

From Where We Stand . . .

Agriculture — Newest Government-Owned Public Utility?

"We are getting into a new generation of farmers, a new generation of supply and demand factors, and a new generation of political values. In short, a whole new generation of farm and food problems." So said farm newscaster and editor of the Kiplinger Agricultural Letter John Harms recently at the 29th NEPPCO Exposition.

Under this new concept, farm programs will be run by the USDA for consumers, not for farmers, Harms said. He added that agriculture is increasingly looked upon by the government as a public utility, not an independent industry.

This is a fact we have been bemoaning for at least a year, and one that causes great concern for the survival of the American farmer. We are reassured to learn that others are also concerned, but more important, that organized efforts continue to resist this consumer-oriented policy of USDA.

Most of this resistance will have to be carried out in the legislative arena, as, for example, the American Farm Bureau Federation's recent request that the Senate Agriculture Committee make a detailed study of USDA's various programs before considering S 3699. That piece of legislation, although good, doesn't go nearly far enough. It was designed to require the Secretary of Agriculture and the Director of the Budget Bureau to make an accounting of USDA's funds according to those benefiting farmers and those benefiting the general public. AFBF feels this won't tell the whole story of fund allocations. It wants a third category included. It says that funds solely for assistance to farmers can only be determined by further separating the budget breakdown to include distinct categories for foreign aid and national relief and welfare allocations.

Although USDA is now encourag-

ing more farm production, it is not about to let go of its authority to control agricultural prices and production, for without this tool the whole food policy plan would be unworkable.

Although recent legislation and more moderate public opinion has "liberated" some minorities, farmers will have to carry their own banner of liberation. And more and more, they will have to fight on the political front. The only way farmers will ever regain their freedom and independence from federal domination is by working together through their local, state, and national organizations.

And they will have to, as one speaker said at a local meeting last week, get their story to the consumer. After all, the consumer can be an important political ally if she can be made aware of the fact that, as more and more family farms are forced out of business, food prices can only go one way — up!

Good Weekend Coming Up

This weekend promises to be a good one, especially for hunters.

The Pennsylvania small game season gets underway today (October 29) at 9 a.m. Daylight Saving Time.

But that schedule will be about the last official event this year which will go by DST. When you hunters come home after a hard day's tramp through the woods and fields, don't get so tired you go to bed without bringing your clocks up-to-date.

At 2 a.m., approximately, Sunday morning, daylight time goes back to standard. The key word here is **BACK**. If you set your clocks back one hour you'll be on the same schedule as the rest of us for the remainder of the year.

So, to the hunters, Good Hunting! To the sleepers, enjoy that extra hour's sleep — we intend to!

Four County Farmers Delegates To PFA Convention Nov. 9 - 11

Four farmers from Lancaster and Pennsylvania state senators will attend the state convention of the Pennsylvania Farmers' Association, November 9-11 as voting delegates representing the County Farmers' Association.

At the PFA meeting, to be held at the Penn Alto Hotel in Altoona, will be delegates Clyde Wivell, Columbia R1, Noah Wenger, Stevens R1, Harold Ney, Marietta R1, and Clyde Maitin, East Earl R1.

According to county association president Noah Wenger, additional members are planning to attend one or more of the state convention sessions.

The convention will determine the Pennsylvania Farmers' Assn policy regarding a wide variety of problems affecting agriculture and rural life. A state president, nine of sixteen PFA directors, and half of the PFA Women's Committee will be chosen. Speakers will include Walter Randolph, American Farm Bureau Federation vice president

and Pennsylvania state senator Elmer D. Hawbaker.

More than 400 farmers and their wives are expected to attend this 16th annual meeting. Voting delegates representing 44 county farmers' associations will work on resolutions submitted by the counties, and will develop PFA policy for 1967.

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vest, Possums, Politicians and People and Too Many Farmers.

Other credits over the years include President, American Association of Agricultural Editors, Director, Bell Telephone Company, New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce,

member of the President's Advisory Committee on Youth Fitness, and trustee of the Farm Foundation and Rutgers University.

In addition, McMillen holds honorary degrees from Ohio Northern University and Parsons College. He has also received several Freedoms Foundation awards for editorials and speeches.

The program for the county-wide banquet also includes brief reports on trends in county agriculture and industry.

Tickets for the banquet, which will be held at the Dutch Town and County Inn, may be ordered from the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce.

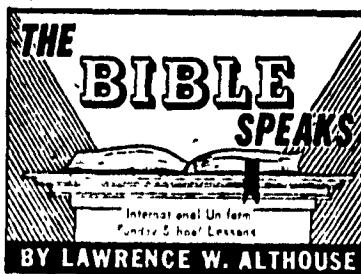
Midwest Experiments Reduce Hog Backfat

"Backfat in swine can be reduced through selective breeding, our studies at the University of Missouri have shown," says J. F. Lasley, professor of animal husbandry.

Lasley says that within a span of five generations of swine, the back fat in one line of hogs was reduced from 1.09 inches to .88 of an inch. In another line, reduction was from 1.13 inches to .88 of an inch. On the average, this represents a 20 percent reduction.

