

From Where We Stand . . .

Skimming Off The Cream

When we came in the office one day last week there was a copy of a national business and financial weekly journal on the desk.

At story titled "Skimming Off the Cream" had been penciled by the retired business man who brought the paper to the office. He thought we would be interested in reading it.

We would, indeed!

One gets the idea from the article (which is pointed to business men) that the dairy companies are mankind's benefactors and have been the butt of a cruel joke perpetrated by nature and the farmer.

After describing one plant's modernization program, the article says ". . . is in a way symbolic of the many steps the nation's dairies are taking these days to free themselves from a profit squeeze between rising costs on one hand and, on the other, declining consumption of butter and fatty cheeses by diet-conscious Americans."

It goes on — "The dairy processor has clearly been caught in the middle. Adding to his woes is the fact that the cows seem unaware that Americans drink no more milk in May and June than in November and December. When pastures are green in the spring, the herds produce much much more than in the fall when they have to be fed in the barn.

"Most processors contract to take all the milk a farmer can deliver, not only in the months of relative scarcity, but also in the flush season. They assume the responsibility of disposing of the surpluses, which run as high as 20 per cent over demand even in low-production months, and up to 100 per cent above at the peak.

"Meanwhile, the dairy processor has to buy fresh milk from farmers at prices regulated by federal or state authorities . . . Little wonder, then, that milk profits for the distributors are skimpy even by food processing standards . . ."

Not one word did the article say about quotas imposed by dairy companies. Not one word did it say about how much milk goes into class II and class III categories for which the dairy companies pay much less. Not one word did it say about the guaranteed profit figured into the selling price which is also regulated by federal orders.

As we said before, it made the dairy companies appear to be the benefactors of mankind.

We do not believe that any out-and-out lies were told, but the picture was pretty well shaded. For the businessman who has no other contact with the dairy industry, the view is rather one sided.

Now we know that the farmer has his side to tell too, but the above is what too often becomes the steady diet of the metropolitan reader.

We wholeheartedly endorse the investment Lancaster County dairymen are making to purchase advertising space in which to tell their side of the story. This is what we must do if we

hope to compete in this complex economy where an industry's image can mean survival or defeat.

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

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Cows Are Like Camels

University of Arizona scientists report there is a wide variation in the amount of water used by individual animals. Working with rats, they found that some individuals drink eight times as much as others. This would be highly valuable in commercial animals. For example, we may be able to select beef cows that can get along on less water and range farther from water holes. We hope they won't need to have a hump.

John Strohm in "Top Dollar Farming"

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ When Should a Farmer Borrow Money?

Some questions are suggested by University of Delaware farm management specialist W. T. McAllister to help answer that question. First, can the farmer show that the proposed loan will earn enough extra income to pay the interest, pay back the principal, and add to his income? What factors now limit profitability of the farm and will the proposed loan correct them? What is the productive potential of the farm? He says a good loan must do more than trade dollars.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Bill for Detergents — Detergents

that will readily decompose and not pollute natural water sources is the general aim of a bill recently reported to the Senate by its Committee on Public Works.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Nothing Unique — The special school

milk program isn't unique to the United States: Top on the list is Denmark where a school milk program provides 3 pints of milk per day per child, from November to April. Great Britain's program furnishes a half pint per day to school children and Sweden pours out three quarters of a pint per day. Australian children under 13 get a half pint per day and the Netherlands kicks in with 40 quarts per child per year. Many other countries also have sizeable problems.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Wrong Exercise — From the High-

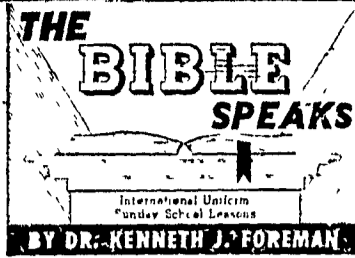
land, Ill. News Leader: "The only exercise some folks get is jumping to conclusions, running down their friends, side stepping their responsibility, and pushing their luck."

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Better Re-Vaccinate — The Public

Health Service says it's wise to get re-vaccinated for smallpox every three years. There have been a number of smallpox scares in this country during the past year.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Hasn't Hurt Yet — The Lennox,

S. D., Independent makes this astute observation: "In observing some government officials' refusal to face reality in dealing with the adversaries of our system, we are reminded of the man who jumped out of a 40th story window, and when passing the fifth story called out to a friend, 'It hasn't hurt yet!'"



Inner Circle Lesson for February 9, 1964

Background Scripture: Matthew 4 14-22; 17 1-13, Mark 3 16-17, 14 22-42, Luke 8 49-56, Acts 4 17, 12 1-3
Devotional Reading: John 21 15-22.

