform penances and austerities to become Krsna, or God conscious.

Last Sunday Sriman Madhava Gosha dasa and Mother Vidya devi dasi had their first marriage ceremony, along with Bhakta Nick and Mother Linda Prabhus.

* * *

THE BIG FREEZE

Winter has finally settled in with the coming of December. Beginnin on the 1st the weather started getting heavy. The skies relieved themselves of snow for 3 days straight, and by the 3rd of December about a foot lay on the ground. Then the thermometer started dipping into the Patala regions, reaching a low of 10 degrees on December 5. Except for a trickle in the greenhouse, the entire Bahulaban water supply temporarily froze up. The pujari room's stained glass window was adorned with a solid sheet of ice. And the brahmacaris walked the 2 mile road down to Bahulaban with icicles forming on the edges of their hoods. These are but a few vivid examples as New Vrindaban's residents began raking in their treasury of heaps of austerities (austerity is the wealth of the brahmanas). The hill folk around here say that the first 3 days in December indicate what the weather will generally be like for the rest of the winter, and it sure looks like we're in for a snowy, cold one. On these chilly wintry eves the devotees absorb themselves in stoking their fires and taking hot milk prasadam, along with their regular Krsna Conscious activities.

Kirtanananda Maharaja says that he is especially favorably disposed toward the winter because the devotees here make so much spiritual advancement--the cold and austerity forces them to take shelter of Krsna more. He says that the consciousness is so much better, "crisp", and that the devotees work harder and space out less.

So look out Maya, the residents of New Vraja are going to make some big inroads on your stronghold this winter. Jai!

* * *

FIELDS AND CROPS

Bhima is sick. Despite hours of remedial treatment, he is functioning erratically at short intervals. When he is going, we have been hauling corn from Nandagram and blowing up hay into the silo.

The snow is really nice for the horses because they can pull the sled around with very little friction. We hauled supplies to Adi Pati's, helped clear land at Guruban, & hauled cow manure that has really been stacking up since the cows have been staying at the shed. The horses also dragged in fire wood and moved hay, bedding and haylage for the cows. One supply run was made to Vrindaban and the horses broke while breaking in some wood so the wagon had to be left there. Arjit dasa started working with the horses. He will be using Saivya & Pat once Kasyapa gets them working smoothly together. The John Deere tractor hauled corn from Nandagram in the Redi-haul, cleared snow & hauled water to the temple area. Kasyapa is doing fine driving tractor but will stay mainly with the horses.

-- Madhava Gosha das

IN THE WOODS

We've hade a wonderful week this week. My wife has been freeked out all week and our new baby, Dharma Vira, has taken over the house. Mahraj told my wife, "Why are you worrying, just think of the results you'll get."

This week Samba and I have been clearing out forest at Srila Prabhupada's palace. That boul-dozer can sure devistate a forest in a hurry. But then the fun comes. Did you ever try to figure out where to put a forest after you move it? It's not easy. And we really don't have the man power or the time to chop it up into little peaces and stack it. We have our hands full just keeping in the fire wood. So if you think you got problems, we got a forest full of them. But Krsna says, "In all situations just remember Me."

So for all ya prabhus who live inside this year can feal secure from the cold and wet mud outdoors, for the rough and tough wood crue will take care of your inner warms. No nead to fear the tears of love of Sri Sri Radha and Krsna will freeze on you this year. We have made ample arrangements for all your terable fears (The Cold Bath).

Your servant in the woods,
Romharsan Das

"Drops of Kirtanananda Swami's Nectar"

"We're not interested in skinnie renunciates." -- Srimad Bhagavatam class.

"Romharsan, you've hade twins!" as he points to two chain saws now.

Printed as submitted by Romharsan dasa.

* * *

KIRTANANANDA SWAMI TRAVELS TO NEW YORK

Kirtanananda Maharaja, along with Vahna dasa and Damodara Pandita dasa Adhikari, left for New York last Thursday and are expected back by this weekend. While there Kirtanananda Swami will be taking care of some G.B.C. business and procuring some things for the community, as well as giving his nectarean association to the New York devotees.

Damodara Pandita dasa Adhikari will be staying in New York to join once again in book distribution Sankirtan. He says, though, that he's determined to come back to the transcendental land of New Vrindaban.

