

## DHIA — Time to Grow?

Lancaster County's DHIA supervisors are doing an outstanding job of serving dairy farmers here. The only criticism that anybody could make of the local DHIA program is that there don't seem to be enough supervisors to go around.

There are a number of farmers in the county who'd like to be on official DHIA test, but can't find any testers with the time to take care of them.

Some dairymen with owner-sampler programs would prefer alterate a.m. and p.m. programs or twice-a-day tests. Some with alternate a.m. and p.m. tests would rather be on twice a day testing. Clearly, it seems that if more DHIA service were available, dairymen would be willing to pay for it.

DHIA records are a valuable management tool. They enable the dairy farmer to assess individual cow production on the basis of numbers rather than sentiment or intuition. Feeding programs are much easier to plan with DHIA information.

Individual farmers benefit from DHIA records, and so does the entire industry. In most cases, DHIA records are required for bull proofs. The best sire in the world may go unrecognized if his daughters aren't on test. Testing improves the production

potential of every breed's genetic stock. The more cows that are tested, the faster the improvements will come.

The solution seems simple enough — hire more testers. On today's labor market, however, that's easier said than done. Too, not everybody can qualify as a milk tester, and not everybody wants to be one.

Another problem is a lop-sided fee schedule. In one day, a tester can do one herd on a twice a day program, or he can do two herds on alternate a.m. and p.m. If he does the twice a day herd, his income drops 40 percent from what he'd have gotten by doing two herds on alternate a.m. and p.m. If a tester feels disinclined to handle twice a day herds, there's no one in the world who will blame him. Nobody wants to take a 40 percent pay cut.

Because DHIA benefits both individual farmers and the entire dairy industry, we feel it should be available, as far as possible, to everyone who wants it. This is not now the case. Part of the solution may lie in finding and developing more qualified testers.

Certainly the fee schedule needs to be examined carefully and, if necessary, overhauled to satisfy the needs of both dairymen and DHIA supervisors.

## Good Food Sense

Surrounded by the most abundant food supply the world has ever seen, the United States is fast becoming a nation of nutritional illiterates. This is the opinion of Mr. Henry J. Heinz, II, chairman of the H. J. Heinz Company. Writing in The New York Times, he says, "Despite a wealth of scientific knowledge of nutrition, too many of us do not know what a balance diet is, and are ignorant of the essential nutrients we need and the foods that contain them."

The U.S. Department of Agriculture reports that the percentage of households that met or exceeded the department's definition of a good diet dropped from 60 to 50 percent from 1955 to 1965. Nine percent of families with incomes over \$10,000 had diets rated poor. The deficiencies broadened over the decade due to decreased use of milk, milk products, vegetables and fruits, and to an increase in snacking."

The food industry authority laid the blame for declining nutritional standards squarely at the door of food faddism and "changing life styles". Many people today seem to follow "fashions" in eating just as they do in dress and manner of speaking. The "in-thing" is to work certain phrases to death, wear ties of a certain width or skirts of a certain length or drop a basic food item from the diet to get on the bandwagon with no questions asked.

The trouble is, speech and clothing styles can change with no harm done. Arbitrary tampering, however, with diet can leave lasting harmful effects. Normal people need a balanced diet—foods that through deliberate self-denial they are not now getting. Apparently our sophisticated civilization needs to be taught how to eat properly.

## An Individual Matter

A master plan for diet is no more workable than centralized economic planning. Individuals are as varying in their wants and needs as geographic regions. Thus, it is unreasonable to tell the entire population to give up certain basic foods because some people, for medical reasons, are advised by doctors to restrict their diets with respect to these foods.

Milk disagrees with some individuals but that does not mean the nation should stop drinking milk—or eating other dairy products, meat or any of the nutritious elements of a normal person's diet. Usually there is a good reason for eating a balanced choice of the foods that nature has placed at our disposal. An item in the Chicago Tribune shows why this is so. It seems that studies conducted by researchers at Cornell University have now revealed that a widespread deficiency of calcium in the population is the primary reason millions of people lose their teeth. According to the science editor of the Tribune, Ronald Kotulak, the report of these researchers "... also gives new hope to 35 million more Americans afflicted with periodontal disease who are in the process

of losing their teeth. Milk is the major source of calcium in the diet" and "... the bone loss associated with periodontal disease in the human may be reversible by dietary calcium in many subjects."

Endeavoring to tell millions of people what they should or should not eat via directives from Washington or anywhere else is no more feasible than centralized government management of business in a nation as diversified as the United States.

## Grassroots Opinions

METAIRIE, LA., JEFFERSON PARISH TIMES: "Well—today's 'give-away' programs, bent upon establishing the theory that it's silly to work for anything you can get through assuming the role of a drone, is a far cry from that day of PROUD PAUPERS, who may have been a little thin in the belt section but who boasted a well developed pride in personal achievement and self-reliance—through which they not only COULD but DID share pitifully small resources with those honestly entitled to CHARITY."

