

FROM WHERE WE STAND - Rural Opportunities And Responsibilities

Agriculture is science at work for the well-being of the world. It is production of food and fiber on a large scale. Farming offers some of the most challenging career opportunities in the United States of America. The abundance of food supplies and materials for clothing and shelter are tremendous in their contribution to the high standard of living enjoyed today by Americans. Farming is big business requiring plenty of technical knowledge.

The successful farmer will continue to be one of our most important citizens. He is a key-man in the nation's economy. He has the opportunity of outdoor living and working on his own that few others enjoy.

Agriculture looks to research for new machinery and equipment, for the latest in nutrition, genetics, disease control, economics, radiation, electronics, solar energy, and wonder drugs. Many thousands of well-trained scientists and engineers are needed to supply this information and materials.

One of the objectives of Vocational Agriculture is to help meet the needs of those who are planning to engage in farming or enter into some phase of agriculture business. There is no doubt but that the young man who plans to enter agriculture will be more prepared for a successful career than he who has not had for four years of Vocational Agriculture.

You might ask, "If a boy takes Vocational Agriculture in high school, what are his chances to meet the requirements of college?" There has been much information and misinformation published on this subject. There have been at least 328 separate studies in this general area. The findings indicate no significant relationship between high school subjects and academic success in college. The general scholastic ability of the student appeared to be more important than any high school subject matter pattern.

There are thousands of jobs in hundreds of careers for agriculturally-minded young men and young women in today's world.

By Thomas M. Malin, Area Supervisor of vocational agriculture for York and Lancaster Counties.

How Times Do Change

"The average American hen is credited with about 80 eggs a year. A

good, well fed business hen should lay 140 eggs a year. A recent Government publication recommends farmers to keep one of the general-purpose breeds; to provide a clean, dry nest for every four or five hens; to conclude all hatching by June 1, and to then confine or sell the male birds; to gather eggs twice daily in hot or rainy weather, and to store in a cool dry place; to send no small or dirty eggs to market; to sell eggs twice a week during summer; and to keep eggs away from the rays of the sun.

"An Illinois hen of the White Plymouth Rock variety, bearing the curious name of 'Lady Show You,' is credited with 281 full weight eggs in a year. Her selling price of \$800 was perhaps no more than she was worth."

We came across the above in an almanac dated 1914, and wanted to share it with you.

If there were a few of those good, well-fed business hens around today, there would certainly be no surplus of eggs on the market. But if, on the other hand, the eggs were cared for in the prescribed manner, there might be quite a surplus because today's market just would not tolerate the quality of eggs possible under those conditions.

When we stop to look backward at the changes in the past half century, we can't help wondering what wonderful and wonderful things are in store for the children yet to be born on the farms of America.

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

Anyone For A Chic-nic?

We still believe there is nothing new under the sun, but in the mail today came an announcement which says, "A new meat has been invented."

The story, from Texas, (of course) claims "a new taste sensation" for a product called CHIC-NIC.

It is a U. S. Grade A frying chicken that is cured like a ham. It is smoked until fully cooked, ready for the table as is, or it may be warmed for serving, the report says.

Still, we believe there's nothing new under the sun, but we are looking forward to the "new taste sensation" anyway. It might turn out to be as big a boon to the poultry industry as barbecue has been.

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

Watered Hams Again Subject Of Controversy

Secretary of Agriculture, Orville L. Freeman today stated that to protect the consumer of this country he must ask for reconsideration of a Court of Appeals decision that a ham with excess water added may be sold without being labelled "imitation."

The U. S. Court of Appeals ruled in Washington, D.C. Feb. 8 in favor of Armour and Company, which had contested the right of the Secretary of Agriculture to require watered hams to be marked "Imitation Ham"

Secretary Freeman explained that the term "imitation" is commonly required for labelling products that do not comply with specified requirements, as, for example, in the labelling of sausage that contains excess cereal or water in place of meat content, jam or jelly that contains less fruit than is required for the standard product, and cheese with more water or less fat than specified.

For 10 years, except for about 11 months which followed a regulation issued in December, 1960, Federal Meat Inspection regulations required that hams which

contained excess added water be labelled "imitation hams"

The amended regulation of Nov. 17, 1961, which Armour and Company is contesting, merely restored a labelling requirement that had been in effect for a decade. It was issued after a series of eight public hearings, held in major cities across the country, and review and analysis of a large volume of views presented by consumer groups, industry representatives, and the general public.

An easy chair is the hardest one to find, empty.

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. 3, 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.

Farmers Polled On 1962 Crop Planting Intentions

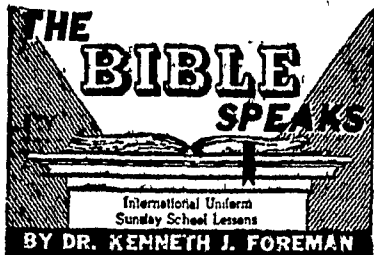
HARRISBURG — Several thousand Keystone State farmers will be queried on 1962 planting intentions beginning February 19.

Dewey O. Boster, statistician in charge of the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service, explained that the survey is being made in an effort to anticipate farmers' plans for the coming crop season.

An official survey card will be sent to a random sample of farmers throughout the state. Each will be asked to report the number of acres he expects to plant to each major crop this year, and the number of acres planted to the same crops last year.

