

FROM WHERE WE STAND -

Dilemma In The Broiler Industry

Once in awhile we come across a story or article which says just what we would like to say and says it just the way we would like to say it. Such an article is the one below reprinted from the Arbor Acres Review, published by Arbor Acres Farm, Inc. It reflects views of the farm's president, Henry Saglio, and supports the views of this editor, that the sands of time are rapidly running out for many broiler growers in America today. We believe it is a very accurate appraisal of the national situation in Poultry.

"The broiler industry, after repeated warnings from reliable sources and with the knowledge of all concerned, is on the brink of economic suicide.

"Unless some firm and intelligent decisions are made immediately, most of the industry people we know today will no longer be factors in the production of poultry meat. They will have been replaced by men who have the ability to give the industry the leadership to which it is entitled—an industry with a sound economic structure, and not one based on the philosophy that the only way to success is to drive the other fellow into bankruptcy.

"In the greedy race for power and prestige, we have defied every sound economic law, and have tried to justify our actions by blaming the other fellow. As a result, so much hate and mistrust have developed between individuals and between areas that there is a deep-seated determination for destruction at any cost.

"In recent weeks, numerous emergency meetings have been called in hopes of achieving group action. Unfortunately, group action in itself can accomplish nothing in this situation. It must be preceded by individual action. Up to this point, the individual action has not been forthcoming.

"As long as birds are being placed without regard to the final outcome all the group action in the world isn't going to help. We're just going broke.

"Unless the present tendency toward self destruction is quickly replaced by a strong desire for survival within our own individual financial structures, there is no hope for the so-called leaders of the industry as we know it today.

"One of the first prerequisites of managing any business is the ability to manage money. The products of a company are only the working tools—the catalysts which generate a turnover of capital. The amount of product produced is significant only in the manner in which it affects the return on the investment. Product is a means—not the end.

"The individual businessman in this industry therefore must be judged on his ability to make a profit, rather than by the number of chickens he grows. His decisions must be based on his own financial position, over and

above all other factors. We can't continue to be motivated by the actions of our competitors, or the fear that someone else might gain an advantage. The important thing is that you make money, regardless of how much or how little the other fellow makes. If our competitors go broke, there is no reason why we should rush to go with them. Individual business thinking must dominate within the financial capacity of each of us.

"There are three particular topics which have been widely discussed by industry people as we have started to sink toward insolvency.

"First, available supplies of our raw materials which are hatching eggs produced by our breeder hens. Many advocate the 'only cure' is the disposal of 20% of the nation's breeders. Many agree—as long as it is their competitors' birds being slaughtered rather than their own. No doubt such an immediate reduction in the breeder hen population would have a beneficial effect. But, at best, the creation of an artificial shortage would be short-lived. This requires a management decision by each individual businessman. If disposing of a significant number of your breeders is best for you, regardless of what your competition is doing, then get rid of them.

"The second popular topic of conversation is the role of big business in our industry. Some feel that the 'power plays' of larger firms are basically responsible for our present difficulty. It depends on where you sit as to what is big or who is big. Everyone is big to someone.

"Once again the actions of other people blind us to the opportunities in this industry for a well managed business. A perfect example is the degree of success attained by independent feed manufacturers under the umbrella of the larger national mills. Bigness in itself is neither an asset or a liability. The individuals involved determine the goodness or badness, the success or failure of any business enterprise.

"The third and last of the three most popular topics is government controls. In my opinion, such controls will be necessary if, and only if, our present industry leadership fails to deliver.

"It has been said many times that the role of government should be to assist only when the individual can't help himself. When the time comes that we, as businessmen, are incapable of helping ourselves, then controls will be a necessity. Being bailed out is a poor substitute for good management.

"It really boils down to this — if you save yourself, you save the industry. It must happen in that sequence. Will you be present at the next roll call?"

That is a good question for all farmers to ponder.

At least that's how it looks from where we stand.

the law denies the farmer basic liberties to which he is entitled. Farmers who historically grew less than 15 acres had no voice in the referendum which authorized the program under which they are now penalized."

Groff cited the separate agreement on Duram wheat and the separate provisions under which different tobacco types are regulated as historical basis for separate legislation for soft wheat.

"I would urge farmers in the soft wheat growing area (the 22 states in Northeastern US, including all of Pennsylvania) to continue to grow their full quota of wheat to prevent a shortage of soft wheat and to maintain the good foreign market we now have for soft wheat." Groff told Lancaster Farming this week.

Groff urged that farmers write the Secretary of Agriculture asking for a relaxing of acreage controls until such time as a surplus of soft wheat begins to devel-

op. If such a surplus does develop, he said, more stringent controls could be applied.

Advertisers will be glad to have you mention Lancaster Farming when answering advertisements.

Lancaster Farming

Lancaster County's Own Farm Weekly

P. O. Box 1524
Lancaster, Penna.

Offices:
53 North Duke St.
Lancaster, Penna

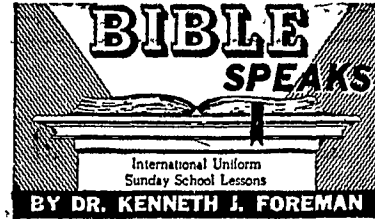
Phone - Lancaster
EXpress 4-3047

Jack Owen, Editor
Robert G. Campbell, Advertising
Director & Business Manager

Established November 4, 1955
Published every Saturday by
Lancaster Farming, Lancaster, Pa.
Entered as 2nd class matter at
Lancaster, Pa. under Act of Mar.
8, 1879 additional entry at Mount
Joy, Pa.

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

Members Pa Newspaper Publishers
Association, National Editorial
Association.