**NOW IS  
THE TIME . . .**

**Max Smith  
County Agr. Agent  
Telephone 394-6851**



### To Prevent Weed Seed Development

One of the best ways to have a bigger weed crop next year is to permit the current weeds to go to seed; this has always worked and will continue to do so until land owners stop weeds from developing. Some weeds are perennials and come up each year from the roots; these can be destroyed by herbicides or by cutting several times during the growing season. Owners of vacant lots and other idle land are urged to stop weed seed development. Home owners are urged to prevent all types of weeds in the garden and lawn from maturing. Weeds are unsightly and compete for plant food and soil moisture. Weed ordinances are becoming more common, compelling land owners to prevent the spread of all kinds of weeds. Let's all cooperate.

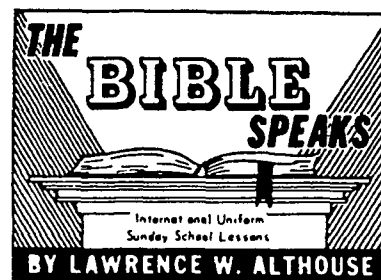
### To Be Careful with Campers

The gypsy moth is a hungry insect of the northeastern part of the United States and is moving to the southwest. We are informed that trailers and campers that have been in the infested areas can easily carry the moth cocoons back into clean territory. Therefore, we urge folks that have been to the northeast of our area to make a careful inspection of all parts of their cars and campers and remove the brownish-yellow egg masses and the cocoons. They gypsy moth is very active at this time of the year and will attach itself to anything that is not moving, and is capable of laying up to 1,000 eggs in one egg mass; if not

removed and destroyed this one egg mass can start a new festation in a new area. Gypsy moths are heavy feeders on all types of foliage and have done severe damage to forest land and trees in many northeast counties of Pennsylvania and to other states to the northeast. Full cooperation is needed to help keep them under control.

### To Prepare for Winter Grain Seeding

With improved moisture conditions needed in most parts of the southeast, it might be difficult to be planning for the seeding of winter oats, barley, or wheat; however, this should be done in order to get the quality of seed needed and to get the ground in condition. If any soil testing is to be done, two weeks should be allowed to get the results. Winter oats should be seeded around the middle of September, winter barley the last part of September, and winter wheat not until the middle of October. All of these grains need a well prepared soil and may need lime this fall if the ground is to be seeded down to alfalfa or cover next spring or summer. Seed supplies may not be adequate this fall, therefore, orders should be placed at once for the needs of a certified seed. The demand for both the grain and the straw looks promising for the coming year and growers are urged to make every effort to get maximum production from their land.



### WHO'S IN CHARGE?

Lesson for September 10, 1972

Background Scripture Genesis 1:24-31, 2:19, 20, Psalms 8  
Deviational Reading Deuteronomy 6:4-13

There is a grim irony as this evening I read the words of the eighth psalm: "When I look at thy heavens the moon and the stars which thou hast established . . ." (8:3). For the fact is, I cannot see God's heavens this evening, nor



Rev. Althouse

the moon and the stars: all are hidden by a thick blanket of smog. Something that man has made carelessly is obscuring the handiwork of the Creator. For the past seven days we have barely even seen the sun, except as a dull, diffused glow in a dirty grey sky.

### "When I look at thy heavens . . ."

Recently I read that as a jet throttles for take-off, its pollution quotient equals 6,000 automobiles, a bumper-to-bumper line twenty miles long. This is staggering when we realize that two years ago some 90 million autos contributed about 60 per cent of the 142 million tons of toxic waste dumped into our atmosphere. Some scientists tell us that the dirty cloud that hangs over the Eastern seaboard, for example, may never be dispersed.

"When I look at thy heavens . . ." Perhaps much of our problem is that we forget whose world this is. The psalmist talks of "thy heavens," yet men often forget this and think of it as theirs. "So God created . . ." not man. The late Dr. Aldo Leopold, a scientist at the University of Wisconsin, in his book, *A Sand County Almanac*, says: "We abuse land because we regard it as a commodity belonging to us." And it does not belong to us; it belongs to the Creator.

"Yet," says the psalmist, "thou hast made him little less than God . . . Thou hast given him dominion over the works of thy hands . . ." Man has been given dominion or charge over God's good earth. That dominion, however, does not mean that creation is man's to possess, or exploit, or ruin. Man is given dominion for a reason: "The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and care for it" (Genesis 2:15). The Creator is very explicit to man: "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it . . ." (1:28).

### "Thou hast given him dominion . . ."

What this means is that one of the answers to the psalmist's question, "what is man . . .?", is that he is a steward, a manager (not owner!) of what God has created.

Yet often our approach to stewardship is roughly equivalent to a man who goes into the chicken farming business and then proceeds to eat up all the feed, the eggs, the chicks, and all the chickens simultaneously, while burning down the hen houses to keep warm.

### Who's in charge?

We are. God put us here to be his stewards.

(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.)