

From Where We Stand...

Plan Your Production In Reverse

Well another collapse in the egg market appears to be coming. According to reports this week, the egg-type chicks hatched in December were up 25 percent from last year — and that followed a November boost of 27 percent. At present eggs in incubators are up 13 percent. Reliable sources fear that if the current hatching race continues, the market could be broken before midyear.

Doubtless the price of eggs during recent months has encouraged growers to place more chicks than they had planned to place. We guess poultrymen's memories are short — everyone forgetting the not-so-long-ago depressed egg prices where it was costing money just to have the privilege of gathering eggs.

We know there have been production cycles ever since man produced in surplus of his own needs and tried to dispose of his oversupply to his neighbors. By now, it seems to be the normal trend.

But the problem is that production begun during peak prices is not ready for market until the price situation has time to drastically change. Because everyone else follows the trend it is easy to do it too. But the real courage is seen when a producer will buck the trend and has the foresight to see the situation as it will be rather than as it is.

We fear production cycles will continue, though we wish we could believe otherwise. And those who produce more eggs without regard to what they may get for them or where they will find a market for them will continue to push the cycles higher and higher.

So, why not buck the cycle rather than joining it. Why not make it work for you. Why not plan your production in reverse from the way everybody is doing it. It will be better than selling large eggs for 25 cents a dozen. At least that's the way it looks from where we stand.

No Way To Get The Job Done

The National Future Farmers Of America week, ends today and we comment on the recent development in Washington where the U. S. Office of Education downgraded Vo-Ag education by reducing it to a part-time job and kicked the FFA out of its quarters in a Federal office building. Under a "re-organization" announced December 27, the Chief of Agricultural Services has been reduced to a program officer, and has been allocated only part-time responsibilities for agricultural education. The repercussions have been felt down through the organization.

We think this action is of grave concern to all farmers. Certainly, the number of people served by this organization is decreasing. But as the number decreases the need for the men and boys in agriculture to be better trained increases. Agriculture is becoming more complex. A farmer today can't just hide behind his barn door and let the rest of the world fly by. He must have the ability to deal with the public if that public be his urban neighbors or those who buy his products. We know, our nation needs more than ever an adequate number of knowledgeable agriculturally trained people. And down-grading the Vo-Ag program is no way to get this job done. At least that's the way it looks from where we stand.

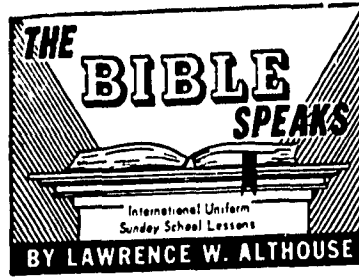
The True Facts?

An advertisement for Mazola brand cooking oils and margarine appears in the February issues of a number of consumer magazines. It reads as follows:

"At 6:04 last night, Mrs. Walter Russell started polyunsaturating her entire family . . . with a big assist from Mazola. For years, millions of Americans have been eating a diet that is improperly balanced in terms of fats. Mrs. Walter Russell is no exception. Today, however, she's doing what medical authorities are suggesting. She's serving her family a balanced diet, one which includes cutting down on total calories and fat calories, and replacing solid fats with the more highly polyunsaturated vegetable oils. Since Mazola 100% Corn Oil is highest in polyunsaturates of all leading brands, Mazola is the only brand for Mrs. Russell. It's the logical choice for you, too, for all your cooking and salad making needs. No matter how many generations there are in your home, there's one thing you can all enjoy doing together. Polyunsaturating. P. S. She's got Mazola Margarine in on the act, too. It's made with liquid Mazola Corn Oil."

There's not a clear misstatement of fact in that ad copy. We want you to know that. But combine all the inferences — "Improperly balanced in terms of fat," "what medical authorities are suggesting," "replacing solid fats," "polyunsaturating" — and the conclusion is clear enough: There's something unsafe about solid fats!

What happens when 60 million other "Mrs. Russells" read such an ad? The noose tightens just a little more, because the Mrs. Russells all know that meat and eggs and dairy products are a source of "solid" fats. And ever the more firmly implanted in the ladies' minds are the "facts" that saturated fats are bad. We know the "facts" are unproven . . . that the "scientific conclusions" of the ad are commercially-contrived. But how is the typical homemaker — concerned about the health of her family — to know? If she reads it, she more than likely will believe it.



INCOMPATIBLE Lesson for February 23, 1969

Background Scripture: Mark 7:1 through 8:26.
Devotional Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:17 through 6:10.