The study, headed by Lasley, shows "that selection for thinner back fat in the live hog is an effective method of improving the desirability of the swine carcass."

The research also turned up other information of interest for swine producers. Selection for reduction of back fat thickness did not adversely af-



What He Wants

Lesson For October 30, 1966

Background Scripture: Jeremiah 1:20-28.

Devotional Response: Jeremiah 1:13-19.

When Dale Carnegie conceived his "How To Win Friends and Influence People," he struck a commercial gold mine, for everyone wants to know how to "get along." There are few of us who don't care about being accepted and admired by others. We all know how pleasant it is to please people and how unpleasant it may be to displease them.

This is no less true of clergymen than it is of lay people. Perhaps you've heard the little limerick:

There was a clergyman out in Dumont,
Who kept fish in his baptismal font.

Although it surprises
The babes he baptizes,
It seems to be just what they want!

We all like to give people what they want, enjoy, and expect. That is why it is so often difficult to do what God wants us to do: what he wants is in conflict with what people want. Unfortunately, we often find it more unpleasant in the short run to displease people than to say "No" to God.

When God Commands

Thus, we are constantly in the middle of the conflict between what God wants of us and what others expect of us. John Milton, the English poet, put it so well: "To every good and peacable man it must in nature be a hateful thing to be a displeaser and molester of thousands; much better would it like him to be a messenger of gladness and contentment. But when God commands to take the trumpet and blow a dolorous and jarring blast, it lies not in man's will what he shall say or what he

shall conceal." One of our most common misconceptions is the notion that being a spokesman for God (what the Old Testament calls a prophet) is a romantic or enjoyable vocation. That isn't the way Jeremiah looked at it when God's call came to him. Told by God that he had a prophetic message for him to deliver, Jeremiah protested: "Ah, Lord God! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth" (Jeremiah 1:6 RSV). You've got the wrong man, Lord, that's not up my line.

Jeremiah wasn't the first spokesman for God to react that way, nor the last. Moses, when confronted with the great message he was to take to the people of Israel, had said virtually the same thing: "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the sons of Israel out of Egypt?" There are few of us today who don't respond in a similar fashion: Who am I, Lord, that I should attempt to do that!

I Am With You

In one sense, we are quite correct when we ask, "Who am I that I should attempt to do that?" for the tasks to which God calls us are always those that ask more than we can supply by our own native resources. There was no denying that Jeremiah was only a youth and Moses did not know how to talk for God. And you and I are constantly overwhelmed by the demands he makes upon us.

The key, however, is not in our adequacy, but in his. "Be not afraid of them," he assured Jeremiah, "for I am with you to deliver you," says the Lord" (Jeremiah 1:8 RSV). Our inadequacy is more than compensated for by his power which he gives to those who faithfully respond to his call. He will supply the power if we will undertake to do what he wants.

Have you given thought to what he wants of you? Have you honestly faced what he wants you to say, to do, or to be? True, it may not win friends or even influence people, but there is a higher satisfaction in doing what he wants.

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ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE SUNDAY

Now Is The Time . . .

By Max Smith, Lancaster County Agent

To Use Corn Fodder

Farmers who are fortunate enough to have corn left for picking may want to harvest the fodder for bedding purposes. Shredded corn fodder is one of the very best bedding materials and will absorb large amounts of liquids. With the lack of bedding on many farms, this material should be utilized.

To Prevent Rodent Damage

Feed grains and all crops are valuable property and every effort should be used to eliminate the waste by rats and mice. With the coming of winter these rodents will be migrating toward the buildings. Storage bins and all buildings should be rodent proofed to eliminate this needless waste. Poison bait



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stations will help keep down the population.

To Look Before Shooting

Hunting season is at hand and guns should never be pointed at anything that you don't want to shoot. Many an empty gun has injured or

killed. All hunters should be certain of their target before pressing the trigger. Young, inexperienced hunters are cautioned about "pulling up" on any moving object until it is definitely the game being hunted.

Other desirable traits

Traits not influenced were conception rate of sows, birth weight of pigs, litter size at birth, litter size at weaning, daily gain from birth to 170 pounds, feed efficiency from weaning to 170 pounds, conformation scores, and carcass cutout.

Lasley explains that the lines were developed in 1958 from sows of an inbred Poland China line and four unrelated boars. Litter's farrowed in the spring became the Spring line;

those born in the fall from the same matings became the Fall line.

Researchers are now comparing the feedlot performance of the two lines, how the two compare when both are produced in the spring, and what happens when both are produced in the fall.

One woman to another: "My husband is absolutely no good at fixing anything, so everything in our house works."



Temperatures for the next five days are expected to average near, or slightly below, the normal range of 60 and 40 degrees. Seasonable temperatures will prevail for the opening day of the small game hunting season, followed by cooler weather Sunday and Monday, with a return to milder conditions about mid-week.

Precipitation for the period will occur as showers Sunday or Monday, and again Wednesday. Less than 1/4-inch total precipitation is predicted.

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