

Stopping Meat Label Confusion

Variety is the spice of life, they say. It can also be perplexing if a person is shopping for certain cuts of meat and finds them identified with a confusing array of labels—depending on the store or section of the country. For example, a heel of round beef roast carries such labels as Pike's Peak, Diamond, Wedge, Denver Pot-Roast, Gooseneck, Horseshoe and Lower Round. Now this system of merchandising appears to be on the way out. In its place will be a standardized nationwide meat labeling system which will let the homemaker know what she is getting (and how to cook it) wherever she shops.

The National Live Stock and Meat Board is coordinating an industry-wide, nationwide program of meat labeling reform. The president of the Meat Board declares that it is in the combined con-

sumer's and industry's interest to develop a national system of retail meat cut identification on a voluntary basis. "To fail to develop and enact such a system," he observes, "would invite local government legislation or other remedial regulations."

Already several states have passed restrictive laws governing meat names. The prospect of such regulations in as many as fifty states, plus at local levels, would mean even more confusion for consumers and would present complex problems for multi-city retailers.

The significant aspect of the meat industry's effort to make shopping easier for consumers is that it demonstrates how, in a free market, an industry must respond to consumer wishes or face the economic and regulatory consequences of consumer displeasure.

Grassroots Opinions

ANNA, ILL., GAZETTE-DEMOCRAT "One of the lessons of history is that nations are in for trouble when their masses have too much leisure time, without having the cultural background to use it properly."

SHAKOPEE, MINN., VALLEY NEWS "If you think the U.S. is getting tough with drinking drivers, take a look at these countries: AUSTRALIA. The names of drivers are sent to the local newspapers and are printed under the heading, 'He's drunk and in jail.' MALAYA. The drunk is jailed, if he's married, his wife goes too! SOUTH AFRICA. The driver is given a ten-year prison sentence, a fine of \$2,800 or both. TURKEY. Drunk drivers are taken 20 miles away by police and forced to walk back under escort. SAN SALVADOR. Drunk Drivers are executed by firing squads."

HARRISVILLE, W. VA., RITCHIE GAZETTE & CAIRO STANDARD "People who yearn for a return to the 'good old days' will be disappointed in the predictions of a group of scientists of what the world will be like 50 years from now. Their predictions point toward a world more complex than this one. A specialist on population says the 'gap' between rich and poor nations will increase and foresees more social unrest and more threats to peace. Nothing is said about the world's chances of survival until 2018 in their book 'Toward the Year 2018.' But the scientists see great advances in the technology of warfare. They also see more international cooperation and a decline of nationalistic rivalries. We can see it now. Some people in the year 2018 will be yearning for a return to simpler times and the 'good old days' of the 1970's."

MONTROSE, CALIF., LEDGER "Ignorance of the law is no excuse. And there are now more than two million federal, state and local laws, with more than 100,000 more being enacted. We need only ten basic laws, and Moses helped us with those. And ten federal laws, which stand as the Bill of Rights. If you must be told to keep off the grass, that's your problem."

WELLINGTON, OHIO, ENTERPRISE "Don't worry about trying to 'keep up with the Joneses'—just sit tight and in a few years you will meet them coming back."

LAMBERTVILLE, N.J., BEACON "Earl Butz, the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture in talking about the ban on pesticides, antibiotics and other chemicals in farming said, 'Now we can go back to organic agriculture if we must, and there are those in this country who would like to drive us back. But, before we do that, somebody must decide which 50 million Americans we'll starve'."

McGREGOR, IOWA, NORTH IOWA TIMES "Everywhere we hear that a dollar doesn't go very far these days. Well, actually it does. It goes to Vietnam, Formosa, Pakistan, South America, the Philippines and Outer Space."

CORVALLIS, ORE., BENTON COUNTY HERALD "You just cannot conquer a country that believes in Freedom if you try to do it by force. There is something about it that is UNCONQUERABLE—Power is not enough. It isn't enough between nations, and it isn't enough between human beings."

