

## From Where We Stand . . .

### Public Opinion On Cut-Rate Milk Prices

We know that the image of the farmer in the consumer's eye is not good. Speakers at farmer banquets and meetings for the past several years have been saying we must improve that image or suffer the consequences of more stringent federal control over farm product prices.

The average consumer probably knows that milk is produced by cows, not by supermarkets, although there's some doubt whether the next generation will be even as well informed! But the average consumer has no idea of the problems on the input side of milk production. They don't know, for example, that the advancing costs of producing milk, eggs, pork, or whatever, have continued to undermine even the best farm prices in recent years. If the price of milk goes up a cent, consumers generally figure the increase goes right into the farmers' pockets. It will be a long, up-hill fight to educate consumers on some of these food problems, and to show them that the extra services they have demanded on the processing and retailing end of the food chain accounts for most of the price increases which they protest.

This point was highlighted this week, when, on the way to the Livestock Exposition in Harrisburg, we caught the tail-end of a radio man-on-the-street broadcast. The interviewer was asking the people what they thought of the cut-rate prices being offered on milk by two retail stores in the Philadelphia area. And, after telling them that the price of milk was controlled in Pennsylvania, asking if they approved of milk price controls.

The interviewer was thinking of control on milk prices in the normal consumer sense of price controls — that is, as a lid rather than a support. Consequently, he had the people he talked with as confused as most of us are on this milk price situation.

Most of the people said they would certainly buy the 79-cent per gallon milk being offered in preference to paying the \$1.06 price for milk prescribed by the Pennsylvania Milk Control Commission. To the second part of the question, however, all agreed the price of milk should be controlled, and favored a state commission to do this!

But to illustrate the point that farmers can get their message to consumers, one woman interviewed said she would not buy the cut-rate milk because she felt that it would hurt the farmer. She said farmers have to work hard for their money and anyone selling milk that cheap would eventually be taking money out of the farmer's pocket.

What this interviewer failed to make clear, however, was that PMCC

controls the minimum price at which milk may be sold in Pennsylvania; competition and supply-demand control the maximum price.

What the final outcome will be of this challenge to the authority of PMCC by the two milk firms involved, we don't know. The courts will have to decide that. It would seem that without the Commission, or some comparable state authority, the situation could get really chaotic in a hurry. On the other hand, the present supply-demand conditions on milk would probably discourage much actual price-cutting.

The Commission seems undoubtedly the best answer at the moment, but the long range solution to milk — and all food prices — lies in better communication and understanding between farmer and consumer.

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### Great Society Backlash

Now that the elections of 1966 are in the record books, all the analysts are busy trying to interpret the results. What does this tremendous resurgence of the "out-party" mean in national terms?

While it is undoubtedly true that the Negro civil rights cause pushed aside a lot of friends through the irresponsible behavior of a minority of city-dwelling Negroes . . . who even overran the moderate leaders of their movement . . . we can't see the white "backlash" theory accounting for the GOP landslide. Of course it was an important factor in some area races, especially those hosting the summer riots . . . California and Illinois, for example.

But rather than white backlash, we see Great Society backlash as the voting opinion expressed by millions of Americans this week.

We think very definitely the voters have said to the Great Society, "Enough, already!" Much of the G. S. legislation passed by the 89th Congress did so by slim margins. A gain in House seats of 47 by Republicans has whittled the Democratic majority to its lowest point since 1956. A net gain of three senators and eight governors for the GOP certainly adds credence to the theory that Americans are fed-up with the whole free-wheeling Great Society business.

How severely this rebalancing of representation will restrict President Johnson's legislative and spending plans will depend to a great extent on the political and economic philosophies of the new electees. Simply because they are Republicans is no guarantee of their conservatism, but some polling of the individual opinions of these new Congressmen seems to indicate trouble for LBJ's plans. We surely hope this will be the case, and that the 90th Congress will succeed in restoring a little fiscal sanity in Washington and in the nation.

### ● Groff Named

(Continued from Page 1) promotion was J Mowery Frey Jr., 401 Beaver Valley Pike, Lancaster. Daniel Stoltzfus, Mount Joy R1, was reelected secretary. John Kreider, 523 Willow Road, Lancaster, was elected treasurer to succeed Daniel Martin, Manheim R1, who retired from the board.

### LANCASTER FARMING

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Paul Zimmerman, Ephrata R1, along with Kreider and Frey, were the new directors elected during the business meeting.

Some 280 members and friends of the association heard George J. Morgan, Attorney-at-Law, speak on some of the problems and laws pertaining to wills and property ownership. "Whether or not you pass on more of your hard earned money to your children will depend on how you work with the tax laws," he said.

Morgan urged everyone to make a will. "Even if you just make a simple one, you save money," he said. "And, if you have a will, you can say how you want it. Otherwise, the state has a law that will disperse your property for you, but it may not be done the way you would have wanted it. So get a will," Morgan said. Nelvin Empet, fieldman for

the Pennsylvania Holstein Association, told the gathering that the 206 herds enrolled in the recent classification program conducted in the Southeastern district was the largest such program in the country. Eighty of these herds were in Lancaster County, Empet said.