JESUS never played favorites in the sense of treating one or two persons more generously than he treated others. On the other hand he did not treat his men as if they were all alike, so many sticks in a row. If Jesus



differed in his dealings with men it was because the men were different. As everybody knows, not all the crowds that followed him from place to place were his followers, really.

Dr. Foreman Out of those crowds there were some, perhaps many, who were real 'followers,' eager to learn all he taught. Out of those followers, called disciples, there was a small group, an even dozen men, who were not only disciples but apostles,— this last name being (in our Greek New Testament) the word for envoy or ambassador. Jesus not only taught these twelve men, he taught through them.

Friends all different

But not even this was the inner circle. There were three men who were more intimate with Jesus, by his own choice, than any others. They were with him, by his special invitation, at the time of his transfiguration, and also in Gethsemane. They did not understand what was going on, on either occasion; but it is clear that Jesus craved their company, even if they did what we think we could never do—go to sleep. Fancy any one sleeping on the Mount of Transfiguration, or on that night when he was betrayed? Yet these men, stupid as they must have seemed to themselves when they thought about it afterwards, were the only inner circle of friends that Jesus had. No two were alike. If you

I had to give those men a written examination, you might have thought Simon Peter the dullest of the lot. But wherever there was action, Peter was there. He was the kind of man who is a natural leader, the kind of man you would depend on in a fight. James is obscure, not so well known as his brother John. We do know that Jesus' nickname for James and John was Boanerges, "the thunder boys." They were the two who once wanted to burn with "fire from heaven" a whole village just because no one offered them beds.

Friends all alike

In spite of the many differences between the three close friends of Jesus, they were, or came to be, strongly alike. This was undoubtedly due to their common loyalty to, and close acquaintance with, Jesus, their Master and Teacher. Jesus did not try to make them all over into one single mold. If you read, for example, the writings of Peter and of John in the New Testament, you will find that even in mature years and with long Christian lives behind them, John was still John and Simon Peter still Peter. Yet they had a common likeness to Christ. We tend to become like those we most admire.

The heart's need

Peter, James and John show how it has been with Christians ever since. No two are alike; some of us are so different that we find it hard to live with the others, and they with us. Yet among true Christians everywhere there is some family likeness: A Christian always feels at home with other Christians wherever they may be. Further, now as then, some Christians are closer to Christ than others are. Shall we say that some Christians are more sympathetic with God, they have a keener feeling for what God is doing, they are more aware of his presence. Now the number of persons Jesus of Nazareth could treat as intimate friends was limited; but the Risen Christ, the "Friend Unseen," has no such limitations. Can we doubt that Christ is now still in search of friends? He needs friends—indeed in the New Testament his friends are sometimes called his "body." Without a body Christ would be a kind of unremembered ghost in this world. Why should we be content with being mere distant acquaintances of our Lord when we are invited to become his friends?

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Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



MAX SMITH

To Test Farm Seeds

All seeds offered for sale in Pennsylvania must be labeled as to variety, kind, purity, germination, and noxious weed content. All farmers wishing to sell home-grown clover or alfalfa seed should have the seed tested at the Seed Laboratory, Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Plant Industry, Harrisburg, Pa. A five-ounce sample of the seed is required and the cost is \$2.50 per sample. Growers are urged to get this test before selling seed, allow about 30 days for test results.

To Insulate Ceiling Above Livestock

Dairy and livestock producers that are having the problem of condensation on the ceiling of the barn in cold weather, should do some insulating to correct the problem. When the warm air from the lower part of the barn, comes into contact with the cold ceiling, condensation takes place and in extreme cases we get dripping from the ceiling. One remedy is to cover the barn floor above with 4 to 6 inches of hay, straw, sawdust, shredded corn fodder, or any other bedding material. Keep the floor covered at all times during the cold winter months.

To Use Caution With Chloro IPC Spray

Alfalfa growers with a chickweed problem may want to use the Chloro IPC spray to kill down the growth during February or early March (too late for best results). Spray operators are reminded that this spray material will kill most of the grasses such as timothy, orchard grass, or brome grass that is in the stand. In addition, do not use Chloro IPC on stands of winter grain that contain chickweed.

To Store Seeds Away From Weed Control Sprays

The possible fumes from herbicides may be sufficient to reduce or kill the germination of many types of farm and garden seeds. During the winter and spring months, the spray materials for killing weeds should be stored in a separate room or building from any seeds that are to be planted this year.

● Farm Women

(Continued from Page 1)

ers

Co-hostesses, who served refreshments honoring Mrs. Risser, were Mrs. Landis Myer, Mrs. Scott Nissley, Jr. Mrs. Melvin Stoltzfus, Mrs. Gray-on Cooper, and Mrs. Paul Wittman.

Next meeting of the board will be held April 7 at the Colerain Baptist Church.

Lancaster Farming

Lancaster County's Own Farm Weekly

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

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22 E Main St.
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Lititz 626-2191

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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 March 8, 1879.