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CONSTRUCTION

BAHULABAN. At Bahulaban the concrete building is going "full-steam" ahead. Tapanacarya dasa, who came back to New Vrindaban after a few months' absence, has joined the crew. The shower facilities of the building for men are almost done, and they should be showering by this weekend or shortly thereafter. The shower room floor is completely marbled (very striking!), the plumbing is being put in, and the women's section of the bathhouse is being completed.

VRINDABAN.

Our new arrival, Bhakta Dennis, is from Colorado and is doing some fine service for Radha Vrndavana Nath up here. So far he has put up the bath house stove pipe and improved the stove itself, he replaced the kitchen fan, and has built brackets for a very large length of stove pipe he is currently engaged in putting up for the kitchen. This "stove pipe" is actually silo pipe and will rise to a lenth of 21 feet. The brackets are needed to support its weight.

Ajeya dasa has been coming back early from tending the Nandagram cows and has been constructing a new house for Srimate Tulasi devi, who has outgrown her old one.

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ANNOUNCEMENT. I am not responsible for any debts, public or private, drawn up without my full consent (i.e. regarding Mother Kutila's bid at the Sunday auction).

-- Kuladri dasa Adhikari

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MADHUBAN DIARY

Once upon a time when Bahulaban became overburdened by little children, it was decided that Madhuban farm would be a nice place for people with children to live. There wasn't much facility, just living facility for the devotees--but who can live without Krsna? So this is how Krsna came to Madhuban.

Two summers ago--Krsna had a little altar--surrounded and protected by a large tye-dye curtain, in the children's play room. Everyone went to Bahulaban at 4 am, for japa, Mangala arotrika, Srimad Bhagavatam class and breakfast. One mother would stay back with all the sleeping children and offer Krsna His Mangala arotrika. Kids were everywhere; in the kitchen, in the temple room, in the arms of the mother pujari doing one of the 4 artis a day, in the arms of the cook sitting by the kitchen stove when it was very cold. Doors were unheard of--children wandered in and out of the kitchen. Devotee dishes were washed in the kitchen. We never made any Deity preps, just cereal, milk, dahl, rice, capatis, and popcorn or bread. But the desire was there--to increase, to bring Krsna to the center--to please Krsna. Vrajasvari dasi arranged everything so nothing muchiwould ever enter the kitchen (this was 2 years ago). Then Krsna got his own temple room. The kitchen was moved and the old kitchen became the temple room. The altar was the center and Lord Caitanya was the center of the altar. Vases, garlands, cleaning--it was very exciting.

A few babies got too big to take to Bahulaban every morning-they made too much noise in class-but they were too little to leave with the other children. So a few mothers regularly stayed back. There was a small kirtan at Mangala arti now and a small Srimad Bhagavatam class--and more and more a desire to increase the program "at home". Then Srila Prabhupada came to stay. His Divine Grace stayed at Madhuban for 1 week that year and the devotees moved to Bahulaban. The 'house' was redone. The hundred year-old-feeling wall pa per walls were re-boarded, the tile floors were put in, and it was painted inside and out. It was then offered to Srila Prabhupada. And when the devotees 1 week later they found not only a remodeled building but a purified one.

From then on the desire increased and increased. The mothers were always busy with the children--but they were always thinking, "Krsna, Krsna, Krsna." Then it was decided that if we got everything ready, Lord Jagannath would come. Every offering was on time, every arti was on time. A special prep was made for Lord Caitanya. We didn't get butter or nuts or anything so we cooked down skim milk and made a milk sweet. After the first arati we offered it at, there was to be a maha prasadam distribution and everyone was very excited--but it was gone! Everyone was disappointed but Balai dasi was more excited, "We have a real temple now! Someone nipped the maha!"

All that winter we tried to perfect our service. The kids were still everywhere and the mother pujari would still have to hold her crying baby. Siddha Babha, Nandini, Bahktin, Kham dasi, Premananda spent entire mornings under the feet of the cooks. But still the desire was there. "Lord Jagannath--get everything ready for Him." "I want Radha & Krsna to come here," said Jamini one day with a special light in her eyes as she remembered her old pujari days.

