

Lancaster Farming

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Standard Egg Law Needed

Forty-seven states have "egg laws," yet no two of them are exactly alike.

Their aims are the same — to market eggs effectively to the greatest advantage of the producers, to facilitate interstate commerce in eggs and egg products, and to prevent misrepresentation in advertising and labeling eggs. But the rules they apply to achieve these aims are not the same.

These vary from state to state — much to the concern of state marketing officials, egg handlers, and distributors as well as state college and U.S. Department of Agriculture personnel.

Differing interpretations of quality as well as varying grade, weight, and class requirements limit the efficiency of the marketing process. Varying advertising and labeling rules also are a nuisance.

Officials in the marketing field held three regional meetings last year in an effort to find ways of bringing about greater uniformity in state egg laws. Representatives of four Midwestern states met in Omaha. Nine states were represented in a meeting in Hot Springs, Ark., and three in Alexandria, Minn.

Uniform standards and grades, proper labeling of the consumer graded pack, the free movement of eggs across state borders, and adequate financing of law enforcement were discussed.

Unless sufficient funds are made available, egg marketing laws cannot be effectively administered. And it is this problem that has in the past put a large stumbling block in the way of bringing about uniform egg laws.

Actually, state egg laws are nothing new. They came into existence in 1925 when USDA issued its first standard and grade requirements. Thereafter, these regulations set the pattern for state laws.

Since 1925 the U.S. standards and grades have been revised several times. New state egg legislation has been enacted or the existing law revised to incorporate the new features. The trend has been toward greater uniformity both between the U.S. standards and grades and those of the individual states.

Despite this trend, some very important differences still exist among the state laws.

Take, for example, the word "fresh." Thirty-nine states refer to "fresh eggs" in their egg laws — three of them even have separate laws pertaining to fresh eggs. Yet the quality specifications for so-called fresh eggs are not the same in all these states. Usually, though, fresh eggs are described as being eggs of a quality equal to, or better than, Grade A eggs. One state, however, allows labeling which implies freshness for Grade B eggs.

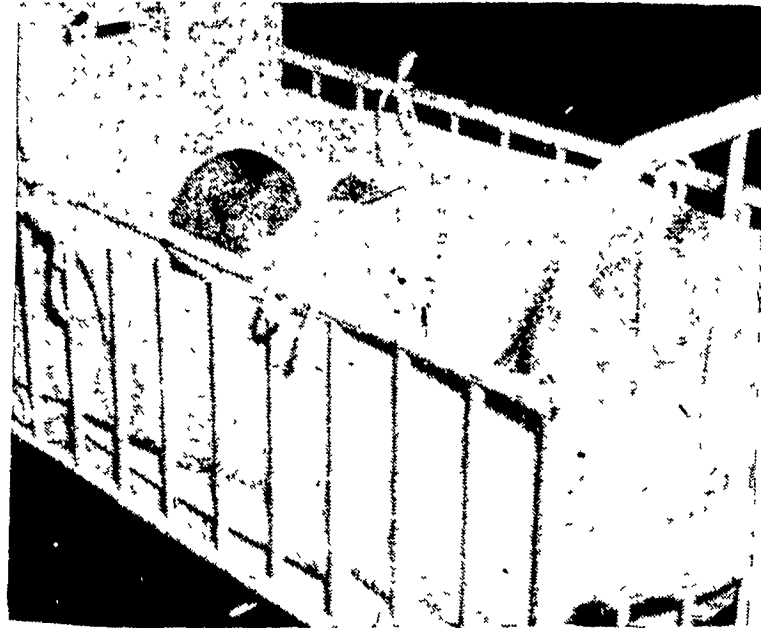
The use of the term fresh would have more meaning if each of the states had the same specifications for grade A. Advertising and promotion programs which are financed and carried on by the egg industry on a state, regional, and national basis would be much more effective if the standards and grades used were the same in all areas.

And so it goes — all down the line. Some states have precise labeling requirements; others merely prohibit mis-labeling and giving misleading information. Some have specific provisions defining the right of authorized persons to make inspections; others fail to define what may or may not be inspected.

