

Lancaster Farming

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GOVERNMENT BUYING

Government buying, or it might be called one week's work. Just happened to collect together a few releases from the United States Department of Agriculture which, when lumped together, show what big business in buying can be:

Nov. 7 — USDA reports dairy price-support purchases in October, 1956 amounted to 126,336 lbs of butter, 16,208,839 lbs of cheddar cheese and 33,181,173 lbs of nonfat dry milk.

Nov. 7 — The USDA this week purchased 3,384,999 lbs of lard to help hog producers by encouraging additional consumption of this product in other than normal outlets. Purchases since buying began on Oct. 11 amount to 19,068,000 lbs.

Nov. 7 — The USDA reported purchases this week of 98,291 cases of medium-size shell eggs under a special program to help stabilize producer prices during the fall seasonal increase in marketings. Purchases since buying began in late September now total 387,435 cases.

Nov. 8 — The USDA this week purchased 7,143,000 lbs of frozen hamburger under a program to assist cattle producers, particularly during the period of heavy grass cattle marketings. Including purchases of hamburger announced today, the total of 53,921,000 lbs purchased since buying began in late September exceeds the 50-million-pound target set when the program was announced on Sept. 7.

Nov. 9 — The USDA today reported that first purchases of canned pork products under the program announced October 30 to help stabilize producer prices through encouraging increased domestic consumption of pork total 442,300 lbs. . . . Purchases for this week included 118,000 lbs of pork luncheon meat . . . and 324,000 pounds of canned ham. . . .

To group them together more closely, here's a peak at a week's buying: 3,384,000 lbs of lard; 98,291 cases of eggs; 7,143,000 lbs of frozen hamburger; 118,800 lbs of pork luncheon meat; 324,000 lbs of canned ham.

It was election week, but there's little chance the Government will soon relinquish its merchantman position.

20 PER CENT OF CORN FIELD SHELLED

Research men have estimated that over 20 per cent of the 1956 corn crop of our nation will be (have been) shelled in the field. This trend to field shelling is due to three types of equipment available: the picker-sheller, the corn attachment for the grain combine and the field husker-sheller.

Field shelling, they say, is not new, for as early as 1929 an attachment for the grain combine was developed by an equipment manufacturer; in 1940 another major company developed one, but the current trend started in 1950 probably with the introduction of the single unit picker-sheller.

This all points to further acceptance of field shelling and a higher percentage of the 1957 corn crop harvested by this method.

THANKS, TIMONIUM

Lancaster County ranked right up at the top in the Eastern National Livestock Exposition. From all indications, looking over the long list of "name" breeders, it was a tough show.

Timonium this year drew some of the nation's top herds, some of the nation's finest judges. There was a close link with Lancaster County too as you stood on the sidelines and saw many a Garden Spot youth competing in a line the length of the arena.

There's something wonderful about a show; seeing how far you can advance in rugged competition; there's a fine feeling in seeing old friends once again; it's an annual meeting place, and one of the best advertising mediums a breeder can find.

Lancaster County youth walked into the big league fields. Not many struck out.



This Week in Lancaster Farming

By JACK REICHARD
50 YEARS AGO (1906)

Prof. Holden, of the Iowa Agriculture College at Ames, an apostle of the "seed corn gospel", was credited with an increase of 25,000,000 bushels in the Iowa corn crop in 1906, as a result of the seed corn special railway car he and his helpers had exhibited throughout the state during 1905 and 1906. Under the initiative of Prof. Holden, the second Wednesday in October, starting in 1907, was designated as seed corn harvest day, on which date farmers of the state were to take the day off and devote it to the selection of soundest and most perfect ears in their field. It was pointed out that seed corn gathered during the second week in October had time to dry out thoroughly before the heavy freezes.

STATE CONSTABULARY BURNED

Fifty years ago this week, a mysterious fire started in the Seitzinger mansion, at Reading, occupied as a barracks by Troop C of Pennsylvania State Constabulary. The 55 men of the troop were almost suffocated with smoke when the blaze was discovered by a stable guard.

When the Reading Fire Department arrived, the fire had progressed rapidly in the basement and first floor, and threatened the dormitory occupied by the men. A number of the troopers were carried out by the firemen.

The fire was believed of incendiary origin. Damage was estimated at \$4,000.

SHEEP BUYER MURDERED THREE

Out in Texas, after a desperate fight with officers, during which he was shot several times and a number of the pursuers wounded, A. B. Sibley, a sheep buyer, charged with murdering three ranchers on three successive days in Valverde County, was captured in the mountains near Sanderson, and was placed in jail, mortally wounded. The officers reported that Sibley purchased large herds from his alleged victims. In each case, the rancher delivered the stock at Del Rio, received a check, which he promptly cashed, and later was found murdered and robbed. The disappearance of Sibley directed suspicion toward him, and he was pursued and a desperate fight followed.

FIRE DESTROYS HOUSE, OWNER DIES

On the Lancaster farm of Daniel Burns, near Liberty Square, Drumore Township, a fire starting in one of the upper rooms destroyed the house and all its contents, and caused the death of the owner, who was afflicted with heart ailment.

About 5 a. m., Miss Belle Burns, who kept house for her father after the death of her mother a few years before, noticed a blaze in her room. She immediately called her brother, Harry, who was hitching up a team to haul potatoes for a neighbor. An alarm was given but the neighbors arrived too late to save any household goods. The father, aged 72, pumped water to extinguish the flames, and while sitting down to rest for a few minutes fell over dead.

