

From Where We Stand . . . Who Is To Blame For Surplusses?

At a recent meeting of dairymen, a University official summed up the dairy industry's problems in these words, "Too much milk".

On the heels of this remark comes a report from the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service that more than 20 per cent of the state's dairymen plan to increase the size of their herds in the next year.

Many self styled experts have proposed just as many reasons for this buildup of surplus in milk and milk products, but we come right back to the thesis that every individual has to police his own business or he has to accept the blame for the problems of the industry.

There are those who will say that automation has forced small dairymen to get larger in order to compete. Some will say that the government is to blame for mentioning the possibility of quotas — forcing dairymen to get larger in order to have a basis for increased quotas. Some will say that the government is to blame for purchasing surplus milk supplies and creating an artificially high market which encourages more production, while on the other hand some will say the reason for high production is a low market price which forces the farmer to put on more cows in order to keep his gross income at a constant level.

There are those who will say the dairy industry will never be secure until it is fully regulated — production and market wise — either by the government or by another agency, and there are those who will say that the only way the industry can cure its own ills is to be left completely alone to fight it out on the supply-and-demand line. They say, "Let the law of the jungle reign, and let the poorer farmer drop out."

There are those who will say that the problem is caused by the increased production of milk per cow, and there are those who will say that the entire problem is not oversupply but underconsumption.

And the wierdest part of this whole situation is that each of these experts can quote facts and figures to prove their contentions.

Perhaps the truth of the situation lies in a combination of all these forces, and therein lies the secret to the whole problem. The whole mess is so complicated that no individual has the fortitude or stamina to stand up and say, "I am to blame for this situation."

The problem is so complex and so confused that no individual has enough fortitude and stamina to believe he can do anything about clearing away the clutter. Those who are most closely related to the problem have vested interests in the form of capital or position which they must protect, or they have a lack of capital and are hesitant to obligate themselves with indebtedness. On the other hand, those persons not so closely related to the problem are disinterested in the situation since it creates an artificially low market price for a necessary consumer product.

The problem is serious, and the indications are that it will get worse before it gets better.

We agree with the university spokesman when he said, "We are going to have quotas, or we are going to be paid for not producing, or we are going

to have to fight it out on the supply-and-demand line."

Again it comes back to the proposition that each person in the industry is responsible for the prosperity of the industry. The innate greed in each and every one of us has contributed to the situation, and only innate honesty and candor can hope to bring anything better.

We wish we had the total solution in a few concise words, but we do not. We seriously doubt if the solution to such a complex problem can be simple, but of this much we are sure. If the dairymen does not police his own industry and come up with some answers, he will have to accept the blame for whatever happens in the industry.

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



Check New Ideas

Farmers are always, as are all good business men, on the lookout for way of reducing production costs.

They have found many of them. It is for this reason that food is one of the least expensive products the American consumer buys today.

We believe farmers should continue to look for ways to reduce the cost of producing food and fibre, but we believe any change in method should be based on fact.

It has come to our attention that there is now in the county a firm promising more than any intelligent farmer has a right to expect for a certain plant food product.

The report is out that the firm claims only a few pounds of its product are all that is needed for a good crop.

Every so often we hear of some product or other that claims to be the answer to all the farmer's problems, but usually the claims are, at best, grossly exaggerated and, at worst, outright falsehood.

We have no complaint with the legitimate dealer who has a new product he wishes to promote and describes it in glowing terms, but we do object to outright misleading claims for any material or system.

Before you spend any time or money on a gadget or program which makes fantastic claims, we urge you to check on the source of the information. And then we urge you to check with as many agricultural experts as you can. Your county agent, teachers of vocational agriculture and university personnel are all willing to advise you on new and better methods. Unless the idea has been tried and proven to be of value, we urge you to use caution.

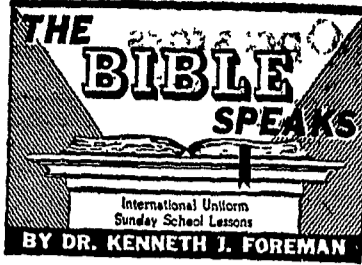
Some new chemicals have produced fantastic results when used properly, but no farmer has a right to expect a product to perform miracles.

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



Staying younger longer?

Farmers of 55 years or older comprise an increasingly larger part of all U S farm operators. In 1910 — when comparable records were started — fewer than a fourth were in that age group; but by 1959, nearly 4 of 10 were 55 or more.



International Uniform Sunday School Lessons
BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

Authority

Lesson for March 17, 1963

Bible Material: Mark 11:1 through 12:12.
Devotional Reading: II Corinthians 13:5-10.

IT USED to be that men were ranked high because they had authority over other men; the more men, the more authority. This still is the case. We call such men executives and we pay them fabulous salaries to run the great



Dr. Foreman

corporations of today. A man may build up inside these corporations what is called an "empire" of men who are under his control in some way. But there is another kind of authority, and it is sometimes more highly prized: it is authority on something. Men who have this may not be paid so well; they are usually less interested in money than the tycoons are. But they get a great deal of satisfaction out of life, and they seldom want to change places with the men who have authority-over . . .

