

From Where We Stand . . .

Meat Import Quota Bill No Bill At All

The meat import quota bill recently passed by Congress is little better than no bill at all. All it really says is that foreign countries should be careful not to dump too much meat on the U.S. during any given period.

The bill includes a formula that suggests when quotas should be imposed, but offers ample loopholes for not imposing these quotas.

In detail, the bill sets a five-year base period (1959-1963) using the import average for that period, 725.4 million pounds. In any year after 1964 in which the Secretary of Agriculture estimates that imports of the specified items will equal or exceed 110 percent of the aggregate quantity (725.4 million pounds) the bill directs the President to set import quotas.

This aggregate quantity would be increased or decreased for any calendar year in the same ratio that the estimated average annual commercial production in the U. S. for that year, and the two preceding years, increases or decreases as compared with the average commercial production in the "base period".

All this part of the bill really says is that as we produce more beef domestically we will increase our imports in proportion, thus sharing our increasing U.S. market with our neighbors.

At the same time we are trying to increase our shipments of meat abroad. The humorous picture this brings to mind is our ships meeting their ships in the middle of the ocean, and simply exchanging cargos.

This Bill also authorizes the President to suspend quotas in any year for overriding economic or national security reasons. For example, if the supply of meat in the U.S. were inadequate to meet domestic demand at reasonable prices (whatever they might be), or if trade agreements had been concluded which would insure that the policy of the Bill will be carried out.

To us this looks like a very weak bill, and not at all what we need to do the job of strengthening the cattle prices paid to the farmer. It could appropriately be tagged as an election-year sop to cattle producers which will still leave meat imports available as an international political football.

What Do YOU Think?



The Farmer's Wife

It is common knowledge that the American farmer is one of the hardest working individuals in our society. But how often does anyone consider the toil of the farmer's wife?

The season of the year with its high "discomfort index" is probably her busiest. While the men are busy in the fields she has to be preparing food in prodigious quantities just for immediate consumption. The kind of heat thrown out by an oven running half the day undoubtedly does little to temper the 90 degree weather that is so common in July and August, and it's soon hotter inside than outside.

In between the cooking, serving, cleaning, washing, ironing, shopping she has to find some "spare" time for

work in the kitchen garden. Once she has picked the beans, or the corn, or the tomatoes, or whatever, she must prepare them for storage — either canning or freezing.

Of course she may have a daughter or two to help, or perhaps a few of the neighbor wives do the job cooperatively for each other. But the fact remains that she's got a real chore to do in addition to all her other duties.

We've never heard any of the wives complain about their lot, really, but we can't help wondering how often the rest of the family considers the tremendous contribution to the family unit that the wife makes every day. She's a real key player on any family farm team, and we suggest that all you men join us as we doff our editorial cap to the indispensable FARM WIFE.



Informed, Or Just Another Voter?

A recent release came across this desk suggesting that we remind would-be voters of the need to register. This we are happy to do. If you haven't voted in the past two years you will need to re-register.

The release goes on to spell out the qualifications to vote in the Nov. 3rd election.

- (1) 21 years of age or older,
- (2) a citizen of the U.S. for at least one month,
- (3) a resident of the state at least one year (six months if native born, or a previously qualified elector of the state who has moved back to the state),
- (4) a resident of the election district or precinct at least 60 days preceding the election, and
- (5) registered under the permanent registration law.

Yes sir, to vote that's all the qualifications you need — legally! Perhaps this is unfortunate.

It seems that in recent years all the emphasis is on voter quantity. "Get out the vote"! "If you don't vote, you're un-American"! "It's every citizen's duty to vote"! etc., etc., etc.!

True. It is everyone's duty as a citizen of a free, democratically-governed country to vote.

But, we'd like to see more emphasis — a lot more emphasis — put on the quality of the vote. Not just how many people vote, but how many people take the trouble to be informed on the issues and know not only whom they are voting for, but also what they are voting for, or against. In our opinion the "what" is even more important than the "whom."

When you consider that the mass of the voters vote for a man, or for a party, or perhaps just so their next relief check will be on time, isn't it even more urgent that the "thinking man's" vote be counted? Isn't it even more important that the voice of the voter be heard who feels strongly that it is his responsibility as a citizen to know what the issues are, and to know where he wants America to be heading? We think that the key word here is responsibility.

We further think that the real future of America lies with these responsible, thinking voters. It is alarming to realize that they are a minority in this country.

What Do YOU Think?



Heroes Lesson for September 6, 1964

Background Scripture: Judges 1 through 5. Devotional Reading: Psalm 80:1-6, 14-19.

MANKIND has three ideals which cannot harmonize with one another. So says a philosopher. The three ideals are: the hero, the artist, the saint. What makes a proper hero doesn't make a proper saint or a proper artist.



What is good behavior for the saint may not be such for the artist . . . and so on. Men of any one type are likely to shock and repel men of other types. We see this today in the un-

Dr. Foreman easy relations between military men and "egg-heads," between athletes and Phi Beta Kappas. We can find it in the Bible too. One strange part of the Bible is the book of the Judges, in which there are stories so disgusting and terrible that they never yet have been used as Sunday school lessons.

