

Lancaster Farming

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Bloat Facts Being Sought

Federal-State research is slowly uncovering some facts on one of the oldest and most common disorders of livestock the world over—bloat.

Bloat in this country alone results in losses of some \$40 million yearly due to death and decreased production. Although a large percentage of these losses occur on legume pastures, bloat in the feedlot can mean the difference between profit and loss. In addition, knowledge gained in feedlot-bloat studies can often be applied to pasture bloat.

Recent USDA work on feedlot bloat has shown it to be highly complex and caused by several interacting factors, many of which are not well understood. Need for further research is shown by the fact that bloat dates back to Biblical times. Up to now — some 2,000 years later — little is known about its causes, prevention, and precise treatment.

ARS biochemist I. L. Lindahl and animal nutritionist R. E. Davis of the Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Md., and dairy nutritionists D. R. Pacobsen and J. C. Shaw of the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station, College Park, recently completed studies on animal and dietary factors in feedlot bloat.

In preliminary studies on diet composition, these researchers produced frothy bloat in 11 animals by feeding them daily 14 pounds of concentrate (61 per cent barley, 22 per cent alfalfa meal, 16 per cent soybean oil meal, and 1 per cent sodium chloride) and 4 pounds of alfalfa hay. In general, the substitution of corn for barley, or of alfalfa hay for alfalfa meal, had no effect on bloating.

Test animals that were kept on a bloat-producing diet for 4 or 5 months suffered bloat more often and more severely than animals on a similar diet for a shorter period of time. After 4 or 5 months, however, when animals seemed to reach bloat equilibrium, the frequency and severity of bloat tended to be fairly constant.

Total feed intake and bloat severity were found to be unrelated during the first 4 or 5 months of the diet. But a relationship between feed intake and bloat severity was found to exist after animals reached bloat equilibrium at 4 or 5 months.

Animals differed greatly in their susceptibility to bloat. This difference could not be correlated with their eating habits or total food intake, which suggests that the tendency to bloat may be inherited.

Ruminal contractions definitely increase in frequency as animals begin to bloat. This basic pattern of rumen motility showed no apparent changes in tests on an animal that ate a low-fiber bloat-producing diet for a long time. Data on the metabolic activity of the ruminal microorganisms and the physical nature of the ruminal contents definitely show changes when the animals are fed the bloat-producing diet. These changes were correlated with the incidence and severity of the bloat.

Intensive studies by USDA and cooperating State agricultural experiment stations are currently underway on a number of the biochemical, physiological, bacteriological, and pathological aspects of pasture and feedlot bloat. It is hoped that this all-out attack will soon result in better understanding of the causes of bloat and lead to development of definite methods of preventing and treating this costly disorder.

No definite recommendations for treatment can be offered at present. Bloat can be relieved — as it was in the Beltsville work — by use of a large-size stomach tube. This is believed to be the safest method right now. Bloat can sometimes be successfully treated with kerosene, turpentine, and other surface-active agents. These apparently break up the rumen froth that prevents the animal from belching. — Agricultural Research

THE AGING PROCESS

A legend is nothing more or less than a lie that has lived to ripe old age and become respectable.

— Rooks County (Kan.) Record.



BY JACK REICHARD
50 YEARS AGO (1907)

When Miss Lydia Hartz and Sylvanus Stoltzfus, both of Joanna, Pa., and members of the Amish Church, were married during the latter part of January, 1907, residents of the entire town attended the affair. The wedding party entered the church at 10 a.m., listened to a wedding sermon by the pastor, Bishop Gideon Stoltzfus, which was in German and lasted one hour, then took part in the regular church sung service preceding the marriage ceremonies.

Following the church services the newlyweds and guests, numbering over 200, gathered at the home of the bride's parents, where the wedding feast was served, consisting of turkeys, ducks and chickens, with an abundance of side dishes, cakes and pies, all prepared in the usual Amish style.

The festivities were brought to a close by the village school children forming in a body and singing several appropriate selections.

N.Y. D. of A. SUPPLIES FARM LABOR

The New York State Department of Agriculture had been so successful in securing laborers for farmers in 1906 that it announced similar plans on a larger scale during 1907. It was estimated that 50,000 farm workers would be required that year. To supply the demand the bureau planned an extensive advertising campaign in New York and Europe.

PRESIDENT WENT RIDING IN SNOW

Fifty years ago this week, President Theodore Roosevelt and Secretary Root went for a long horseback ride in the suburbs of Washington, following a snowfall measuring eight to ten inches deep.

REINHOLDS A COMB CENTER

Half a century ago, Reinholds, Lancaster County, was an important comb center, where the Crouse family were operating what was claimed to be the oldest comb factory in Pennsylvania. Michael Crouse, head of the clan, came to this country prior to the American Revolution. During the war he served in the army, making combs in his spare-time from the horns of cattle that were butchered to supply meat for the soldiers. He had five sons, all following their father's trade. In 1907 William, his wife and son, were producing from 1,000 to 2,000 combs daily at their Reinholds factory.

Throughout Lancaster County that first week in February, 1907, sleigh bells mingled with the roar of cold winds and drifting snow. Everyone who had a sleigh or sled was making use of it in a 12 inch snowfall.

As a result of the snow railroad and trolley traffic was slowed down. A trolley car leaving Columbia at 9 p. m. did not arrive at Lancaster until 6 a. m. on the following day. Three of its passengers were women.