Every once in a while, Luther Burbank used to have what his neighbors called "a ten thousand-dollar bonfire." It was not that the great botanist actually burned ten-or twenty- or hundred-dollar bills. He did something, however,



which was the equivalent. Into such a bonfire might go four hundred ninety-nine cherry plants out of five hundred that he had grown; or perhaps several thousand rose bushes that were grown for the sake of achieving one that met his specifications; or again perhaps fifteen hundred gladiolus bulbs which might be sold on the market for at least fifty cents each. Burbank saved only a small proportion of what he grew. The rest he discarded for he wanted only what was vital.

A cluttered market

Perhaps there are times when the Church might consider such a bonfire. There is much that has become identified with Christianity that has merit, but is hardly vital. These are practices, traditions, customs, rituals, and structures that accumulate for the same reason that our attics and cellars are filled with items we do not need. They have some value, even if only sentimental.

The plants that Burbank burned were also of some value. Yet he discarded these items because he was interested only in what was vital and essential. He knew that the value of the quality article is obscured when we clutter the market with items of lesser quality. Thus for the sake of that which was of true value, he was willing to get rid of the cheap alternatives.

One of the reasons that the scribes and Pharisees were so violently opposed to Jesus was that he, like Burbank, wanted to

do away with that which was not vital in religion. The scribes and Pharisees were masters of a very complicated and legalistic approach to Judaism. Behind it had been a sincere desire to interpret and apply the laws of Moses to very specific situations of everyday life. This way, it was reasoned, men would always know what God wanted of them. So it was not that these legalistic interpretations had no value at all, but that they obscured the real meaning of Judaism. They became a cheap substitute for the vital faith of Israel.

Beneath the layers

Some years ago LIFE magazine sent a photographer to the school of San Rocco in Venice, Italy, to photograph the beautiful Tintoretto murals of the nativity. Several times he photographed the murals, but each time the prints were disappointing. Upon examining the murals closely, he found that they were overlaid with centuries of varnish, dust, and accumulated dirt. The original colors could not shine through the layers. At last he decided to use polaroid light to penetrate the film and let the colors shine through in all their glory.

In a similar fashion, our Christianity can become overlaid with centuries of practices and customs and legalisms that obscure rather than reveal the true glory of our faith. Often we need a kind of spiritual polaroid light to show us what is really essential and what is merely a superfluous accretion.

Inner realities

Jesus was found "offensive" by the scribes and Pharisees because he threatened to remove the layers of legalism that obscured the true nature of Judaism. So different was his approach that it seemed almost another religion. The religion of the scribes and Pharisees saw moral uncleanness in terms of outward acts and appearances. Jesus' approach, on the other hand, saw evil motivations as the source of evil acts. One approach relied upon traditions and regulations, the other upon the inner purity of the heart.

Jesus and the legalists were bound to clash. Hypocrisy and vital religion are always incompatible.

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Released by Community Press Service.)

Lancaster Farming Ads Pay



NOW IS THE TIME . . .

By Max Smith
Lancaster County Agent

To Creep-Feed Early Lambs
The Easter market is one of the best times of the year to market early sprung lambs; shepherds are urged to install a creep feeder in the barn so the lambs may have free access to a grain mixture this extra grain should give greater pounds to sell at the highest prices of the season.

To Be Careful Of Sales
Many farm sales are being held at this time of the year; livestock purchased at a sale should be segregated from the herd for a least 30 days in order to prevent disease infection. Farmers attending sales should not wear the same shoes or boots back into their own barns without thoroughly cleaning and

disinfecting. Don't be guilty of bringing disease into your own herd or flock. Strict sanitation is very important.

To Beware Of Strangers
During the spring months farmers, as well as many other home-owners, are confronted by many salesmen selling all types of bargains. If the salesman is a local man supported by a reputable concern or organization, he may have something worthwhile. However, if he is a stranger promoting a special bargain and demanding payment in cash, beware of this kind of transaction. Be sure you know with whom you are dealing.

Farm News This Week

Crossbreeding And Sow Confinement Discussed — Page 1

Report Shows \$35,554 In On F & H Drive — Page 1

State-Wide Poultry Symposium Brings Specialists To Local Area — Page 1

Across The Fence Row

"Son," a father told his growing boy, "just remember one thing: I know a lot more about being young than you do about being old."

A thing is still foolish, even if 25 million people to say (watch eat, wear) it.

Local Weather Forecast

(From the U. S. Weather Bureau at the Harrisburg State Airport)

The five day forecast for the period Saturday through next Wednesday calls for temperatures to average above normal with daytime highs in the mid 40's and overnight lows 20 to 30. Small day to day change is expected. The normal high-low is 44-25.

Precipitation may total one-fourth to one-half inch water equivalent as snow or rain Monday or Tuesday.

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