Reports from Pennsylvania farmers will become a part of a nationwide summary on farmers' intentions to plant, to be issued by the Statistical Reporting Service USDA, on March 19.

The national report has been published annually for more than 30 years. The information is useful to farmers in adjusting their own plans; to industries serving agriculture, and to many public agencies.



Bible Material: Exodus 20-13; Matthew 5 21-26, 38-48, 19.13-15; Luke 12 4-7
Devotional Reading: James 3:13-18.

Valuable to God

Lesson for February 18, 1962

WHY is killing wrong? The Bible says so, to be sure; but the Bible would not say so if it were not wrong to begin with. The law says so; but the law can only make things illegal, it cannot make them wrong. Our instincts, when not perverted, warn us killing is wrong; but instincts may be mistaken. There are many reasons



Dr. Foreman why killing is wrong, a serious sin. Let us try to high-light one of these. This reason goes to the heart of the matter. Killing is wrong because it destroys the noblest work of God. It is wrong because it destroys what God has made, indeed the most valuable creature God made upon this earth.

Worth of man to his God

Of all creatures here on our planet, man is the only one with a soul. Put in another way, man is the only animal who is more than an animal. He is the only one who is capable of fellowship with God. He is the only one "in the image of God," that is, the only one who has—by God's gift—the possibility of growing to be like God. Of all creatures he is the one who can be most helpful to God. All God's creatures no doubt are useful to him in some way or other for the carrying out of the divine Purpose; but man alone can be aware of the purposes of God, man alone can receive a revelation from God, man alone can pray. Jesus asked on one occasion what a man could give in exchange for his self; if he took the whole world in exchange, Jesus said, but lost his self in the bargain, he would be the loser. Somebody might interrupt—"Whom in the world are you describing? Most people, on the hoof as you might say, aren't as noble as all that!" Quite true; and nobody knows it better than

God. But men are the creatures God went to infinite trouble to save. Men are the creatures about whom Jesus told his parable of the one lost sheep, and the joy in the presence of the angels over even one repenting sinner.

In ancient times people did not think much of slaves, or women, or children. A woman had status only so far as her connections with some man gave her a position in society. Children had no status till they were grown; and slaves had no status at all. Jesus, however, never "brushed off" any one. He always had time for people; poor people, stupid people, even bad people. When some little children were brought to him, his disciples tried to get rid of them. The Master's time was valuable, he could not afford to waste it. But Jesus rebuked his disciples, not the children. All the modern keen interest in childhood, the study of growing personalities just at the very beginning of life, stems from the Christian view, which goes back to Jesus, that even babies are already persons. To harm a child is to commit a crime against the future of mankind.

Sins against persons

This brings up another very obvious thought: Sins against persons are the most serious kind. Once upon a time this was not understood. Men would be hanged for murder, they would be hanged for stealing a lamb. Nowadays stealing a lamb is petty theft, but murder is still murder, and in many states still receives the death penalty. This is not the place to argue about capital punishment, only to point out that it shows how after all these centuries, human life is still known to be the most important life on earth, and any damage to it a serious crime.

But suppose I harm myself and myself alone? Isn't that my affair? It is your affair if you mean does it concern you. It is your affair if you think that harm you do to yourself injures no one else. You wouldn't think of chopping your hand off, but if you did, the law would take you in charge. You have no right to injure yourself,—by hatchet, alcohol, simple neglect or otherwise; much less to destroy yourself. You do not live alone, you are surrounded by others. Well and strong, you are a benefit to the community; injured or dead by your own fault before your time, you are a burden, you have turned your back on the human race, you have defaced God's handiwork.

(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 PRUNE THOSE SHADE TREES — February and March are good times to prune most kinds of shade trees. At this time of the season storm-damaged and diseased branches should be removed and also the ones that are crossing and growing in the wrong direction, when temperatures are low there is less sap flowing and therefore, less loss of strength to the tree. Use sharp tools and paint all cuts over two inches in diameter with orange shellac or special tree wound paint.

TO SOIL TEST FOR TOP YIELDS — The lack of required amounts of lime, nitrogen, phosphorus, or potash will reduce yields in all types of soil and with all kinds of crops. If anyone of these major soil elements is lacking, the crop yield will suffer. One of the best methods of determining any shortage is to have a complete soil test made, the cost is only \$1.00 per sample and may return many times the amount. Get the test made early in order to avoid a costly delay.

TO CULL UNPROFITABLE DAIRY COWS — Milk production is increasing throughout the country and milk consumption per person is decreasing; if these trends continue, the milk producer faces difficult times. Many herds contain some cows that do not produce the minimum of 250 pounds of butterfat per year; without any kind of production testing it is difficult to know the exact production per cow per year. However, most dairymen recognize many of the lower producers in the herd; these cows continue to place some milk on the market but do not return a profit to their owner. Culling will help reduce the marketing problem and increase net returns.

TO CHECK FOR EXTERNAL PARASITES — Many herds and flocks of cattle, sheep, and hogs, become infected with body lice and ticks at this time of the year. These lice and ticks suck blood from the hide of the animal, reduce their comfort, reduce their gains and production, and increase feed and production costs. All owners are urged to check their animals and treat two times about 12 to 14 days apart to eradicate the problem.