

Meat Is Cheap

Don't Beef About Prices

That engaging little headline fits a recent dispatch sent out by one of the press associations. It has to do with the fact, shown by the American Meat Institute, that meat "is far cheaper than it was 40 years ago."

This may seem like nonsense, but it isn't. It's true, of course, that the dollars and cents cost of a given amount of meat is far more than it was in that long-gone era. But dollars and cents do not always tell an accurate story, and that's the case with meat.

The important thing is how much work we must do to earn enough money to

buy something we want — and judged by that yardstick meat is cheap.

Here are the figures, as given by the Institute. Four decades ago the average worker had to put in 42½ minutes at his job to earn the wherewithal for a pound of beef. Today it only takes him 23 minutes—less than half as long.

The Institute says that "constantly improving methods of production, marketing and retailing are keeping meat prices—when measured in terms of purchasing power—at a 'bargain' level." And that, in this inflationary age, is a real achievement, in whose fruits everyone shares.

Careers In Agr. Endless

Penn State Dean Reports

Careers in agriculture are almost endless in number and variety, says Russell B. Dickerson, Associate Dean of the College of Agriculture, the Pennsylvania State University. Jobs in agriculture may be in engineering, teaching, economics, research, extension, or other fields, he states.

Land-grant colleges and universities graduated 7,500 in agricultural fields in 1959. Dr. Dickerson explains, but there are openings for about 15,000, not counting those who will work directly on farms. A farm background is no longer necessary for high school graduates who wish to continue training in a college of agriculture, he declares.

Agriculture is BIG business, he emphasizes. Of the

some 62 million persons employed in the United States, 25 million or approximately 40 per cent work somewhere in agriculture. Ten million work on farms or ranches, six million provide services for farmers, and nine million process, market, and distribute farm products.

"Our population is growing, yet our farm land is decreasing in area. A better job of farming must be done in the future. Superior varieties of crops will need to be bred, improved fertilizers will need to be made, and more complete control of insects and diseases will be required," he states.

"Servicing of the dynamic industry of agriculture is requiring more and more highly qualified persons each year," Dr. Dickerson adds. "This means unlimited career opportunities ahead in agriculture."

Four-year courses in agriculture are recommended, he points out. Where time and money are short, high school graduates may get very useful training from a two-year course. Short courses in agriculture, leading from a few days to a month, often lead to attractive employment opportunities.

Farm Census To Be Taken In October

It's not too early for farm families to get ready for the nation wide farm census that begins in October.

It is suggested that wives assist in getting records on poultry and livestock production, the numbers of birds and animals sold, fruits and vegetables harvested for home use and for sale.

Other information the census enumerator will want includes acres of farm land owned, rented, or leased from others; acres of cropland and woodland; income from off-farm work and from other sources; and farm operating costs, such as hired labor, feed and fertilizer bought.

The enumerator also will ask for equipment, such as tractors, on the farm, and if the farm has a telephone, home freezer, milking machine and milk cooler.

All census information is confidential, and enumerators will be under oath. With advance preparation, farm families can contribute to the speed and accuracy of the enumerator's job.

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This Week

by Clinton Davidson

Farm Laws

Perhaps as good a way as any to describe what happened to farm legislation in the first session of the 86th Congress is to write the story as a baseball writer, raised on the farm, might tell it.

There is no question but that farmers' legislative team finished last in the 1959 Congressional League, along with the Washington Senators in the American League.

President Eisenhower opened the season, as usual, by throwing out the first ball. Congress hadn't finished warming up when the President fired a brand new farm program proposal to the Hill. Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Benson then went in to pitch for the Administration. The first batter he faced was the House Agriculture Committee. That committee refused to swing at his offering, claiming that he wasn't getting it over the plate.

The same thing happened when he moved over to the other side of the Capitol and made the same pitch to the Senate Agriculture Committee. Mr. Benson left the mound with the count two balls and no strikes.

Trouble on the Mound
Mr. Benson had not much more than sat down on the bench when a dispute arose as to just whose team he was on, anyway. The Secretary insisted that he was on the farmers' team but there were protests from the stands that he was a ringer; that he really was a pitcher for consumers.

Umpire Eisenhower ruled that he belonged on the farmers' team and refused, despite protests, to thumb him out of the game. That settled it, Mr. Benson stayed.

The next rhubarb was over who would pitch for farmers when Mr. Benson wasn't in the game. Both the National Grange and the Farm Bureau claimed they had been sent to Washington to pitch for farmers.

Out in left field the Farmers Union heckled the Republicans and cheered whenever the Democrats came to bat.

Runs, Hits & Errors

During the more than eight months legislative season the farmers' team had a total of 218 times "at bat," that being the number of farm bills introduced. Some 43 batters got on base by having their bills approved by one of the agriculture committees. All but a few were left stranded.

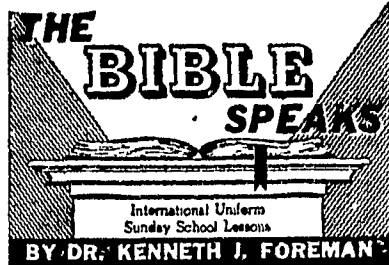
The first runner over the plate was a bill to prevent the Secretary of Agriculture from ruling on REA loans. Umpire Eisenhower, however, thumbed the runner out with a veto.