Early that spring, in February, Kirtanananda Maharaja came to Madhuban and announced that Big Lord Jagannath was coming to Madhuban! And 2 pujaris, Mother Praffulamuki who had a child and Mother Mahamaya dasi who didn't. Doors on the kitchen! Butter! Ghee! Nuts! Dates! Puris! Halava! More and more services! It was all exciting and new. Then Lord Jagannath came. One very cold night He decided to come to Madhuban on the back of a land rover--only a land rover could make the trip down from Vrindaban Farm where They were being taken care of. The temple room had been moved to the largest room in the house and a nice altar had been built. Big Lord Jagannath came wrapped in blankets & sleeping bags. He & Subhadra & Balarama were placed on the altar and a nice feast was prepared by Mother Satyabhama. That was only a start. Somehow or other Krsna became attracted.

Their Lordships Radha Madhava were installed that June and Gaur-Nitai were installed the next May. By the mercy of Kirtanananda Maharaj!

So now we have seven children at Madhuban and ten Deities! and all facility to serve Krsna and the devotees.

-- Mother Kunti devi

COWS

"In the Tenth Canto, 21st Ch., 13th verse of Srimad Bhagavatam there is an appreciation by the gopis of the inertia of the cows in Vrndavana. The gopis saw that the cows were hearing the sweet songs vibrated by Krsna's flute and were appearing to be drinking the nectar of these transcendental sounds. The calves were stunned, and they forgot to drink the milk from the milk bags. Their eyes seemed to be embracing Krsna, and there were tears in their eyes. This is an instance of inertia resulting from hearing the transcendental vibrations of Krsna's flute." --from NECTAR OF DEVOTION, pg. 255-256.

At 12:30 am Taru dasa begins chanting his japa. At 2:00 he puts the grain down while all around the temple the other cowherd boys rise up quicker than they ever did before. Hurry to put down the grain, get the hot water to the barn as quickly as possible. Scald all the cans and buckets. Put the rags used to wipe the cows in an antiseptic solution and place on the hot plate. Someone is now herding the remaining cows over from the loafing shed, while another is letting them through the gate. Inside, here they come, making sure they all go to their proper stalls. Pritha steps away as always to let Gopipriya into her stall (Draupadi used to be there). Last check to make sure everyone is secured in their stall. Jai. Wipe down Parvati, Rati, Kunti, shortly thereafter you hear the sounds of surabhi milk filling up buckets. The cows are being milked now at 2:30 in the morning, before Mangala arotrika. It must be fast and efficient. Garga Rsi prabhu runs inside and outside feeding out hay to the mothers being milked and filling the feed bunk in the loafing shed with haylage for when the mothers return at 4:00. Bhakta Kurt is wiping cows left and right, weighing milk, dipping teats and finding himself pretty busy. Taru, Cirantana, Ganendra, Purandara and Amburish are mostly engaged in milking these transcendental mothers.

About 3:00 Kirtanananda Maharaja walks in. Auspiciousness. He strolls all around the barn watching everything going on.

"How are the girls (cows) doing this morning?" he asks. "How much is Surabhi giving today?" He soothingly talks to everyone just a bit. Seeing the calf suck from the mother like this in the early morning is also auspicious. He smiles as he watches milk from Surabhi's milkbag fill the bucket, while the calf also takes. Always he is silently chanting Hare Krsna and sometimes you are able to hear the holy mantra as Krsna dances on his tongue. Before long, with everyone fully satisfied, he goes to the temple to chant with the other devotees.

Now the cans are filling up, woossshh, bucket after bucket until the last cow is finished. The cows have all eaten and some are now lying down. Open the gate door now for the cows are going again to their loafing shed; on the way over they stop to drink water. Now it's 4:00 am or after and cowherd boys are flying in all directions, with milk cans, buckets of water, etc., hurrying to make it on time to arotrika and great the Deities. Jai! All Glories to Kirtanananda Maharaja and his desire to serve Srila Prabhupada.

Maharaja said it will take some austerity but if we try hard this new schedule will work out nicely. It will make everyone more regulated and happy, even the cows. There hasn't been perfect attendence yet, but Krsna will be seeing all the cowherd boys at the evening functions soon. Haribol.

