

Meat Industry Not Immune to Rising Costs

CHICAGO—Following is comment by the American Meat Institute with respect to some of the subjects which were discussed at the meeting here of the National Swine Industry Committee.

SPREADS

On the question of spreads, the meat business has not been immune from the rising costs which have characterized all business operation during recent years. Farmers themselves have felt them.

Operating expenses in the meat packing industry increased from \$1,973,000,000 in 1949 to \$2,650,000,000 in 1954, an advance of 34 per cent.

Wages Cost \$50 Million

Figures for 1955 are not yet available, except that a wage increase last August is estimated to have added \$50 millions annually to the industry's wage cost. Incidentally, this wage increase on an annual basis amounted to more than the earnings of the entire meat packing industry in 1954.

Roughly half of the packers' expense margin represents compensation of employees. Costs of supplies and containers, transportation, and taxes also are important items.

When meat values decline, the cost of such items as labor, supplies, and transportation tends to remain the same. This forces the packer to retain an increased proportion of the price received for products. For example, when the packer's cost on a dollar of wholesale value is 25 cents, 75 cents can be paid out for livestock. When the wholesale value declines to 80 cents, only 55 cents can be paid for livestock. Thus, while the wholesale value has declined 20 per cent, the price the packer can pay for livestock out of the wholesale value has declined more than 25 per cent.

On the other hand, increased volume, such as the industry has had in recent months, tends to operate in the other direction through lowering unit costs.

Make A Point
To Visit
Our

Animal
Health
Department

THE
QUARRYVILLE
DRUG CO.

QUARRYVILLE, PA.

PHONE 100

Delps of Oxord Named Members Of Guernsey Club

PETERBOROUGH, N. H. — Graham J. & Martha E. Delp of Primerose Farm in Oxord have been elected to membership in the American Guernsey Cattle Club, non-profit agricultural organization serving over 40,000 purebred Guernsey breeders throughout the United States.

They started with purebred Guernseys in 1946 and now own 40 head. They hope to maintain a herd of 50 milking cows. They are selling Golden Guernsey Milk.

The American Guernsey Cattle Club records the registration of purebred Guernseys — those whose ancestry can be traced back to the Isle of Guernsey, original home of the breed. The AGCC also records the results of official production tests; and, through Golden Guernsey, Incorporated, supervises the marketing of Golden Guernsey Milk.

Farm Price Average Off Six Points

HARRISBURG — Dr. William L. Henning, State Secretary of Agriculture, today said the index of prices received by Pennsylvania farmers dropped six points during the month ended February 15. There was no change in the national index for the month, he pointed out.

A sharp drop in the average price received by farmers for eggs contributed most to the Pennsylvania decline, Dr. Henning explained. The down-trend in egg prices was tempered somewhat by a less than usual seasonal drop in prices received for wholesale milk, he added.

