

Lancaster Farming

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TAKE A LOOK AT 1975

What's ahead for farmers in the next 20 years production-wise?

There will probably be about 210 million persons in the U. S. to feed and clothe in 1975, a fourth more than the 165 million in 1955. USDA economists see a need for one-third more agricultural products in 1975 than in 1951-1953. They say the past record of farmers would indicate that future needs cannot be met relatively easily.

A marked increase in the need for livestock production is the dominating feature. About 45 per cent more livestock production than in 1951-1953 will be needed. Production of cattle and calves may need to be increased by about 50 per cent, hogs about 40 per cent, and sheep and lambs about 25 per cent.

If there is no change in total hay and forage acreage, pasture and hay yields would need to be increased about 35 per cent. Livestockmen are expected to need more feed grains.

If these goals — or needs — for 1975 were met solely through increases in area of cropland, an additional 150 million acres would be needed. But trends during the past 15 years indicate that only about 25 million additional acres might be put to use. That means five-sixths of the job would have to be done by increasing yields, or by other advances in technology. However, increased efficiency in use of livestock feed could reduce substantially the cropland requirements, since present feeds and feeding rates were assumed in making the projection of needs.

USDA economists say trends suggest that crop production should be increased by a fourth above the 1951-1953 level to meet the needs of an expanded population 20 years from now. A 40 per cent increase in truck crops is seen, with almost the same increase expected for tobacco. Requirements for fruits and nuts may increase a third or more.

Only moderate increases in production of cotton and potatoes are called for by 1975. There may be less need for wheat and rice. To meet projected needs for dairy products two decades from now, milk production would need to be increased by a third above 1951-1953 output. Out-turn of poultry products would need to be upped by one-half.

These are not forecasts; they indicate expected trends. They assume a growing economy with no major wars or economic depressions. Changes in technology and economic forces not now on the horizon could alter the economic outlook. For that reason, current appraisals of future farm production needs may easily become outdated.

Here is the kernel of the story, as the USDA concludes: "The farmer has a big job ahead of him, but it does not appear so large if compared with the remarkable rise in farm output in recent years. The economists conclude in their study that the question is chiefly one of 'how' rather than 'whether' farm production needs of 1975 can be met."

American farmers have been producing a surplus in many lines, but what does the future portend? These facts or more properly projections may give some idea. The farmer will probably go on growing more crops, getting bigger and bigger yields, as he has been doing the past few decades.

ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS

A meeting in Washington recently discussed the problem of increasing the use of animal by-products. Animal fats were excluded. On the staff were leather company executives, shoe manufacturers, research agencies, tanners' laboratories, cattle producers, packers.

There's an old saw about everything of the hog being used in the packing plant but the squeal. Another saw may someday develop, everything of the hog being used except lard.



By JACK REICHARD

50 YEARS AGO (1906)

One of the largest single shipments of potatoes in 1906 was sent from Maine, which required, 2,000 railroad cars to ship the tubers to the coast. There they were loaded on boats and shipped by water to Galveston, Texas. Transportation charges were considerably less by water than by rail. The potatoes were put up for shipment in sacks holding 11 pecks each.

RUSSIAN WHEAT YIELD:

SIX, EIGHT BUSHELS

There was nothing more expressive of the real situation of the Russian people, half a century ago, than that contained in consular reports released in 1906. It was stated that average wheat yield in a large, portion of the agriculture districts in that country was from six to eight bushels per acre, and in many localities, as low as four and five bushels per acre.

Fifty years ago, it was said that the thrift of a farmer was evident in the arrangement of his wood pile. No matter what its size, it was one of the earmarks of the place in neatness and economy.

RECORD YIELD OF WATER CRESS

The 1906 crop of water cress at the Cameron cress farm on the Donegal Creek, in Lancaster County, was estimated to reach 300 barrels, a record yield there. As of Nov 15 that year, 260 barrels had been shipped to New York markets.

Elsewhere in the county, 50 years ago, John C. Broome had received the contract for constructing the first all concrete barn in the county. The new type barn, 115 feet long, 55 feet deep and 35 feet to the cone, was to be erected on the farm of W. W. Reese, near Donerville. The plans called for walls two feet thick, all partition walls and upper floors of concrete and roof covered with slate.

On the Lancaster farm of Milton Hunsberger, in West Earl Township, thieves stole 100 chickens, canned fruit and a quantity of coal, during the absence of the family.

HOME INSTINCT IN CATTLE

Half a century ago, there were 3,000 cattle running loose in the Pinal basin of Arizona. They were owned by 20 men. Each animal had a brand on its hip as broad as a smoked ham, and crops, bits and underhacks galore in his ears. Beyond the marks of ownership, the cattle were free as deer and could wander from the Mexican border to the Canadian line, if they so desired, without running up against a wire fence. They were truly "home folks", sticking to their barren canyons and water holes with all the devotion of untutored rural folk. The calf ran with its mother and learned her ways. It was upon the home instinct that the practice of Western cattle raising depended.

25 Years Ago

Dr. Theodore B. Appel, Secretary of Health, made an urgent appeal in behalf of maintaining five milk stations in the mining regions of Pennsylvania, stating the stations would be closed within three weeks unless additional funds were secured. Dr. Appel said:

"For over two months the field nurses of the Department of Health have been supplying a pint of milk daily to nearly 900 children at Avella, Bernice, Kinlock, Renton and Coverdale.