25 Years Ago

Following the closing of the 65th annual convention of the National Grange at Madison, Wis., Nov. 11-20, 1931, a summary of some of the measures favored and recommended for action by the 8,000 Granges throughout the country during the winter of 1931-32 were as follows:

Adoption by every state of a state income tax.

Developing cooperative marketing agencies as a means of supplanting produce exchanges.

Drafting money and corporations, as well as men, in time of war.

Federal aid in financing small cooperative groups

The early construction of a Great Lakes to the Atlantic canal.

Intensive campaign to eliminate objectional billboards.

Duty on cotton to prevent foreign importations

Investigation of a national system of old age insurance.

Encouraging the planting of shade trees along highways and fuller protection for those now growing there.

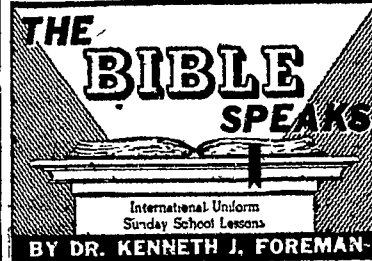
ICE CREAM CONE INVENTOR DIES

Charles E. Menches, 72, who invented the ice cream cone and thereby created an American institution, died at Akron, Ohio, 25 years ago this week. He was a circus trapeze performer, theater operator and creator of novelties. Menches was watching the crowds at the St. Louis World's Fair from a chair on the midway that day. Suddenly, he leaped from the chair shouting loudly. The ice cream cone had been conceived in his mind.

The inspiration for the idea came when he saw two teenage girls at an ice cream counter wrapping waffles around the frozen cream "to keep their fingers from getting wet", as Menches explained it in later years. He founded the first ice cream cone factory in 1905.

Eighteen hunters were dead and several others lay seriously wounded in hospitals as the result of the first three days of gunning in Pennsylvania deer season in 1931. Later reports stated the death toll of gunners reached 31 during the first six hunting days of the season.

On the Lancaster farm of Elim Stoltzfus, of Bareville, the backfire from a truck set the barn on fire, resulting in a loss estimated at \$10,000. Two trucks and two passenger cars were among the contents destroyed.



Background Scripture: Luke 15:11-32
Devotional Reading: Psalms 103:1-13

Two Sons

Lesson for November 25, 1956

WHAT does the word "prodigal" mean? Ask some Sunday school class that, and you may be surprised at how many bad guesses you hear. Actually the name simply means "wasteful." Jesus never named his parables; and sometimes the names the church has given them fit, and sometimes not. The parable of the "prodigal son" might be better named "The Two Sons" or "The Forgiving Father."



Dr. Foreman

Two Ways of Wasting

There are two ways of being prodigal or wasteful. One is to use up and destroy what might have been saved. If you let good farm machinery sit around in the rain till it rusts, you are wasting equipment. If you use expensive butter for a job a little bacon grease will do just as well, you are wasting the butter. If you are a general and order a useless assault in which thousands of men needlessly lose their lives, you are wasting human life. All these wasteful acts, great and small, are done in the same way, essentially by throwing away or spoiling what might have been saved and used. Another way of wasting is just not to use what is there to use, something which if you do not use now you will never have the chance to use again. An example of this is water power. The river flows on its way, developing so many horsepower with every mile; if these are not used today, tomorrow the horsepower—today's horsepower—will be gone. You waste water power not by destroying it but by failing to use it.

The Younger Son

Now in Jesus' famous parable the two sons were both wasters but in opposite ways. Take the younger one: Give me . . . he said, and off he went. A young fortune was in his hands; but he threw it away, he was through with it, he was through "period," in no time.

There was something else he wasted; his father's love and confidence. He virtually treated his father as if he were already dead. This younger son is, of course, the type of the reckless sinner who wastes his health, strength, character, perhaps money too, the sort of man who is called a "wastrel" or waster. The time, life, strength that such a man wastes cannot be brought back again. You could go down to Skid Row or to the nearest hospital for drug addicts and convert them every one; but you could never give them back the "years the locusts have eaten." God forgives such men, as the father in Jesus' story forgave the younger prodigal; but just as the father in that story could not recall from the four winds the wasted fortune and the wasted years, so not even God ever turns the clock or the calendar back.

The Older Son

But that older boy—he too was a waster. Only he wasted in the other way, not by destroying but by not using. There seems to be something deeply sad in the father's simple saying: "Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours." This was true—and yet the son had made it untrue. "You are always with me"—so near, and yet so far away. None of the father's spirit had penetrated the boy's mind. He was physically at home yet spiritually a stranger. He too, in a different way, had lived like an orphan. Every day there was open to him a father's heart, a father's sympathy, a father's wealth; but he never took it. If for the younger boy there was waste-by-destruction, for the older there was waste-by-neglect. Did the father forgive this son too? The story does not say. The impression most people get is perhaps what Jesus intended to suggest: The father was ready to forgive each son; but the younger son was forgiven, because he had "come to himself," he had confessed his wrong. The older son was not (so far as the story takes us) forgiven, because he did not seem to be conscious of having done anything wrong. Of course he was the type of the Pharisee; but the Pharisees are not dead. In the church and out there are correct, respectable citizens who know nothing of God's love for their lost brothers, and so have never known the God they officially call "Father." God will forgive such a man too; but perhaps he seldom does, for such a man seldom thinks he needs it. (Based on outline copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Released by Community Press Service.)