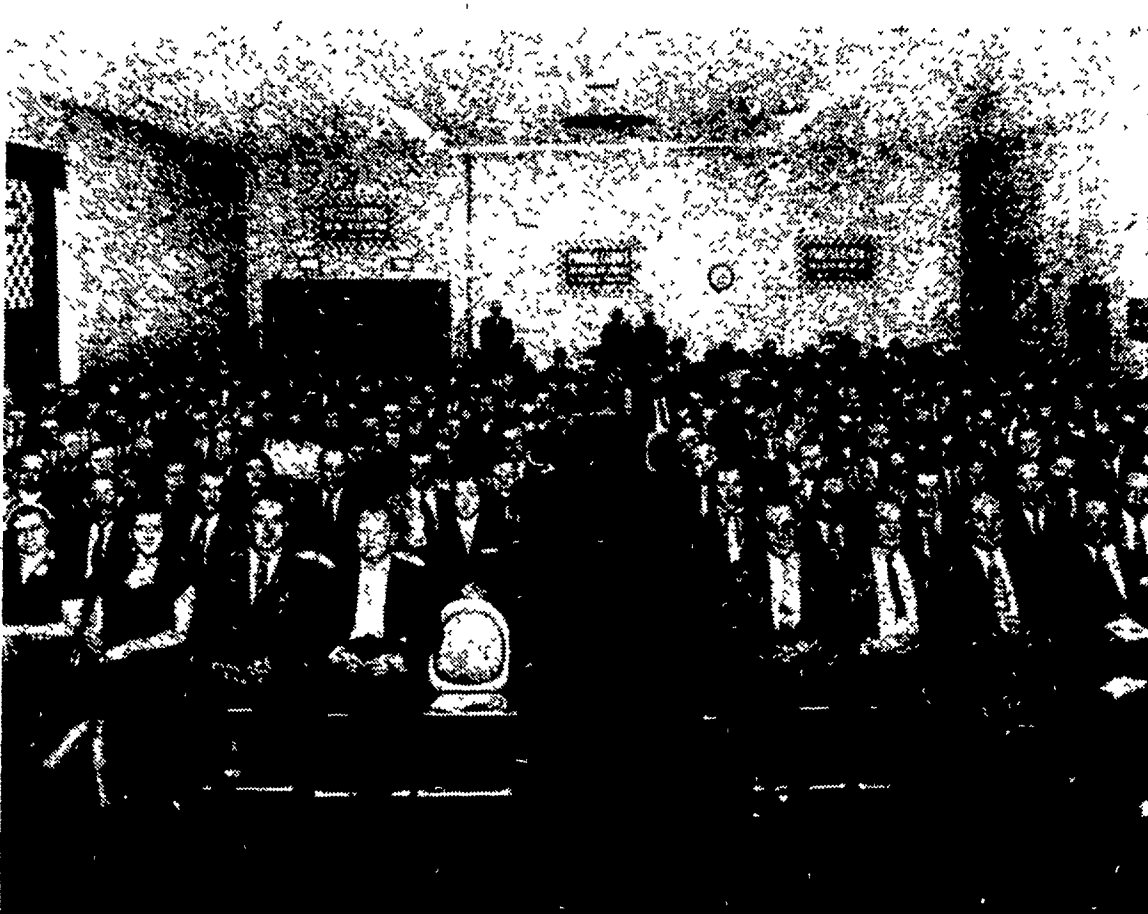
Between June and September of 1955 the Pennsylvania index for all principal farm products showed advances following a three-month period of decline. The index advanced one point in December but dropped four points in January and another six points in February, Department records show.

The Pennsylvania price index in mid-February, at 233 per cent of the 1910-14 base average, was nine points below the same date last year, a Federal-State survey showed. The national index remained steady at 226.

Pennsylvania crop prices registered a seven-point index advance from Jan. 15. Dr. Henning said this was due to seasonal increases in prices received for grains and an advance of ten cents a bushel received by farmers for potatoes. These combined to more than offset a slight decline in the price of hay. Apples advanced five cents a bushel.

There was a decline of nine points or four per cent in the index of prices received for livestock and livestock products, including milk and eggs, Dr. Henning said. Poultry and eggs showed a drop of 25 points or 12 per cent. Although both farm chickens and broilers registered price gains, the average price received for eggs declined nine cents a dozen, the highest January-February decline since 1952, he declared.

Purina Feed Dealers Meet



Ralston-Purina dealers and friends — 300 strong — attended the Turkey meeting sponsored by the St. Louis firm at the American Legion Home in Palmyra, Pa., recently.

Here is a general view of the audience gathered in the ball room for part of the interesting, informative program. (Spohn Studio Photo).

Egg Output In January Falls Lower

HARRISBURG — For the first time in nearly five years, egg production on Pennsylvania farms this January dropped below the output for the same month of the previous year, Dr. William L. Henning, State Secretary of Agriculture, announced today.

Over a period of 57 months — since April 1951 — egg production in the State was record high for each succeeding month until January 1956 when it declined 16 per cent from January of last year, he declared following Federal-State surveys.