The authority of Jesus

Jesus had both kinds of authority. But His was a rather extraordinary power. What made it extraordinary (among other causes) was this: He had none of the gimmicks, the special marks, the keys, ribbons, chevrons, the letters after His name, which mark men of authority, then and now. He was just Jesus of Nazareth, and His friends called Him Teacher so often that that was what most people called Him. His family had no influence, He had not had a scholar's education, He had no money, His real friends were mostly poor, He never met a payroll, He had no "empire" in the style of a Napoleon or a "Captain of Finance." Yet in spite of these handicaps, people did respect Him with an enthusiasm unbounded.

For after all, Jesus did have an empire, in the hearts of men. His friends felt this, and so did the masses of the people. It is important to note where Jesus' authority was—what was He authority on, or over?

The kingdom of the mind
Jesus was one who had authority in the invisible kingdom of the Mind. As one gospel writer says, He knew what was in man. He could tell what people were thinking. He knew what to say to persuade people, and He knew too when people were not to be persuaded. He knew people from the inside. Because He knew this, He was also an authority over people's minds. Not that He told them what to think,—thought control or hypnotism were not in His line. He used no tricks, He did not make His points by shouting, or by saying the same thing over and over as a cheap politician does, till finally he begins to believe it himself. Not a bit of that was in Jesus. His way was to speak the truth—just as simple as that; only unlike some teachers and preachers, who can make any truth sound dismal and dull when they get through threshing it to chaff, Jesus made the truth not only interesting but unforgettable, not only interesting but often startling.

The kingdom of the spirit

Jesus had an authority that went deeper than the mind. Deeper, that is, if you think of "mind" as most people do, as being what you think with. There is a something in man, and soul may be the best word to describe something that cannot be seen or felt but known only from inside,—there is a something which is more than mind; something that reaches beyond the stars—beyond the kind of existence we know, reaches out to God Himself. Jesus was master of men's souls as He was of their minds. He was an authority on them, and over them. We can put this in another way by saying that in religion and morality, Jesus had the last word. To this day, even among persons who are not Christians, there is an insight into right and wrong that was not known before Jesus' time. No one who lived in the same century, who was a teacher, was able to teach so enduringly as He. No other name from the first century,—Christians would say no name in all history, is as influential today. Life brings us many questions, but the most serious, searching, burning questions are those that science cannot answer. What is the purpose of living? How can I please God? How can I find God? How can I come to terms with God? When I have slipped into the mire, what power can make me clean? These are the heart-questions; and Christ is lord of the heart.

(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

To Plant Farm Windbreaks

A good tree windbreak around the farm home or the farm buildings diverts winds over and around the house and barn; with the home it may reduce winter fuel bills as much as one-fifth. A windbreak also prevents the drifting snow around walks and driveways and provides a sheltered place for children to play. March and April are the months to plant these trees.



MAX M. SMITH

To Buy Certified Strawberry Plants

Red stele is the most destructive strawberry disease in Pennsylvania. Entire plantings have been destroyed where it was introduced with plants. Certified plants should be free of red stele as well as free from virus and nematodes. Buy only the best certified plants.

To Seed New Lawns Early

Home owners who are planning to seed a new lawn or reseed an old lawn are urged to make this seeding as early as possible this spring. Late March or early April are preferred if the ground is dry enough to work. If seedings are delayed into May or June, then the small plants do not have time to develop a good root system before dry, hot weather arrives. Begin plans now by having a complete soil test made on the area.

To Recognize The Importance of Lime

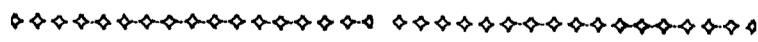
All land owners should appreciate the place of proper liming in order to produce any kind of vegetation. If soils are acid, plant nutrients do a better job of growing crops only when needed lime is applied. More plant nutrients are available when the acidity is corrected. Soil testing is the only proper method of determining the amount of lime needed. Too much lime (and especially too much lime added at one time — not over 3 tons per acre of ground limestone) may actually decrease the available plant food.

● Guernsey 4-H

(Continued from Page 1)

ow Street R1, Paul Ankum, Peach Bottom, Ellis Denlinger, Gordonville R1 and John R Breneman, Kirkwood R1

The next meeting of the club will be a fitting and showing demonstration on the farm of J. M. Lapp, Kinzer R1 on April 10.



Lancaster Farming

Lancaster County's Own Farm Weekly

P. O. Box 1524 Lancaster, Penna.
P. O. Box 266 - Lititz, Pa.

Offices:
22 E Main St. Lititz, Pa.
Phone - Lancaster EXpress 4-3047 or Lititz MA 6-2191

Jack Owen, Editor
Robert G. Campbell, Advertising Director

Established November 4, 1955. Published every Saturday by Lancaster-Farming, Lititz, Pa.

Entered as 2nd class matter at Lititz, Pa. under Act of Mar. 8, 1879.