

Tobacco Auction ?

The 1958 tobacco market is, for all practical purposes, a memory. Except for those buyers who were able to capitalize on a thoroughly confused situation, it leaves some very unpleasant memories in Lancaster County.

Some folks called this year's leaf buying "crazy." Looking back over it, they are probably right.

But then, it wasn't much different than any other year.

Buyers scurried about, spreading low bids and fear with alacrity. Farmers stewed, fussed, worried, fidgeted and finally sold, knowing full well their crop was worth more, but they wouldn't get a higher bid.

So one of the largest, highest quality leaf crops in history was consigned to the warehouses, often at ridiculously low prices.

An experienced observer was heard to remark that buyers have often claimed an auction system wouldn't work in "this kind of market."

He then snorted, "Sure, an auction wouldn't work in this type of market, because if the farmers had an effective auction—you wouldn't have this kind of market. You'd have one that made a little bit of sense."

If an organization was established for the purpose of operating a tobacco auction, it would meet resistance. Possibly from other farm groups jealous of their standing and influence. Possibly from farmers who "don't believe in such things."

But—DEFINITELY—from apathy and the general feeling of the tobacco growers in this county. Too many farmers are content to sell their goods below their value, because it is the easy way.

How much simpler would it be to list the crop with a Tobacco Exchange, spe-

cify terms of delivery and have it sold on an open market, along with the crops of other farmers, where you could see its value and decide from an established market if you wanted to sell?

Does this sound familiar? It should, because it is the system in operation every Thursday at Lancaster Poultry Exchange. A highly effective system for the farmer, but one which will die on the vine,—with the broiler market reverting to a tobacco market condition—unless broiler growers show more interest.

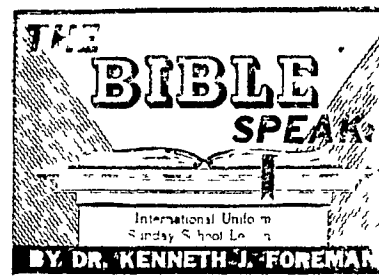
Chickens or tobacco. It makes little difference. Lancaster County farmers can enjoy decent prices and a sound market.

They can IF they are willing to start working for their own good and not to increase the profits for processors.

There are only so many tobacco farmers in the county. Why not an organization to provide them with assurance that a sizable majority of the county's tobacco would be sold by auction? Enough to establish a market and keep it steady?

Would it be possible for farmers to contract their crop through such an auction, with an escape clause freeing them from their obligation if less than a specified percentage of the county crop was signed up? Such a contract, signed in the spring or summer, would give an auction group legal backing if consignees backed out at the last minute, while protecting the farmer from being the sacrifice on a very limited listing.

When time came to sell, farmers would know if enough of the crop would be auctioned to provide a solid market. The auction group would have protection against another fiasco. Without doubt, there are complications in such a system, but could it be any crazier than the present one?



Bible Material: Luke 1:1-4, 3:1-14, Acts 1:1-5
Devotional Reading: Galatians 4:4-7

Gospel Preface

Lesson for October 5, 1953

THE FIRST three books of the New Testament were not the first to be written. Earlier than these gospels are the letters of Paul. If it had been left to him there would have been no gospels for he seems to have taken very little interest in the personal career of Jesus of Nazareth. But there must have been many early Christians who kept asking: Did Jesus do anything in this world but die? If he was a teacher what did he have to say? Where did he live, and how? Who were his friends and his enemies? What did he do or say that made some people hate him enough to kill him? What did he do or say that made other men believe he was the Son of God?



Dr. Foreman

The first three gospels were all written to answer such questions. It is these gospels that will be the source material for the lesson used by the eighty-plus denominations using the "international" lessons. They will be studying the One in whom we all are one.