From 321 to 316 Million January output totaled 316 million compared with 321 million for the same month last year. Dr. Henning said the number of layers at 19,354,000 was down 192,000 from a year earlier.

He also reported that Pennsylvania milk production this January at 518 million lbs was the highest of record for that month and 44 per cent above the previous high registered for January 1955.

The estimated number of milk cows this January is 942,000 head, 7,000 above last January but 1,000 below December 1955, the survey showed.

Dr. Henning explained that egg production this January showed a decline due largely to fewer additions to laying flocks and retention of more older birds during 1955.

Chick Output Up 46% Poultry farmers during January began buying more flock replacement chicks. During that month chick production in the State totaled 7,603,000 or 46 per cent above the January 1955 hatch. A near-record hatch was indicated for February.

Farmers on February 15 were averaging a return of 46 cents a dozen for eggs, down nine cents from January 15, but three cents a dozen more than in February 1955, the survey showed.

Total milk production for the 12 months of 1955, on a revised basis, totaled 6,384,000,000 lbs and compares with 6,064,000,000 lbs produced in 1954 and 5,933,000,000 lbs produced in 1953.

Semi-annual x-rays for men over 45 offer the best means of early detection of lung cancer. Earlier detection could have prevented 12,800 lung cancer deaths in the United States last year, says the American Cancer Society.

Fishing Open In Parts of 11 County Streams

HARRISBURG — Parts of 11 Lancaster County streams were removed from the list of local waters in which all fishing was prohibited from March 15 to April 15, it was announced by William Voigt, Jr., executive director of the Pennsylvania Fish Commission.

Here are the streams and the areas no longer affected by the ban:

LITTLE CHICKIES — 16 miles upstream from mouth on Big Chickies just below Marietta.

BIG CHICKIES — 15 miles upstream from mouth on Susquehanna just below Marietta.

COCALICO CREEK — 20 miles upstream from juncture with Big Conestoga near Oregon.

BIG CONESTOGA CREEK — 50 miles upstream from mouth at Safe Harbor to headwaters.

LITTLE CONESTOGA CREEK — From Shreiner's Station near Oreville downstream to mouth on Big Conestoga below Rock Hill.

CONEWAGO CREEK — Upstream from mouth on Susquehanna near Falmouth.

CONOY CREEK — Entire length of stream from mouth on

Leukemia, a leading cause of death among children, is a type of cancer that involves the blood-forming organs. Cancer kills more children in the United States than any other disease, the American Cancer Society says.

Susquehanna near Billmyer.

MILL CREEK — Entire length of stream from mouth on Big Conestoga just below South Disposal Plant.

MUDDY CREEK — Entire length of stream from mouth on Big Conestoga near Hinetown. (Not to be confused with Muddy Run which is a trout stream in the southern section of the county).

OCTORARO CREEK — Open ten miles from Maryland line upstream.

PEQUEA CREEK — Open ten miles upstream from mouth on Susquehanna at Pequea.

Your Money Advisor



R. H. PHILLIPS

Life Insurance, Health and
Accident, Retirement
Income Plans

56 W. Main St. 53 N. Duke St.
Mountville Lancaster
5-9695 4-6062



When we stop to think we realize our everyday living depends on our eyes. Take good care of them. If you are in doubt visit your eye doctor.

Doctors Prescriptions
For Glasses Filled.

DAVID'S OPTICAL CO.

FITTING ADJUSTMENT REPAIRS

114 N. Prince St.—Lancaster Ph. 4-2767.

Open Tues. and Fri. Evenings

SAVE AND EARN

With Lancaster's Oldest Building and
Loan Association

4% currently paid on installment
shares

3% On full paid shares-payable
semi-annually

3% On Optional shares credited
semi-annually

Your money invested in first mortgages on
Lancaster County homes
American Mechanics Building and
Loan Association

Call or See Joseph R. Byars, Attorney
58 N. Duke St. Lancaster, Pa.