



Springtime and lambs and youngsters — and on the farm of Clydeth R. Buch, R2 Ephrata, the lambs often arrive in threes. Two sets of triplets arrived in time for the Easter season, one set on Feb. 20, another on Feb. 27. Here are the

Buch youngsters with three of the lambs; Martha, 8, on the left; Judy, 12, a seventh grader at the Farmersville school in the center, and on the right, more concerned about the camera than the lamb, Tommy, age 4. (Lancaster Farming Staff Photo).

USDA Gratified by Three Laws for Farmer Signed by Eisenhower

WASHINGTON — (USDA) — Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson today expressed gratification that President Eisenhower had signed into law bills expanding the school milk program, relieving farmers of Federal tax on gasoline used on farms, and providing funds to continue the fight against brucellosis.

"More schools and more children will now benefit from the Special School Milk Program," the Secretary said. "In addition to the health benefits which will be bequeathed on our children, this bill (H. R. 8320) creates an outlet for \$75 million worth of dairy products a year for the next two years, and at a time when farmers particularly need expanded outlets.

Good Future Customers

"Children who learn of the nutritive value of dairy products by consuming them in school are likely to remain good customers of our dairy farmers in adult life," he said.

In connection with the bill relieving farmers of the Federal tax on gasoline used on the farm (H. R. 8780) — one of the important features of the Administration's farm program — the Secretary said the measure will relieve farmers of an estimated \$60 million in operating costs this year and more in future years.

"This is particularly important now, at a time when farmers are being squeezed between low income- and high production costs," he said.

Turning to the brucellosis bill (H. R. 8320), Secretary Benson said the nation is now much better armed to carry on the war against that costly livestock scourge.

Can Control Brucellosis

"We now can foresee ultimate victory over this disease," he said. "Through cooperation of farmers and ranchers, State and Department of Agriculture animal health authorities, brucellosis, like tuberculosis in cattle, can be brought under control."

The bill authorizes use of two million dollars in Federal funds for this fiscal year and 20 million a year for the next eight years to continue the Federal-State cooperative campaign against the disease, known as undulant fever when it infects humans. An estimated \$50 million every year is the toll taken

by the disease in loss of animals and animal products.

Congress authorized heavier emphasis on a campaign to eradicate brucellosis in 1955-56. Counties within the several States participating in the eradication campaign are expected to step up their activities. Maine, New Hampshire and North Carolina are now accredited by the Department as modified certified brucellosis-free areas. The Secretary said he believes many other States will be able to attain the same status within the next two years.

Beef Demands Hike Cattle by Seven Million

CHICAGO — The nation's appetite for beef has risen so much since 1940 as to require an extra seven million cattle a year, the American Meat Institute says. This increase is in addition to the expansion demanded by the rise in population, it was added.

The meat industry trade association pointed out that in 1940 the per capita beef consumption rate was 54 lbs; as recently as 1951 it was but 55 lbs.

Currently 82 Pounds

But in 1955 it was up to 81 lbs and currently is running around 82 lbs, annual rate basis, the Institute found.

"The desire of more mouths for more beef resulted in a consumption last year of that kind of meat of more than 13 billion pounds, the highest on record. It compared with 7 1/4 billion lbs in 1940," the Institute said.

The "progress report" covering a decade and a half was released in connection with the Institute's spring "big push for beef" campaign, emphasizing that current large supplies make beef one of the nutrition bargains of the day. The association noted that beef production in the last year has outstepped, almost month for month, the year-ago volume.

12,000 Full-Color Posters

The promotion will draw attention to the budget values of beef, focusing on supermarkets which account for a large percentage of all retail meat sales. More than 12,000 of them are supplied with full-color posters

Area Boatmen Launch Docks On Susquehanna

A number of private boat dock owners in the York Furnace and Pequea areas took advantage of high water recently to launch their docks in the river.

According to George Thomas, the tentative date for launching the docks of the Pequea Boat Club has been set for the first Sunday in May.

A bipartisan group of Senators will press for tax relief for small business.

and point-of-sale cards emphasizing beef dishes.