The World

The spotlight of interest in the gospels is, of course, Jesus himself. The gospel writers do not include long chapters on historical background, as we might wish they did, for the first readers knew the background very well, they were a part of it. Luke, however, piles a lot of proper names into his third chapter, as if it were anchoring the gospel story in the general story of history, the story of mankind. The gospels are about a real person who lived in a real world. You could have followed him around with a movie camera. The time of Christ was not the "once upon a time" of fairy tales. He was a contemporary of certain Roman and Greek officials.

very well known when Luke was writing, otherwise there would have been no sense in mentioning them. Those names, if we take the trouble to study them, set before us in one sentence the Roman empire, a great power system, its far-flung provinces controlled by career men in the pay of Rome, imposing peace on the world, holding even the priesthood of a little obscure people like the Jews as part of their great political system.

The Hope

In his empire, and so to speak underneath it, subjects but not citizens, lived the Jews. Most of them then, as now, lived outside of Palestine. But all Jews to some extent and the Jews of Palestine intensely looked forward to a New Age, a time when God would "redeem his people" as they put it; that is, when God would not only "restore the kingdom" to Israel but would make Jerusalem the center and capital of the whole world in an age where all the best dreams and hopes of the prophets for an age of righteousness and justice and peace would come true.

Center of this hope was the "Messiah" or "Christ" (two words, meaning the same thing), who in some way—they were not clear just how—would start that New Age and be its emperor forever.

The Story

The gospels tell the story of the man whose neighbors called him Jesus, and whose most intimate friends, under strict secrecy, called him Messiah. The general public, the Jews at large kept hanging at him to say whether he was, or was not, the Messiah, but he kept public silence on that point almost to the end. You might say that the gospels are the story of the real Messiah, who were looking for him, but came in a way that shocked them into violent opposition and even hatred. All three "synoptic" gospels, Matthew, Mark and Luke, tell the story in much the same way, John has his own different way. Many characters come on and off the stage, and they are real enough; but the center, as was said, is always Jesus. In these stories he comes alive as a historical person. Across the centuries the question comes to modern as to ancient man: Here is Jesus: are you for him or against him?

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THIS WEEK

—In Washington

With Clinon Davidson

RED MILL IN WASH.

One of the four basic freedoms of our democracy, the freedom of the press, is being used in Washington in an open and avowed plot to destroy a form of government which protects that freedom.

The Russian government has brazenly moved into Washington a large corps of highly trained Communist propagandists for the purpose of influencing American officials and the public in favor of communism.

This red mill has for several weeks been misusing our freedom of the press to print and mail a huge volume of press releases from behind the closely guarded doors of the Soviet Embassy at 1706 18th St. N.W.

The Russians operate under all of the protections accorded our free press, but under none of the restraints that might subject them to libel action for their lies. Tons of this Communist propaganda are put into the mail at rates which require U.S. taxpayers to subsidize a part of the cost.

A Free Press

A call to the Russian Embassy to obtain an explanation brought the response that this is a free country and that the issuance of press releases by a foreign government was perfectly legal and besides what is wrong with making the American people aware of our views?

Why then we asked does Moscow spend millions of rubles to buy our Voice of America broadcast to the Russian people? There was a silence and then a phone clicked.

At the U.S. State Department we were told that we have made a diplomatic inquiry of the Rus-

sian government whether we would be permitted to establish a similar propaganda agency in Moscow but that no reply had been received.

Meanwhile the red mill continues to operate full blast within sight of the White House under the same freedom granted the American press, but denied these same propagandists in their own country.

The Soft Touch

We have before us a typical release from the Russian Embassy press department. It is mimeographed on nine pages, single-spaced. Embassy spokesmen refused to reveal how many names are on their mailing list.

The release follows closely the current "Moscow line." The objective seems to be to convince Americans that the "peace-loving" Kremlin earnestly wants us to regard the Communists as close friends of America.

The lead news item features the impressions of a recent visitor to Russia, Adlai Stevenson. The story identifies him as the leader of the Democratic party in the U.S.A. and reports that he was deeply moved by the friendly attitude of the Russian people.

Peace and friendship were the words he heard constantly while in Russia, the release says. It adds that he left the Soviet Union filled with gratitude to the people of this great country and that he had no doubt that the people of Russia sincerely wished for peace and friendship.

What the release didn't say but Mr. Stevenson did after returning is that he had some quite different impressions about the Russian dictators.