In between milkings this week more fence work was done at Madhuban and soon with the coming addition of a grain feeder trough and some reinforcements on the barbed wire, the heifers will be taken there. Actually, since moving into the loafing shed with the cows this past week and eating haylage all day long the heifers are quite pacified and they appear to be very blissful. They might not want to leave. When the cows were introduced initially to their new shed they entered it jumping and dancing like it was springtime, with bouncing bags of milk and legs flying.

Statistics were compiled this week on mother Sati who finished her lactation last week. At 3 years 8 months she finished with 10,4000 lbs. of milk, 384 lbs. of butterfat in 295 days, being milked twice daily.

Mother Rabbri was dried off this week; she has suddenly become ill with intense swelling of her lower jaw, thus not enabling her to eat. The vet will be here today to administer additional treatment.

Mothers Cintamani and Gopipriya were bred for the second time this week to L.J. Recruit and Sugar Boy respectively.

(Cow Report statistics cont. p. 9)

SANKIRTAN PARTIES

All Glories to Sri Guru and Gauranga! All Glories to Kirtanananda Maharaja, the cows and the ever joyful brijabasis--we beg that they eternally keep these useless servants at their most merciful feet for without their association all roads would surely lead to hellish existence.

This week the mercy of Their Lordships Sri Sri Radha Vrndavana Candra was tasted not only within the confines of New Vrindaban but was relished also by our still forgetful family members in the surrounding cities of Moundsville, Washington and Wheeling. Somehow or other Lord Caitanya by His causeless mercy has allowed even the most fallen Brijabasis to engage even more in the mission of Srila Prabhupada by spreading the glorious holy names to every town and village. By the mercy of His Holiness Kirtanananda Maharaja, not only are we allowed to engage in the service of Their Lordships inside the Holy Village of New Vrindaban, but also outside the walls by distributing these soul saving literatures of our Spiritual Master.

Over a span of 4 short evenings amidst the crows of anxiety-wracked Christmas shoppers searching for a taste of that pleasure which is always just ahead, a total of 272 Back to Godhead magazines and 16 KRSNA BOOKS were distributed and by the grace of Srila Prabhupada many were once again engaged by the Lord in some small service, pushing them just a bit further towards that Reservoir of Pleasure.

I take this opportunity to thank my dearmost spiritual master who, disregarding my many offenses and poor service attitude, has been so kind to me as to keep such a useless worm still at his feet. I pray that some day I may take control of this rebellious body and mind and engage fully in his devotional service. By his mercy only I have been able this week to bring some bit of real happiness through advancement to my lost brothers and sisters.

All Glories to the merciful association of Lord Caitanya's most kind servants -- this week's distributors of mercy -- Madhava Gosha dasa, Arjit dasa, and Mother Donna Prabhu and Mother Lakhima. By the mercy of their association this easily led worm has kept from drowning in the ocean of Maya. May their enthusiasm, determination and kindness some day rub off on me.

Your most unfaithful servant,
Advaitacharya dasa

NEW VRINDABAN TSKP

N.V. TSKP ranked number 8 this week in book distribution: 913 ¼ points (8B, 414 M, 1837 S).

Kirtanananda Maharaja is constantly helping us to increase our service to Radha Vrndavana Candra. We have increased our SKP to 10 devotees with the addition of a 4-man party. So watch out all you big and medium centers. We humbly request, that all you large centers that have airports, malls, and big downtowns please leave cities like Columbus, Ohio, Cincinnatii and Louisville, Ky. for N.V. TSKP as this is our only facility. Jai. Hari Bol.

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COWS (Continued)--

Surabhi	300.1 pounds
Pritha	232.1
Cintamani	229.1
Satyabhama	228.2
Basya	220.1
Sarasvati	219.5
Parvati	214.4
Iravati	211.4
Gopipriya	185.4
Rati	173.6
Bhadra	172.1
Pankaja	132.5
Rukmini	127.5
Dvaraka	126.3
Ambika	124.6
Laxsmi	122.1
Goloka	115.3
Rohini	98.6
Yasoda	94.6
Bhumi	86.2
Kunti	78.1
Rabbri	50.3
total	3,547.4 pounds

Daily statistics: Nov. (30) 484.5 lbs., Dec(1) 514.4, (2) 474.3, (3) 515.7, (4) 526.5, (5) 517.8, (6) 514.2.

