

From Where We Stand . . .

Farmers Again Becoming Politically Important

In appealing to the masses of Americans who consume food but have no hand in producing it, the Administration not so long ago bemoaned the fact of rising food costs, even as they denied the existence of an inflationary tone in our national economy.

Farmers were such a small force as to be considered politically insignificant, and the Administration was willing to throw the farmers to the wolves, putting the blame on them for high food costs, and suggesting consumers boycott "over-priced" foods.

Recently, however, the official "line" has moderated. Now Administration men are publically stating that the price rises to farmers were long overdue, and are not really out-of-line.

The Administration meanwhile is endeavoring to encourage greater production for next year, particularly in feed grains. Only in this way can food prices be kept "reasonable".

High feed costs have been, and will continue to be, important factors in beef, pork, mink, eggs, and poultry production in the coming year. The big problem facing the Johnson forces is the 1968 presidential election. High food costs will undoubtedly hurt the incumbents, and 1967 feed grain production holds the key to 1968 meat and livestock prices.

High feed costs have already decided many dairymen to quit in the past few years. If the production of feed grains isn't raised considerably in 1967, that trend will probably continue.

So the Administration can be expected to do everything within its power to get more grain production, particularly corn and soybean, out of the 1967 feed grain programs. Will they make it? Tune in again next year at about this time and we'll find out.

A Hungry Rat Is A Busy Rat

The U.S. Department of Agriculture recently found from some preliminary nutrition experiments that rats on a restricted diet are considerably more active than those fed a liberal ration.

Perhaps there are some implications in this study worthy of human consideration — if you'll forgive the momentary comparison.

The diets considered were much the same as those eaten by a typical American family, USDA said. Corn starch and fat (ugh!) given to rats on the restricted diet was adjusted so they consumed only 60 percent as many calories as the liberally-fed rats. The amount of protein, vitamins, and minerals in the feed of both rat groups was kept the same.

Observations showed that hungry rats finished their day's supply of food within an hour. The well-fed group just nibbled at theirs for up to eight hours.

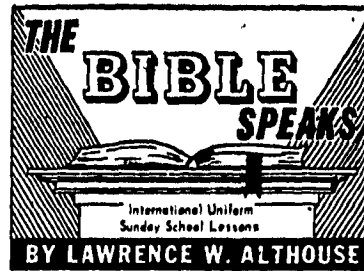
Rats on the restricted diet gained fractionally each day, while the all-day eaters outgained them by 2½ times. Nothing very surprising in that; it has been known for thousands of years that if one eats more, he generally gains more weight.

But the well-fed group was seen to exercise only during the night, the normal period for a rat to be up and around. All day long they shunned the exercise wheel and moved around only to eat.

Meanwhile, the hungry rats raced around in the exercise wheel as much in the daytime as at night. Again, there seems nothing strange about this. Did you ever try to sleep when you're hungry? It's all right for a little while, but sooner or later you get pretty restless. The poor buggers were probably frantically looking for food, or else trying to take their minds off the fact that they were hungry.

Although the scientists will pursue this investigation further and study the interactions of the several factors affecting body weight besides caloric intake and exercise, the preliminary study suggests that: one, if you don't over-eat you won't get fat; and, two, when you get hungry and can't find anything to eat, exercise — maybe you'll get too tired to eat and forget about it.

You may follow this last advice if you wish, but as for us, believe we'll continue along some sort of middle ground between hunger and over-eating.



Attention Please!

Lesson For October 2, 1966

Background Scripture Isaiah 1:6.

Devotional Reading Psalms 40:1-10.

A farmer was selling a mule to his neighbor. He had made a point of assuring the buyer that the mule was very co-operative and responded nicely to gentle commands.

When the time came for the farmer to take the mule out of the barn to present him to his new owner, the mule balked, refusing to move an inch. Finally, the farmer picked up a shovel and



Rev. Althouse struck him a blow on the head. "Hey!" shouted his neighbor, "I thought you said he responds to gentle commands!" "He does," answered the farmer calmly, "but first you have to get his attention."

Getting our attention may well be one of God's greatest problems. Often it is only when life has struck us some staggering blow that we are ready to respond to his gentle commands.

When King Died

Perhaps this is the way it was with the prophet Isaiah. He makes a point of telling us that it was "In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up" (Isaiah 6:1). Perhaps it was only in the midst of his despair over the death of his king that God was able to get his attention.