In addition, the Institute will run full-color advertisements in general women's magazines as well as in Life and The Saturday Evening Post.

Prices Decline For Farmers in March 15 Month

HARRISBURG — Declining prices received by Pennsylvania farmers for meat animals, milk and eggs, resulted in a decline of three points in the overall price index during the month ended March 15. Dr. William L. Henning, State Secretary of Agriculture, said today following Federal-State surveys.

Decline in the index came on top of a 6-point drop during the previous month, Dr. Henning said. The index now stands at 231 per cent of its 1910-14 average and is eight points below a year ago, he added.

Meat Animals Drop

The meat animal index dropped seven points between February 15 and March 15 with all species averaging lower except lambs.

The dairy products index was down seven points as the price received for milk declined 15 cents a hundred pounds, wholesale. This was slightly less than the usual seasonal drop at this time of year, Dr. Henning explained.

The poultry and egg index declined two points as eggs took a one-cent drop per dozen. Broilers and farm chickens both averaged half a cent higher and turkeys were up one cent a lb.

Crop Index Gains

Pennsylvania's crop price index registered a 6-point advance from a month earlier due to seasonal increases in prices re-

Soil Tests Assist In Fertilizer Use

Five points to add and maintain organic matter in the soil were outlined by County Agent Max M. Smith in a series of three county meetings late last week.

They are: 1, longer rotation; 2, soil and cover crops which are plowed under, 3, proper use of lime and fertilizer to encourage root and top growth; 4, plowing down manure and crop residues, and 5, control of soil erosion.

Soil tests help make better use of lime and fertilizer, Mr. Smith pointed out. Hosts are the three meetings were Christian K. Neff, R1 Millersville, Jacob W. Martin, R1 Gap, and David E. Buckwalter, Jr., R3 Lititz.

UNUSUAL REQUEST

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. —

A request recently received at Tinker Air Force Base, at which a crew of men do nothing but dispose of no longer useful airplanes, stumped the 25,000 military and civilian personnel at the base. The letter came from two boys, aged 13 and 14, who asked about obtaining one slightly used airplane to "set in my yard to learn how to fly."

received for most grains. Potato and apple prices held steady and hay prices declined as the end of the feeding season neared.

For the United States, the price index increased four points or 2 per cent during the period, surveys showed.

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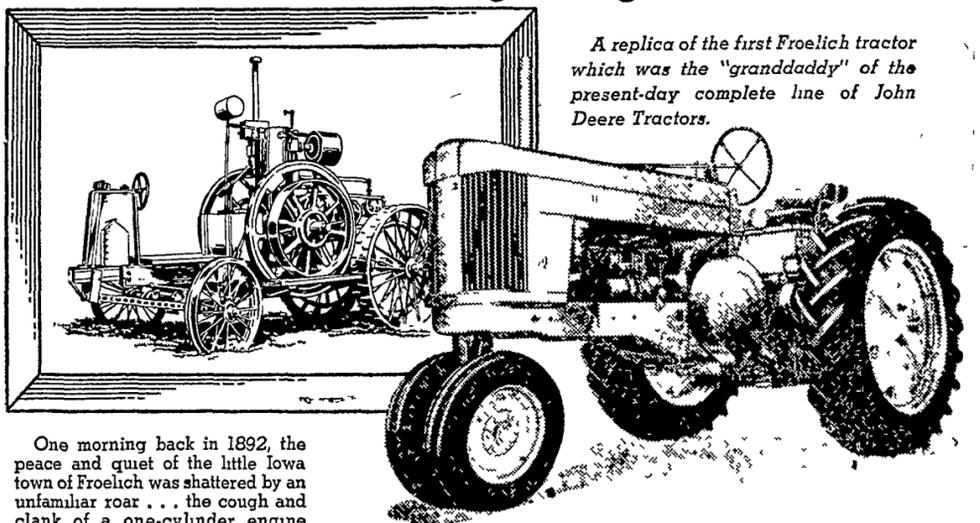
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