The enforcement of these laws varies and so, too, the system of penalties.

Obviously, such variability confuses persons who produce, handle, sell or buy eggs. Through the use of similar regulations, producers are more likely to receive prices consistent with the quality of eggs marketed. The middleman and retailers would find bargaining simplified. And consumers would know from the uniform grade-marks exactly what they were buying.

—Paul Mehl in Agricultural Marketing



THERE ARE COMPENSATIONS for being editor of a newspaper. One of them is that when that first baby comes, the news of it isn't two lines buried in a list. No indeed. She can get her picture in the paper. This is Kathleen Leigh Best, a week old today. Need it be added, the editor's first daughter. (LF Photo)



This Week in Lancaster Farming

BY JACK REICHARD

50 YEARS AGO (1907)

An organization was set up by members of the Scranton Central Labor Union and representatives of the granges in Lackawanna, Susquehanna and Wyoming counties, in a move to oust all middlemen.

The first step taken was to establish a milk depot, where the farmers were to do their own merchandising, and the Central Labor Union to encourage patronage of the depot. All bottled milk from the station was to bear the union label. S. J. McDonald was named president of the new combine.

LANCASTER WINS OVER BERKS

During the winter of 1906-07 debating societies of Lancaster and Berks counties held a series of contests under the sponsorship of the Inter-County Debating League. The Mohnton team of Berks and the Adamstown group of Lancaster had each won top places in their respective counties, and were selected to battle for the inter-county championship. Ephrata was chosen the place for the contest.

"Resolved, That man is the architect of his own fate", was the subject debated, with Adamstown holding up the affirmative and Mohnton's contestants arguing the negative.

The judges, including Prof. Charles Wagner, of West Chester State Normal School; Dr. W. F. Teel, President of Schuylkill Seminary and Prof. H. Justin Roddy, of Millersville State Normal School, decided unanimously that the honor belonged to Lancaster County and a silver cup was presented to the group by Prof. Wagner.

BAPTISTS RIOT IN OHIO

At Portsmouth, Ohio, a faction opposing the pastor, the Rev. Freeman Chase, made an attempt to dispose him and hold services with another preacher, causing a riot in the Fee Will Baptist Church. The followers of the two factions came to blows, with some of the women fainting and others fled screaming into the street. Police refused to interfere. Order was finally restored by the withdrawal of the new minister and the elders.

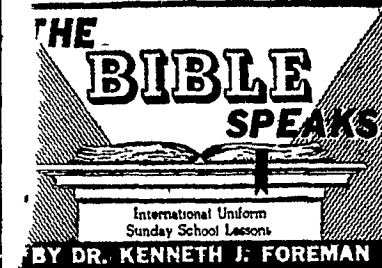
25 Years Ago

A large barn and adjoining garage on the Lancaster homestead of Isaac Herr, along the highway leading between Lampeter and Witmer Bridge, were destroyed by fire.

Firemen from Lampeter, Willow Street and Lancaster fought

the blaze with water from a nearby stream and saved the residence and other farm buildings.

Walter Eckman, operator of the farm, and his family were attending a sale in the neighborhood when an alarm was given. They arrived home in time to help save

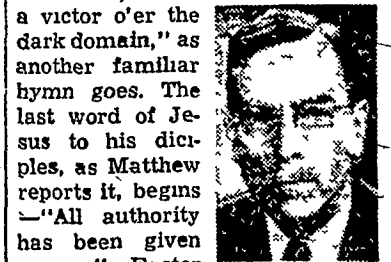


Background Scripture: Matthew 27:55
—28:20
Devotional Reading: I Corinthians 15:12-23.