DUEL FOUGHT OVER CIGARETTES

Walter B. Barksdale and Joe Echole, young farm boys residing near Danville, Va., were both seriously wounded in a duel fought with shot guns. The men quarreled at the country store over a pack of cigarettes, and agreed to return to their homes and fight the affair out. Barksdale arrived first, and when Echole came up, he opened fire without warning. A large hole

was torn in the side of Barksdale and Echole's body was reported riddled with small shot. Both were in critical condition.

25 Years Ago

Tuesday, Feb. 2, 1932, members of the Slumbering Lodge of Ground Hogs, of Quarryville, observed their 25th anniversary of the organization by keeping a close watch on the actions of the underground animal that day.

The annual feast, with turkey as the centerpiece, was served in the social room of the St. Paul's Reformed Church that evening.

Following the banquet the group put on their nightcaps and formed in line for a march to the O. U. A. M. Hall, carrying red lights in step with the beat of a bass drum and cymbals.

The only official release given out to the press after the business meeting was: "There will be weather of some kind during the next six weeks."

PA. CHURCH COUNCIL WARNS POLITICANS

At the third annual convention of the Pennsylvania Council of Churches held in Grace Metho-

dist Church, Harrisburg, 25 years ago this week, members served notice that candidates for public office "must stand 100 per cent for national prohibition and its enforcement" if they expected to receive the vote of the church councils' communicant membership of more than a million and a half persons throughout Pennsylvania.

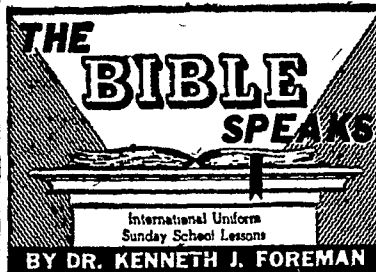
REMONETIZATION OF SILVER URGED

Senator Wheeler, of Montana, in addressing the Senate, in 1932, declared the remonetization of silver on a basis of 16 to 1 would restore commodity prices, benefit the farmer, start the wheels of industry and furnish sufficient money for world commerce.

Senator Pittman, of Nevada, said that the chief cause of world-wide depression, 25 years ago, was due to stagnation in world trade. He urged the calling of an international conference on the question of silver. He pointed out that if Great Britain was opposed to the conference, which, he said, was claimed to be the case, an agreement with Canada, Mexico, South America and China would be sufficient to establish a new currency base.

A FISH STORY

This is a fish story of 25 years ago, but George R. Besser, superintendent of the Denver, Colo., civic center declared it was true. Three months after he placed 16 goldfish in a small pool for breeding, their number had increased to about 200,000 which required their transfer to a larger lake in one of the city's parks.



Background Scripture: Matthew 9:35-10:42
Devotional Reading: Matthew 10:34-42

Going Concern

Lesson for February 3, 1957

A "GOING concern" is one that prospers, does business and keeps growing. If the Christian church is not a going concern, maybe the reason is that it is not a going concern. That remark needs explaining; it is not meant as nonsense.

Concern?

The Quakers have a good word: Concern, which has a deeper meaning than "firm" or business. It means warm, deep, even self-sacrificing interest in some one or some group or cause. Lincoln had a concern for the Union; St. Paul had a concern for Gentiles; mothers have a concern for their children. Now the church, if it is the true Body of Christ, ought to share his concerns. We know what it was that concerned him—people, the "multitudes," the masses as we now speak of them. The church ought to have—and to be—a living concern for all sorts and conditions of men.



A church without the human, humane concern which Jesus had, is not what Christ intended.

Going?

Furthermore, the church, so far as it is Christian, ought to be a going concern, not only a sitting one—not only a praying one either. Plenty of churches are (so to speak) sitting concerns. The preacher preaches about "lost" people but nobody gets out to hunt for them—perhaps the preacher doesn't look very hard himself. The members talk to one another about the dreadful state of the world, but they do nothing about it. Missions? What's that? The fact that their denomination is actually going into the ends of the earth, and begs them for help does not get through to the

minds (Maybe the preacher's fault again?) They have a concern for the sad state of the world, but it's not a going concern; only a talking concern, a tut-tutting concern,—nothing alive. So the church dwindles and dies, it's not a going concern any longer because it isn't a going concern,—it has no real concern, and it never goes anywhere.

No Mission, No Church

The first Christian church was the twelve apostles. It was a 100% going concern. Jesus did not plan for any of them to remain behind. The directions he gave them are not now followed by any missionary society that has much success; circumstances alter Christian strategy. But all the same, suppose those twelve men had preferred not to go when Jesus sent them? He chose them for two purposes, we read: to be with him and to be sent out. There are always Christians who enjoy worship better than service. Ten people will be out for church, to one who will come out for volunteer service, of any sort. But there came a time when Jesus had to say (in effect) to his closest friends: You have been with me enough. You have heard all you need to hear, learned all you need to learn—for now. Go out now and change people, change the world, in my name! If they had refused, if Jesus could have found no one willing to go, there never would have been a Christian church. And if the church ceases to be missionary today it will become a fossil, a relic, a curiosity, without life or usefulness.

"I Wouldn't Be Here if..."

Not everybody can become a foreign missionary. (Indeed the Twelve were sent out first to a region smaller than Vermont; their home country.) But there are various ways in which the church can go out, and send out. There is a man who has found his life's chief work and interest in developing the moral and spiritual atmosphere of the schools in his state. He said not long ago to a group of religious workers: "I wouldn't be here if my church didn't feed me." What he is doing is outside the church; he works through public agencies of the State. But his inspiration comes from the church. And his church would not have inspired him and "fed" him if in turn it had not been inspired and fed by the Living Bread. Where the church as an organization cannot go, its members, stirred and supported by the Spirit of God, must go, into life everywhere, in the name of Jesus.

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