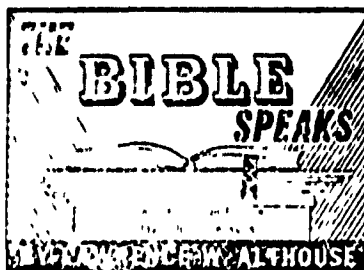
Other speakers on the program included Miss Carol Hess, Lancaster County Dairy Princess; Elam Bollinger, chairman of the junior project committee; and Elvin Hess, Jr., state director.

President Clarence Stauffer served as master of ceremonies.

(See Photo Page 7)

### WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

Less than 60 percent of our national income is now spent for essentials; in 1900 about 88 percent went for that purpose.



### The Unarmed Victor

Lesson For November 13, 1966

Background Scripture: Isaiah 60:1-6

Devotional Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

The opponents of truth always seem to be by far the better-armed warriors. The foes of Paul and his gospel had the whole weight of the Roman Empire and the Jewish nation behind them. Galileo was a tiny minority of one before the combined colossus of Church and State. While volume after volume was thrown upon the sinister bonfires of Nazi Germany, no one seemed able to oppose Hitler's brown-shirted legions.

So it was when Judah's King Jehoiakim determined to silence the troublesome prophet Jeremiah, and his prophecies. All the power seemed arrayed against truth, its few friends impotent to carry on the fight. Jeremiah, the king ruled, was forbidden to speak any longer in the area of the temple.

### More Than Prudent

A prudent man would have quit right there, but Jeremiah was more loyal to his God than prudently responsive to good reason. Forbidden to speak the truth in public, he wrote it on a scroll and gave it to Baruch, his secretary, to read before the ministers of the king. Equally resourceful, the king cut the scroll into strips and contemptuously burned them. Undismayed, Jeremiah wrote his prophecies on another scroll. Scrolls and books may be burned, but truth, no matter how impotent it may seem in its own self-defense, will be the ultimate victor!

In Pasternak's novel, Doctor Zhivago, Uncle Kolia protests that what man needs is not suppression by force, not the lion tamer with his whip to hold down "the beast who sleeps in man." To the contrary, he says, "... what has for centuries raised man above the beast is not the cudgel but an inward music: the

irresistible power of unarmed truth, the powerful attraction of its example."

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Truth may appear to be unarmed — and it is in the usual sense of what we mean by "arms" and "weapons" — but it prevails with an irresistible power over which no man, nation, or civilization can ultimately prevail. We may silence the prophets, may burn their books, we may crush truth to earth again and again, but it will rise again and again because it is God's truth.

### To Suffer A Season

Men of courageous faith, therefore, will link themselves to unarmed truth and suffer with it for a season, even a lifetime, because they know it must ultimately prevail in God's good time. Woodrow Wilson once said, "I would rather fail in a cause I know must ultimately succeed, than succeed in a cause I know must ultimately fail." A farmer put it more picturesquely: "I rather chase a rabbit and not catch it, then chase a skunk and catch it." Better to suffer with and for the unarmed truth than to prosper with the powerful lie. Truth may seem to stand alone, a frail, impotent creature, but behind truth there stands the awesome power and purpose of God. That is why in the long run this unarmed warrior is the victor.

Friends of Abraham Lincoln advised him not to make a particular speech during his unsuccessful bid for the United States Senate in 1858. The speech, though true, would be harmful to him, they said. But Lincoln would not agree: "If it is decreed that I go down because of this speech, then let me go down linked to the truth."

The friends of truth must be willing to "go down linked to the truth," to pay the price this friendship may require. Jeremiah was such a friend, so was Baruch, and so were the king's ministers who bravely carried to him the forbidden scroll. The contents of the scroll would likely infuriate him and jeopardize their lives, but, confident that truth would ultimately prevail, they were loyal friends of this unarmed warrior. Are you?

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### ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE SUNDAY

## Lancaster Farming Ads Pay!

### Now Is The Time . . .

By Max Smith, Lancaster County Agent

#### To Check Farm Agreements

Partnership agreements between landlord and tenant should be checked annually to operate in a satisfactory manner. This will remind the partners of their obligations and provide a chance to evaluate the various terms to see that they are doing the intended job. Agreements in writing eliminate many misunderstandings.

#### To Vaccinate Heifer Calves

A herd of cows with some resistance to Bang's Disease is preferable to one without any attempt to prevent the disease. Young heifers should be vaccinated when about 4 months of age to get the greatest amount of resistance with the least amount of undesirable reactions. Don't run the risk of not vaccinating.

#### To Finish High School Education

Every once in a while I come in contact with a teen-age lad who has quit high school and wants to become a farmer. There are many reasons why a student may not like school and want to drop out, but not any of them are good enough to justify the failure of getting a high school education as a teen-ager. With the strong competition for educated and trained people now and in the future, the high school diploma is the foundation for any career.

#### To Protect Evergreens

Freezing weather and cold winds will soon be here and the evergreen shrubs may need some protection. A good ground mulch to prevent sudden changes in temperature will help protect the roots; this is especially true of plants that will get the winter sun. Screens of burlap, canvas, or wood will break the strong winds and keep out the sun rays during the winter. The moisture conditions of the soil should be very good at this time, and if the plants are protected as listed, there should be a minimum of winter injury this year.



SMITH