God's D-Day

Lesson for April 21, 1957

ONE OF the most famous of Easter hymns begins: "The strife is o'er, the battle done, The Victory of life is won . . ." Among the many true meanings of Christ's death and resurrection is this: Christ has conquered sin and death. All that death and sin could do to him, was done; yet he "rose a victor o'er the dark domain," as another familiar hymn goes. The last word of Jesus to his disciples, as Matthew reports it, begins — "All authority has been given me . . ." Easter is not a season for puzzles; and yet all this does raise a question in the minds of both Christians and unbelievers. If it is true that Christ has won for us the victory over sin and death, if it is true that it is He who has the true authority over man and history, how is it that the world racks along in such a slow, painful, frustrated sort of way? Looking at a slum, or a battlefield, or a cemetery, or a jail, looking at life as it is lived on this planet, would we guess that God had won a tremendous victory over the powers of evil?



Dr. Foreman

A theologian of our time, Oscar Cullman has given an answer to this in the simplest terms. We live, he says, in the interval, so to speak, between D-Day and V-Day. All who can remember back to June 6, 1944, remember the tremendous victory of that hard-fought D-Day. But the war went on for nearly a year after that. Was D-Day, then, a failure? By no means. With D-Day the war was virtually won. The enemy had little chance, after that; but it took a lot of fighting, and some of it, like the Battle of the Bulge, costly and disheartening. So we

D-Day Is Not V-Day

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the cattle, but two horses burned to death. Two automobiles in the garage and farm machinery stored in the barn were destroyed.

Twenty-five years ago this week daylight saving time was a subject of general discussion. Farmers denounced it; city workers, especially sport fans, hailed the advent. Daylight saving was one of the importations that has come to this country from England on the free list. Over there they called it Summer Time.

SPORTING LIFE UN-EFFECTED BY DEPRESSION

Although the country was still groggy from the worst economic depression in its history, the sporting life of the nation had not been effected. April 23, 1932, marked the opening day of the spring races at Havre De Grace, Maryland. The attendance exceeded twenty thousand, the largest crowd in the history of the famous track up to that year. The gate receipts amounted to more than \$30,000.

The admission fee was only the beginning of the financial spree. The betting also exceeded all previous records. Money flowed through the betting windows like water over the Conowingo dam, farther upstream from Havre De Grace.

Clyde Rintz, lower Lancaster County, residing near Andrews Bridge, was in the Lancaster General Hospital suffering from a fractured knee, sustained while working on a sulky plow in a field near his home.

are living, in the time between Christ's ascension and his coming again in glory, as it were between D-Day and V-Day.

What God Has Done

What has been accomplished by God's D-Day? One thing is, that God's power has been shown, once and for all. Over and over in the New Testament, especially in the letters of Paul, the power with which God raised Christ from the dead is called the same power that works in Christians. The victory, over sin and death which we see in Christ, can be the hope and to an increasing degree the experience of our own lives. There really is a difference between living in the world before Christ and after. All that Christ was and did and said, climaxed by the resurrection, are ever before our minds if we only think. Before Christ, no one on earth really knew what God could do. Since Christ, men of faith do know. The other achievement of D-Day's victory is, for us, sharing in God's certainty of victory which finally shall be complete. One of the easiest and subtlest temptations into which we can fall is to wonder whether God may not at last be overwhelmed by a universe which he created but cannot now control. Realizing what D-Day means, we need never have such fears.

What We Must Do

Calvary and Easter have practical messages for the Christian. They are not mere admiration-days, when we can sing happily about what God has done. They are challenge-days calling us to thought, attitude, action, as befits children of the mighty God. As for death, we can see clear through it. Christ has shown us the glory on the other side. As for sin, Christ bore our sins with Him "to the tree" as Peter said. The power that wrought in Him is available for us in our struggles against evil. But there is something more than this. John Baillie speaks of our era, between the time of Jesus and the end of time, as "the years of grace," that the great task of Christians is just the very thing which Matthew leaves with his readers as the climax of his story of Christ. "All authority has been given me . . . therefore—(sit down and be at ease? wait quietly for the end? spend your time singing, my praises? no, none of these.)—therefore GO, and Make Disciples." The going, winning Christian is the one in whom the victory of Easter moves on toward final triumph.

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