Heroes
The word "judges" as used in the book of the Old Testament by that name does not have its usual meaning either in Hebrew or in English. It is used to refer to certain men, usually counted as twelve in number, who raised armies, carried out assassinations, or in other ways, always by the use of violence, came to the rescue of the Israelites and set them free once more. The judges were all military heroes and honored as such. They were heroes, not saints, and cannot be measured by the yardstick of a saint.

Courage
Yet these men, from the greatest to the least of them, were instruments of God in the world, and were used by the Spirit of God to work out his good purposes. They were not such men as all Christians ought to be; but

they were men with some qualities which all Christians might well imitate. One of these qualities was courage. No man without courage can be a hero. We may expect that a hero will be not only moderately brave, as most human beings are, but (as we put it today) brave "above and beyond the line of duty." We can think of Ehud, going on his mission of death quietly in the very midst of his country's enemies; of Gideon, watching his little army melt away—two out of three of them admitting they were scared, and going home!—of Shamgar, doing great exploits with no weapon but a stick to prod oxen with; of Deborah, a military chief of staff, taking the lead only because she could find no man to do it; Samson, full of good possibilities even if he never used them, certainly no coward in the face of lions or men. One and all they were men who dared to do what other men feared to attempt.

Faith
Centuries later, the writer of the Letter to the Hebrews, in reflecting on these very men and naming some of them, thinks chiefly not of their courage but of their faith. By faith they won their battles. Now the Old Testament does not give details about most of the judges, but where it does give details they are a little surprising. Faith is so often confused with a list of propositions we are asked or commanded to believe, that we don't always recognize faith of the kind these Hebrew heroes had. Theirs was an active faith, the faith of fighters and doers, not thinkers. Not that God has no need for thinkers; but when Israel needed a war of liberation, as they so often did, they were not to be saved by scribes and professors, but by men with weapons in their hands, not afraid to use them. This kind of faith does have some "belief-about" in it but also "belief-in." Men of fighting faith believe in something and some one; their faith is a challenge and a summons, not a meekly recited creed. What those heroes believed in was freedom; they fought, every one of them, to set their people free. The Who was the Lord of Hosts (meaning Lord of Armies). They did their great exploits as champions of the Almighty.

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Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



MAX SMITH

To Segregate Shipped Cattle

There's a lot of beef cattle traffic this time of the year in Lancaster county; many feeders will be buying their cattle for the winter months. Shipping fever continues to be a major problem with shipped cattle, and with local cattle coming in contact with the new animals. We urge feeders to keep the new ones separate from the acclimated cattle for at least three weeks, separate feed bunks and watering devices should be provided. This segregation applies to dairy cattle as well as beef cattle.

To Graze Herd Carefully

The milking herd should not be permitted to graze upon succulent growth of any forage close to the milking hours; due to the dry weather in many parts of the county, cows may be turned into later cuttings of legumes or temporary forage crops; at least 3 to 4 hours should be allowed off the forage before the milking time. Barn should be well ventilated during the milking period to reduce off-flavors in the milk.

To Beware of Silo Gas

Many silos will be filled in the coming weeks, heavy fertilization of our crops increases the danger of poisonous gas. Larger amounts of nitrogen for corn, regardless of drought conditions, present greater possibilities of nitro-gen dioxide gas. Dry weather makes the conditions more favorable for silo gas presence. Farmers should be alert for choking or irritating gas, dead birds, or other small animals. The silo blower should be operated 5 to 10 minutes before entering a partly filled silo. Silo safety is more important today than a general- tion ago.

To Give Calves Special Care

The raising of dairy calves is a very important part of the dairy business on many farms. Herd replacements are constantly needed and a good job with the calves means bigger and better calves for the next herd. Sale value of well-grown heifers will be greater regardless of the bloodlines. Special rations containing sufficient vitamins, minerals and proteins are very important. Dry, sunny, warm quarters are also important; individual calf stalls are giving good results. Plans are available.

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New Holland
(Continued from Page 2)
one bull brought 155, and the heifers ranged from 110 to 230.
Horses sold steady at the Aug. 31 sale and 270 head were received. Riding horses brought 125 to 260, driving horses, 125 to 355; killers, were day by Lancaster-Farming, Lititz, Pa.
Entered as 2nd class matter March 8, 1879.

7 1/2 to 8¢ per pound.
At the Aug 31 sale 450 hogs and 40 shoats were offered. The price trend was \$1 to \$1.50 lower. Hogs retailed at 19 to 20. U.S. Grades 1-3 brought 1835 to 1875; heavy-weights 17 to 17.75. Shoats brought 8 to per 12 per head.
Also at the Aug. 31 sale 140 calves were offered. Choice and prime sold for 34 to 37; good and low choice, 29 to 34; standard, 26.50 to 29; common 15 to 25. The trend was steady to \$1 higher.