Bible Material: Matthew 11 28-30; Luke 9:51-56, I Corinthians 3:1-4, Philippians 3:4-17.
Devotional Reading: John 14:21-26.

Christians Grow

Lesson for October 8, 1961

CHRISTIANS aren't such a peculiar breed that they stand outside the laws which God has written into nature, the laws that govern all human beings whether Christian or not. The Christian child has to learn his lessons and



finish his spinach just like other children. The Christian teenager is not going to find he can get by without doing his home work just because he is a Christian. The boy who goes out for the basketball team had better be a good player or he won't get on the team, and that holds for Roman Catholics or Quakers just the same as for atheists.

There are certain laws of growth which are in force at all times and for all persons. The Christian grows, and can grow, only in the way that others do, when it comes to physical, mental and social growth. But what about spiritual growth? How can we, or can we, make progress as Christians?

"Learn from Me"

First of all, and most foundational of all, the Christian becomes more of a Christian,—he becomes more Christian in every aspect of his life—, by learning from Jesus. This means at least that Jesus is THE TEACHER, the number one teacher, of the growing Christian. If we take seriously the claims of Jesus as we read them in the New Testament, if we take seriously what the church says about the divine authority of our Lord, then the only logical conclusion is: If we take any other authority ahead of the authority of Jesus, we are insincere at worst, inconsistent at best. Now we can't learn from Jesus, we don't rate the name of "disciple"—which is to say, "learner"—if we never read or stop to think about what Jesus

said. The study of the four Gospels is absolutely indispensable for Christian growth.

Copy Whom?

Of course, learning from Jesus is not only learning to do as he says, but also and always learning to do as he does, to live as he lived. Even those who are not Christians understand this. Christianity is fully possible, Bernard Shaw said once, only in a nation of Christs. Quite right; and that is precisely what Christians should be aiming at—a nation of Christs. But after all, some one will say, Jesus lived long ago and in vastly different circumstances from ours. How can we follow him?

At this point we have a valuable hint from what seems at first a conceited remark by Saint Paul, but is not really conceited: "Copy me," he writes to the Philippians (Moffatt's translation.) The Christians to whom Paul was then writing had no written gospels, and even if they had, they might have felt a little baffled. How could they—Roman citizens, slaves, Greeks, copy Jesus who was neither citizen nor slave nor Greek? Paul gives the answer. "Copy me"; for us this would mean, imitate the most Christ-like persons you know, living in your own time and place.

Why Christians Don't Grow

It is a pathetic, tragic fact that most Christians are stunted. Christianity has not spread in the world as one would expect; and one big reason is that we don't have enough good samples of genuine all-round Christians. We are scrawny in spirit for the same reason that some sick people are underweight in body: we can't or won't take proper nourishment. "There is still much that I could say to you, but the burden would be too great for you now," Jesus told his disciples. "I could not address you as spiritual men," Paul writes to the Corinthians, "but as babes in Christ." Not even an inspired apostle, not even our Lord himself, can cram truth down into the mind of one who is not ready for it, or who rejects it. There is a mental disease, or symptom, known as aboulia, in which the patient just does not want to do anything whatever. Set the patient, hungry from two days' fasting, down in front of a bountiful meal, and the patient sits there without moving, will starve there if not helped. Spiritual aboulia is worse, for it starves the very soul.

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Released by Community Press Service.)

Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



MAX SMITH

TO CHECK MILKING MACHINES — The milking machine is a noted labor-saving piece of equipment on the dairy farm; however, it may be the source of many problems if improperly adjusted and handled. Improper vacuum in the line and fluctuations of vacuum at the end of the teat during the milking period may cause serious udder troubles. All dairymen are urged to have their lines, pumps, and gauges checked to be sure that the equipment is in top-notch condition.

TO DRY NEW CORN—Most corn cribs are constructed to provide a maximum amount of air circulation to a maximum amount of corn; however, in times of a large corn crop many temporary storages are used that do not provide proper air circulation. This presents need of forced air ventilation thru the pile of corn to keep from heating & molding. Air ducts may be constructed on barn floors or any other tight floor so that the air may be forced up through the pile of corn. Multiple use of hay mow fans may be realized for this purpose.

TO SPRAY FOR WINTER CRESS—Many hay fields are infected with a yellow-flowered weed in the spring named winter cress; this weed may be killed with the use of one pint of MCP per acre applied during mid to late October after a killing frost. It is not advised to attempt any spray next spring after the growth starts.

TO PREPARE FOR CHICKWEED SPRAY—Chickweed will crowd out stands of alfalfa or other legumes if not controlled; this weed is often very bad in summer seedings of alfalfa or pastures. Control may be obtained by spraying with one of the DiNitros in October or November when the temperature is 65 degrees or higher, using 3 pints in 25 gallons of water per acre. The use of 2 pints of Chloro IPC in November or December when the temperature is less than 50 degrees will also give control. Growers are urged to make the applications this fall rather than next spring.

TO CUT BROOD SOW FEED COSTS—The feeding of grass or corn silage to brood sows at the rate of 8 to 12 pounds per head daily will cut down on feed costs during the gestation period; the silage fed in troughs with one pound of protein concentrate per head spread over top has given good results.

Farmers Urged To Grow Quota Of Winter Wheat

Earl L. Groff, Strasburg, Pa., this week called on farmers of Pennsylvania to petition the Secretary of Agriculture for a separate program for soft red winter wheat.

Groff, State Chairman of the Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Committee, in a letter to U. S. Secretary of Agriculture, Orville L. Freeman, said he feels the present program is "grossly unfair" to producers of soft wheat since no surplus exists in supplies of soft wheat.

He added that soft wheat has not in the past, and is not now adding to the storage holdings of Commodity Credit wheat.

Groff said in the letter "The elimination of the 15 acre exemption portion of