

Lamb 108 cute as a button, but infuriating as hell

In the spring, there's always an influx of lambs on Brown Farm, and the numbers rise significantly.

I always say you can't look at a newborn lamb, and not smile.

They are happy little animals, running around the pen, grabbing some 'lunch' from their moms, and playing with their pen-mates.

But they do have moments that can really test you.

Our lambs are born in two groups. The first group is born in mid-late February. They are always the mature mothers that deliver at that time.

The second group is comprised of the yearling ewes giving birth.

They were born the year before, so we have them give birth later as they are inexperienced. Lambing in April gives them a better chance against hypothermia.

We have one lamb from Group 2 that sort of stands out in the pen.

She's a sweet little thing. Her name is lamb 108, and she's as cute as a button-but



TED BROWN
A Ted Bit

infuriating as hell.

You see, she has an obsession about getting her head stuck.

When she was weaned from her mom at six weeks, she decided to stick her head through the slats in the hay rack.

I'd have to get into the pen, lift her up and turn her body a bit, so she could pull out her head.

At first, it was intermittent.

Then it became twice a day.

Finally, it got to the point where I'd go into the barn, get her head out, and before I was finished feeding, she'd have it stuck again. Her record was four times in one

feeding.

I moved her to another pen, with narrower slates in the hay feeder.

She got her head stuck in the gate that opens into the pen.

I divided the pen in half with plywood. That held her - for a while.

With lambs, it's one of those annoying things you simply have to wait out.

Eventually, her head will get too big to go through the opening.

Last week, I started to feel I had won. She hadn't put her head through any opening in a few weeks - I was home free.

Wrong.

It always happens when you're going to some event. I walked in the door, and there she stood, her head stuck through a hole in the pen slats, where there is a steel pipe bolted to the wooden side of the pen.

In all my years in the barn, I have NEVER seen an animal push his or her head through that spot.

I tried to turn her head and push her back through.

She pushed back. (And she's now getting big enough to be able to push back.)

I tried a number of angles and positions. I was soaked in sweat and I couldn't get her head out.

To add to the situation, the other lambs in the pen joined with her, bleating at the top of their little lungs in joyful harmony.

I tell ya, there was a moment you could have bought a flock of sheep, pretty cheap.

After struggling for what seemed like hours, the solution became obvious.

I had to dismantle the end of the pen.

The pens are held together with carriage bolts and wood screws, so it wasn't like I had to pull out nails, but it was still a tough job.

Eventually I got her out, and I cut a piece of lumber to make the hole inaccessible to her, or any other lambs.

So far she hasn't found another spot to stick her head through, but until she's a fully grown, I won't be sure.

But if she does find a way,

I have two courses of action. I can build a pen completely out of plywood.

Or I can simply sell her - which sounds mighty tempting.

THE WAY WE WERE



Photo Esqueusing Historical Society

In this 1967 photo, students from Robert Little School in Acton presented an operetta based on H.M.S. Pinafore. The crew of the H.M.S. Pinafore included Steve Van Fleet, Barb Pratt, Carl Reed, Jack Holmes, Dave Bittorf, Randy Coker, Jim Frizzel, Rene Shutz, Harry Lawson, Bob Manning, Bob Krul, Alex Grey, John Roswell and Adrian Van Opstal.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Why is the radical left so afraid of free speech?

By "left" I don't mean traditional liberal. The liberal parties, of North America at least, have been taken over by the radical, extremist, leftists. Their goal: to shut down any and all forms of speech that does not fall in line with leftist group think.

Example given: The recent Ryerson panel discussion "The Stifling of Free Speech on University Campuses", scheduled for Aug. 22, had to be shut down. Why? According to Ryerson

Communications Director Michael Forbes "safety concerns were the reason the event was shut down" (National Post, Aug. 16, 2017).

Safety concerns? You mean two of the scheduled speakers, Gad Saad and Jordan Peterson, both distinguished university professors in their fields, loved, respected, and admired by their students, were threatening the safety of panel attendees and Ryerson faculty and students. Of course not; the threat of violence, hence safety concerns, was coming from the radical, extremist, leftist student body. This student body's sole goal was to eliminate points of view that didn't fall

in line with party thought, a.k.a. group think. The irony should jump out at all thinking readers: a panel on stifling free speech on university campus was stifled on a university campus. The radical student body underscored the panels topic of discussion. More irony; Gad Saad, a Lebanese Jew, was labelled a Nazi.

The strategy of the radical extremist left is to intimidate, threaten, and use violence to stifle any speech they disagree with. Case in point: University of Southern California Berkley's radical student body recently used violence and destruction of property to shut down speeches by conserva-

tive commentators Milos Yiannopoulos and Ann Coulter.

Neither of whom I follow nor would I likely agree with much of what they had to say. That's beside the point; they still have a right to speak.

The radical left doesn't stop at attacking only conservative speakers. No, they now devour their own. Dave Rubin and Sam Harris, two American liberal commentators and speakers have been viciously attacked by the radical left. Rubin, a gay liberal, and Harris, an atheist liberal, were both once darlings of the American left. Not anymore. They crossed the

group think line! How?

Not by becoming conservative republicans; as great a sin as that might have been. No, they committed the unpardonable sin. They stood up for free speech and dared to interview, on their blogs, other free speech advocates.

They believe in the right to discuss, criticize, and enter into open, rational dialogue. Ah, but this won't do, as long as the radical, extremist, violent leftists have anything to say about it - since they are the only ones allowed to have anything to say about anything today.

Why has this attack on only conservative speakers, and free speech liberal advo-

cate, from the radical left student bodies been allowed to take root and grow? It is my view that spineless university administrators, and some weak-minded politicians, have allowed student actions to get to a point of extremism and intolerance resulting in violence and destruction of property.

The liberal party is now run by a band of radical, intolerant, extremist, leftist thugs. Any traditional, moderate liberal or democrat, who is honest, at least with him or herself, knows this to be true.

I return to my original question: Why is the radical left so afraid of free speech?

Brian Hayden

Speedy Glass

We handle all insurance work.

• Truck Accessories • Upholstery
• Heavy Equipment Glass
• Window Tinting

354 Guelph Street, Georgetown
905-873-1655

Fumace Air Conditioning Gaslines Boilers Water Heaters Radiant Heating

Brooks Heating & Air.ca

905-877-3100

NAPOLEON

Local Experts You Know & Trust

proud local dealer of Canadian made products

Visit our showroom

BuyWise WINDOWS & DOORS

• your window & door professionals •

11 Mountainview Rd., N. Georgetown, ON L7G 4T3
905.873.0236
www.buy-wise.ca info@buy-wise.ca

• awarded readers choice 27 times •