Lancaster Farming

Lancaster County's Own Farm Weekly
Allied C. Alspach, Publisher, Dan McGrew, Editor, Robert G. Campbell, Advertising Director, Robert J. Wiggins, Circulation Director

Established November 4, 1955

Published every Friday by OCTORARO NEWSPAPERS, Quarryville, Pa. — Phone STerling 6-2132 or Lancaster, Express 4-3047

Entered as Second-Class matter at the Post Office, Quarryville, Pa., under Act of March 3, 1939

Subscription Rates \$2 per year, three years \$5, Single copy Price 5 cents.

The Figures Speak For Themselves

1958 — 35 week — comparison — average broiler price — Jan. 1958 to Sept. 1958

Week	Lancaster	Del Marva	Difference
Ending 1/4/58	18 02	17 01	1 01
1/11/58	20 58	18 65	1 93
1/18/58	23 75	21 71	2 04
1/25/58	23 12	23 20	08
2/1/58	20 93	20 81	12
2/8/58	20 92	20 87	05
2/15/58	22 40	20 95	1 45
2/22/58	22 72	21 42	1 30
3/1/58	23 56	21 95	1 61
3/8/58	23 26	22 65	61
3/15/58	23 84	22 22	1 62
3/22/58	22 75	21 72	1 03
3/29/58	22 75	21 71	1 04
4/5/58	21 20	20 66	54
4/12/58	19 81	19 30	51
4/19/58	20 00	19 26	74
4/26/58	21 48	19 71	1 77
5/3/58	22 18	21 02	1 16
5/10/58	22 98	21 58	1 40
5/17/58	21 07	21 13	06
5/23/58	22 00	20 23	1 72
5/30/58	22 78	21 51	1 27
5/6/58	22 95	22 26	69
5/13/58	22 89	21 62	1 27
6/20/58	23 22	22 10	1 12
6/27/58	22 29	22 11	18
7/4/58	21 84	21 27	57
7/11/58	20 66	20 28	38
7/18/58	19 76	19 73	03
7/25/58	19 09	18 75	34
8/1/58	19 12	18 33	79
8/8/58	19 94	18 53	1 31
8/15/58	20 00	18 63	1 37
8/22/58	18 87	18 42	45
8/28/58	17 86	17 15	71
Average	21 44	20 53	91



Now Is The Time . . .

By MAX SMITH

County Agricultural Agent



Max Smith

TO FERTILIZE WINTER GRAIN — A large number of complete soil tests show that many Lancaster County soils are low in both phosphorus and potash. Most crops are heavy feeders of these elements, especially alfalfa and clover. We suggest that winter grain producers drill 300 to 400 pounds of an 0-20-20 fertilizer, or equivalent, in to the soil before seeding the winter grain. This will not only help stiffen the straw of the grain but will help obtain and maintain a good stand of legumes in the future.

TO BEWARE OF FROSTED FORAGE CROPS — Killing frosts may be expected at any time, the new growth of sweet sudan grass, or any of the forage sorghums after a killing frost is dangerous and livestock should not be allowed to graze from it. However the old growth standing at the time of the frost may be made into silage allow to ferment for at least two weeks and will not be toxic. Other crops such as corn, alfalfa or clover are not made poisonous by frost but should be managed carefully to prevent scolding and bloating.

TO ENROLL IN PENN STATE SHORT COURSES — Many different agricultural short courses will be offered again this year at Penn State University. Some of them for only a few days, others for several weeks, also correspondence courses are also available to anyone. Special literature on these items are available from our Extension Office.

TO CONTROL GRUBS IN THE LAWN — There are many insect grubs that live in the soil and injure grass roots. One of the best time to treat the area is in the fall when the rains will help wash the insecticide down into the ground. Chlordane, aldrin, DDT or heptachlor are good materials to eliminate grubs from 3 to 5 years in the future. Details are available.

TO BEWARE OF MOISTURE IN CORN — The bumper corn crop is being harvested and storage facilities will be at a premium. Growers are reminded of the need for an aeration through a pile of corn and care should be exercised when piling ear corn on the barn floor or against a solid wall. In many cases an electric fan system and ducts may help get out some of the excess moisture.