I was a teenager when President Franklin D. Roosevelt died in 1945. For many of my generation this death was hard to grasp and accept, for we had never known another president, having been too young to remember Herbert Hoover. Many of us found it difficult to understand how the nation could go on in the great war without its leader of so many years. In my children's generation history has repeated

itself in the sudden, tragic death of John F. Kennedy.

This must have been what the people of Uzziah's kingdom experienced when he died. Many of his subjects could not remember any other king for he had ruled for over half a century. Under his leadership the country had become prosperous and powerful. Now, they were wondering: who would be able to fill his shoes?

These, then, may have been some of the thoughts on Isaiah's mind when he went that day to the temple — the day when God was able to reach him and get his attention.

Who Will Go For Us?

In the temple Isaiah was reminded of something that all of us tend to forget: important as are the Uzziah's, presidents, generals, kings, and statesmen of this world, it is the eternal God who reigns over it. The passing of a great leader is a tragic loss to any nation, but that nation is not lost if it still has its God. Sometimes it takes the depths of personal or national tragedy in order for God to get our attention.

Why had God waited until the year that Uzziah died to speak to Isaiah? Why is it that we must experience some tragedy in our lives or grapple with some great problem before he comes face to face with us? The answer is that it is only in the midst of something like this that we are often willing to listen to him. God is constantly calling to us, again and again trying to communicate with us, but it is often hard for him to get our attention.

God had finally gotten Isaiah's attention. The resulting visionary experience in the temple was the high moment of Isaiah's life. In it he caught a fleeting glimpse of the glory and holiness of God. In it he experienced a liberation from his guilt and sin. God-the-far-away had in this moment become God-the-close-at-hand. But there was to be more to this experience. Who will go for us? (Isaiah 6:8) He was being given both a vision and a task.

Someone has said:

A vision without a task is a dream;
A task without a vision is a drudgery;
A vision and a task is the hope of the world.

God is constantly seeking to gain our attention so that he may give us both a vision to lift us up and a task to send us forth.

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FUTURE HERDS FOR FUTURE FARMERS — Three Future Farmers of America received their calf awards Thursday at the Lancaster Fair, courtesy of the county's three breed associations. Left to right they are: Howett Seiverling, Ayrshire, Warwick FFA Chapter; Daryl Bollinger, Lutz R4, accepted the Holstein calf on behalf of fellow Cloister FFA Chapter member Earl Stauffer, Ephrata R1, who is enroute home from the National FFA Dairy Show at Waterloo, Iowa, and James Leaman, Garden Spot Chapter, with the Guernsey calf.

Seiverling, Stauffer, And Leaman Awarded FFA Calves At Lancaster

Many a young Lancaster county calf award program. County Future Farmer has It was that time of the year gotten his start in dairying again at the Lancaster Fair with the animal he won in the grounds Thursday; the weath-

er was the only voice raised in opposition to the annual event, forcing the awards to take place in the dairy tent this year.

The lucky boys to receive calves were given a final (Continued on Page 8)

L. F. Photo

For Full Market Reports Read LANCASTER FARMING

Now Is The Time . . .

By Max Smith, Lancaster County Agent

To Be Aware Of Acorns

Dairymen should be careful not to allow their milking cows to eat fallen acorns at this time of the year. The results will be a drop in milk production which cannot be recovered during the current lactation of the cows. If large amounts of acorns are consumed, there may be some toxic results. It is suggested that where numerous oak trees are in the pasture, non-milking animals only be allowed in the area this fall.

To Go Easy With Nitrogen

Small grain growers following tobacco with barley or wheat should be reminded that we can expect some unused fertilizer remaining in the ground this fall due to the

dry season; due to recent moisture, this fertilizer will become available to the small grains this fall. If any fertilizer is to be used, and we feel that phosphorus-potash fertilizers are needed in most cases, we would suggest minimum amounts, or not any, nitrogen for the grains. With excess nitrogen we get rank growth and severe lodging.

Use Lime Now
Growers who are seeding

small grains this fall with the expectation of seeding the ground to a grass or legume hay mixture either next spring or next summer, should work any needed lime into the soil prior to seeding the grains. Several months should be given for the ground limestone to reduce the acidity in the soil; lime that is applied on top of the ground this winter or next spring will not be as effective.



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