-- Amburish dasa

NEW VRINDABAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Minutes for 12/8/74

Attendence: Kirtanananda Swami Maharaja, Gajendra dasa, Madhava Gosha dasa, Tapapunja dasa, Bhagavanacarya dasa, Parambrahma dasa, Amburish dasa, Kasyapa dasa, Adi Pati dasa, Amburish dasa, Bhagavatananda dasa, Daivata dasa.

Secretary-Treasury Read and OK'd.
--If Damodara Pandita dasa does not remember to return the weekly Board Minutes to this notebook he will be summoned before the New Vrindaban Judicial Board to answer charges of neglect of duty and interference with the government of this community.

Adi Pati & Tapapunja / GARDENS & OXEN

--All of the wood on the main farms is being hauled in and distributed by ox power. This is over 2,500 lbs. of wood daily.
--Large trenches are being dug in the greenhouse. They are nearly completed and gravel and drainage tile will be installed this week.
--Tapapunja dasa and Bhakta Nick have been checking out and repairing all of the vehicles and will be continuing to get all of the vehicles in shape for peak performance.
--The old tool room is being set up as a machine and mechancial repair shop for the vehicle and machine maintenance.

Kasyapa dasa & Madhava Gosha dasa / FIELDS & CROPS, HORSES
--Bhima the silo loader keeps on breaking down and all but one load of corn is blown up along with almost all of the hay. Filling will continue the earlier part of the week and should be all finished for the season this week.
--The horses had an easy week with just wood and manure being hauled.

BHAGAVANACARYA DASA / NEW BARN APARTMENTS, GUARDS & MEDICAL
--The crew has been installing insulation and sheet rock at the New Barn and also on the 3rd floor brahmacari asrama.
--The New Barn boiler room now has a floor and will be used for wood storage and for drying wood.
--The guards are having daily 1 hour drills and weekly target practicing drills; a new night watch schedule seems to be working nicely.

Gajendra dasa / MAINTENANCE
--The kitchen is now lighted with a new flourescent fixture and also lighting has been installed in the Bathhouse and New Barn.
--The boiler is being repaired and new grates will be welded in today.
--A single-phase one horse motor was purchased for the shoe machine and hopefully the shoe shop will be wired and ready real soon.
--This week's duties will be mostly wiring on all farms.

Amburish dasa / COWS
--The new milking schedule began this week--2:30 am and 2:30 pm/this is an ideal scheudle because it gives maximum intervals, 12 hour ones, between milkings, allowing the cows to have an empty bag 2x daily at the farthest possible interval
--The fence at Madhuban for the heifers is nearly completed and the heifers could be moved up this week.

OLD BUSINESS --Kiranasa dasa will be going on the road and Jagat-trata dasa will take over the tool room duties.

NEW BUSINESS --The local SKP has done 4 cases of BTG's this week.

(Cont. next page)

BOARD MINUTES (Continued)--

Parambrahma dasa / VRINDABAN
--New chimney piping has been installed for the bath house and Bhakta Dennis, who is doing this work, is currently working on piping for the kitchen stove.
--Cabin inspections are being carried out on a spot check basis.
--Ajeya dasa is constructing a new Tulasi devi house.
--Work on Sri Sri Radha Vrndavana Nath's altar is to begin.
--New outfits were made for the Deities.

Parambrahma dasa/ BAHULABAN
--Repair work has been engaged in on the plumbing.
--The temple porch has been enclosed and should be used only for storing shoes. No one is to go past the designated spot with shoes on.
--The bulldozer is stuck in the mud at Guruban.

PUJARI REPORT from Yajnabhuk dasa
--The pujari room will be painted this week.
--The temple room windows are in the process of being covered.
--A new outfit has been completed for Radha Vrndavana Nath. A nite outfit for Their Lordships will be completed for next Sunday. Also Lord Jagannath will get a new set of crowns and nite outfit tonight.
--An attempt is being made to keep the temple cleaner during prasadam time by reminding everyone to wash their places after they eat.
--Seemingly, the lack of flowing water has not affected temple functions too much.
--The kitchen floor is presently a sea of mud as the drain is not open and there is aslow leak from the wall.

Meeting adjourned.

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