The farm team protested and asked Congress to overrule the umpire. The Senate said it was a bum decision, but the House said he called the play correctly.

The next two runners were the bills to reduce acreage allotments and increase price supports for wheat growers and to freeze tobacco price supports for five years. Again Mr. Eisenhower ruled that both runners were out at the plate.

The President insisted that he wanted a wheat bill passed this year and sent Mr. Benson to the plate as a pinch hitter. He didn't get to first base.

The farm team staged a ninth inning rally to put over three runs. The first was a bill to strengthen the farmer-owned and operated Farm Credit System. The second gave cotton growers a more workable law for transferring acreage allotments, and the third extended the law authorizing foreign sales of farm surpluses.



Bible Material: Malachi.
Devotional Reading: I John 1 5-9.

The Long Pull

Lesson for September 27, 1959

THE SAME thing never happens twice. But the same kind of thing happens over and over in the history of mankind. Man is the same sort of creature everywhere you find him, and all the gadgets and inventions of the past 300 years have not changed him very much. So you might expect the same kind of situation or problem to turn up again and again in the long story of man on this planet.

One of these might be called the Run-Down Situation. We could call it the Problem of the Rut. It is the state of things when nothing of great importance is happening as far as we can see, when one day is about like most other days. In fact, it's the way life looks to many people over 40. The great thrills are over, death is nowhere yet in sight, there is nothing to do but to keep on plodding as patiently as possible.



Dr. Foreman

For the Long Pull

The prophet Malachi lived in such times. This last book of the Old Testament comes from a time of disillusionment, weariness and tedium. The great thrill of coming home from exile was over long since—more than one hundred years, in fact. Nobody had seen a miracle, no Moses was in sight. The Jews in Palestine, where Malachi preached, had once been all excited about being able to come back in peace to Jerusalem to build a temple and to worship the true God. But as time went on people became tired of the endless series of sacrifices, even the priests became bored with the whole thing. People stopped coming to the temple. The priests did not think of carrying religion to the people, and the country was sinking deeper and deeper into religious indifference and moral decay. There were

NESSSES, Jesus said and followers. The business of Christianity, it is testimony, is not a doctrine but a living experience. It is not hearsay but personal experience. It is not a witness in court, else is to state the facts. The Church sees them. The Church tasks and we possibly forget this. Certainly we are not made wise.

Testimony for Christing on his side. When you order seed in the spring you get the catalogue says excited over the advertisement in the catalogue, every picture money—in talk. A convincing testimony is your neighbor's actual are not going to be tomatoes any better. tomatoes you have seen no matter what the ad. But if you have ad tomatoes from a catalogue you can let the catalogue.

The Bible has a great deal about Christ and Church. But it's written as with the seed catalogue convinces people actual samples. The actual Christ can be a good Christian.

Into All the World

The tragedy of something that was funny if it were not wrong. Every Sunday almost any church, people who are making takes at once. One "witnessing" means means words, or work. They take part in the singing with loud voices. Next things about "Amen!" when the them... and they are missing for Jesus. It is not just sweet-talk it is, as St. John put it, "to walk, living." Furthermore, an evangelist-at-home witness is intended. He distinguishes the end of the ear away, in how many gauges, with how many eyes, is your church Jesus? A church that itself about Christ. the Directive.

(Based on outlines of the Division of Christian Missions, National Council of Churches in the U.S.A., Community Press Series)

Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



MAX SMITH

TO TREAT STORED GRAIN—Stored grain should be inspected before cold weather. Identify any weevil, moth, or other pest that may reduce its value. Old stored grain may also be infected with carbon disulphide or carbon tetrachloride while the weather is warm is recommended.

TO PAVE THAT BARNYARD—Recent type of livestock produced on a paved barnyard has many advantages that will improve the value of the herd as well as sanitary conditions. The cost of using concrete or blacktop surfacing will vary little providing a proper base of 4 to 6 inches of stone is placed as a base. Ramps and slopes should be made rough so that animals will not fall.

TO REDUCE GRAIN LODGING—Many producers face the problem of the small grains lodging severely during harvesting. In many cases this may be due to a poor growing season; however, several proper practices will reduce this problem. Seeding later in the fall, using a good seed, barley between Oct. 1st and 10th and wheat between Oct. 10 to 25th. The omission of any nitrogen fertilizer will also help to stiffen the straw; fertilizers containing phosphorus and potash are recommended, ones such as 20-20 or 0-15-30 at the rate of 300 to 400 pounds per acre.

TO BEWARE OF FROZEN SUDAN GRASS—A hard frost on sudan grass develops prussic acid that is poisonous to livestock; farm operators are cautioned about this during this time of the year; animals should not be allowed to graze any growth that has been frosted or any new growth following a killing frost. If considerable growth is present at the time of the frost, the material may be cut and stored in the silo and after a two week fermenting process will be safe to feed. Do not feed it immediately after cutting in the silo.