"Funds have been supplied by contributions, and we have no other means of paying for the milk so distributed.

"This cost of the milk is now running about \$60 per day. There is no other expense. Every dollar given will be invested in milk, and every bottle given out will go to a needy child approved by a state nurse."

FARMERS WARNED AGAINST CROOKS

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture advised Common-

wealth farmers to stick to their own business to "get rich quick", or at least to keep what money they had.

The advice was included in a warning against schemes into which promoters allegedly sought to lead farmers.

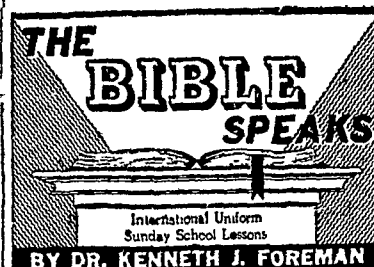
"Quitting the poultry, or the dairy business entirely after becoming experienced and fully equipped and going into a new enterprise is very likely to prove a short road to increased financial difficulties," the department warned.

Twenty five years ago this week, fire destroyed the tenant house on the Lancaster farm of David H. Huber, near Willow Street, tenanted by Frank Creamer. The building, a stone structure, was located in the vicinity of the historic Hans Herr house. Most of the furniture in the house, except that on the second floor, was saved. Both the Lampeter Fire Company and the Willow Street Company responded to the alarm. Cause of the fire was reported a defective flue. Firemen estimated damage at \$2,000.

Wild ducks on the Susquehanna flats, world renowned gunning grounds 25 years ago, were reported unusually plentiful.

FREE ADVICE

To begin to deal with the problem child, says a psychologist, discover his interest in life. If it's setting fire to the cat, try another psychologist. — Rich-



Background Scripture: John 14
 Devotional Reading: 2 Corinthians 4: 7-15

Heart at Peace

Lesson for December 2, 1956

EVERYBODY wants what Jesus Christ has to offer. At least, they think they want something by the same name, but they do not always know how to get it. Let a book come out with "Peace" in the title and it may easily become a best seller. Between a heart and mind at rest and a heart torn in two, restless, dissatisfied, in perpetual turmoil,—who would not choose the heart at peace? But the word Jesus used when he said to those anxious friends, "Let not your heart be troubled,"—at least the word the Greek writer used in reporting Jesus—was much the same as a word the Stoics used, only what Jesus meant was something quite different.



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No Arctic Calm

The Stoics had a word "ataraxia" and in it they thought they had the key to happiness.—Or if not that, at least the key that would lock the door against unhappiness. What they meant by it was indifference, just not caring. Of course there is truth in that notion. It is only the sympathetic who can be bothered with other people's troubles. One way to insure yourself against sorrow in this world is simply never to allow yourself to love any one. One way not to worry about tomorrow is not to care what happens or whether anything happens. But this is not the kind of peace of heart which Jesus himself had, or wants his friends to have. The Arctic Ocean is perfectly calm; it is locked in everlasting ice. But the icy heart is not the Christian heart. A swamp is peaceful too; no waves break on its shores. And a human heart can be a swamp as well as an icy lake. But this again is not the heart at peace of which Christ spoke.

Does Faith Bring Peace? So the heart at peace is not the

cold, indifferent heart; it is not the sluggish dull self-centered heart. It is the peace of the flowing river, the peace of the great electric generator which though motionless itself, sends out power to city and countryside. But how to have this? Let not your heart be troubled, Jesus said: Believe. . . We hear a great deal about the power of faith. The pathway of faith is the pathway to peace. Yes; but does faith bring peace? It is easy to misunderstand this. Faith can bring a false and fatal peace, not the real thing. A hunter in the north woods can put faith in his compass, and not worry about being lost. But if his compass is wrong he may lose his life. A patient can trust a surgeon; but if the surgeon is incompetent, the patient's trust is fatal. Jesus himself used the expression, "Your faith has saved you" But faith will not save you if it is faith in the wrong thing or the wrong person. Somewhere in the United States there stood a fine bridge for many years,—at least it was perfectly built, out from one side of the river; but the other side had never been built. Faith that does not rest on something or some one worth believing in, is like that bridge; it's worse than no bridge at all, because in the dusk it may tempt people out to their deaths.

"Not What, But Whom"

"Believe," said Jesus. But there are some important words after that. Just believing is not enough. Moreover, believing something is still not what Jesus meant. Some people think that the way to a peaceful heart is to believe a catechism, a set of doctrines. That is not the main thing. "Believe in God," is the word. He who created all things, he in whom all things exist, holds me in his hand too. The Infinite God has room in his heart for me. Turning to him my faith is the highway to peace.—But why does Jesus say, "Believe also in me"? Is not belief in God enough? Or the other way around? Is it not enough to believe in Christ? The Christian experience of faith never can separate Christ and the heavenly Father. The best way to express it would be to say we believe in God in Christ. To believe in God as if Christ had never lived, is to believe in the dark and terrible Mystery the awesome Avenger, whom the angels feared. To believe in Christ as if God could be ignored, is to believe in Man, man at his best but still man. The way to peace is the way of faith in the God whose glory we see in the human face of Jesus of Nazareth.

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