BOGALUSA, LA., NEWS "Labor shortages in some sectors of the Soviet economy have some forecasters predicting a serious labor shortage by the year 2000 and the possibility that many will be called out of retirement to take up the slack. That's one possible job boom that isn't likely to attract many migrant laborers."

According to "The Spotlight", published by Field Enterprises Educational Corporation, "children have eyes, ears, noses, and muscles, and they like to use them. The charm and vitality of direct experiences, of knowledge by acquaintance, are well illustrated in an article published by Edward Vernon in the British Weekly. He asked children to prepare an answer to the question, 'What are the loveliest things you know, persons not counted?' Here are some of these children's answers. The scrunch of dry leaves when you walk through them, looking into deep clear water, the taste of strawberries, smoke rising, rain on your cheeks. We could learn something very important by noting how little children see the world with a questioning, innocent eye."

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"The spirit of man is more important than mere physical strength, and the spiritual fiber of a nation is more important than its wealth."—Dwight Eisenhower

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U.S. companies are searching intensively for women executives to fill top management positions—including key seats on Boards of Directors—a national executive search firm reported. But the rising demand for qualified women far exceeds the available supply. Companies conscientiously searching for women to fill offices in their executive suites—and in their Board rooms—are ready to acknowledge that women can realistically bring valuable talents, a new balance, and wider perspective to the world of corporate management.

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"Don't believe the world owes you a living; the world owes you nothing—it was here first"—Robert Jones Burdette.

NOW IS THE TIME . . .

Max Smith
County Agr. Agent
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To Mulch Strawberry Beds
Mid-November to mid-December is the time to mulch strawberry beds in Pennsylvania.

The exact date of mulching depends upon the local weather conditions.

A good rule of thumb is to apply mulch when the temperature begins to stay around 20-25 degrees F; 15 degrees F or below could cause some injury to unprotected crowns. In any case, be sure to mulch after the plants have been exposed to a few good freezes and are fully dormant.

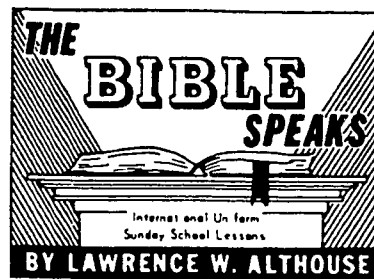
A light covering of mulch protects the plants from severe winter temperatures and tends to prevent "heaving" of the shallow rooted strawberry from alternate freezing and thawing. If the plants are heaved out of the ground they will dry out and die. Mulch also tends to keep the soil at an even temperature—thus the plants will remain dormant later in the spring than non-mulched plants. This will delay blossoming often past the critical frost period.

Settled mulch three to four inches thick makes good protection. If the whole bed is mulched, next spring's weeds will be reduced—unless, of course, the mulching material contained many weeds and seeds. Straw from specially grown, immature grain fields or carefully harvested fields should be relatively weed-free. Proper application of a fall herbicide can also deter volunteer weeds.

Although most any mulch material can be used, care must be taken when using dense materials such as chopped cobs to prevent smothering the plants.

To Be Careful with Abrasives
Slippery walks, steps, and barnyards can cause serious injury to both man and beast. With the snow and ice season approaching, we'd like to remind everyone that salt does a good job of melting ice, but is not good for either shrubbery or grass that is nearby; we suggest the use of sand or sawdust for this purpose around the home with the salt being used only out around the barn or buildings where it will not harm the turf or shrubs. Superphosphate fertilizer has been used to improve the footing and will be of value to the nearby lawn of shrubs. Abrasives should be used to prevent slipping, but care should be exercised so that nearby turf or shrubs are not injured.

To Utilize Corn Fodder
The shortage of bedding in recent years points to the possibility of corn growers using the corn fodder through the barn as a substitute for straw or other bedding materials. Generally several freezes help the corn stalks dry out and make a more usable bedding material. Shredded corn stalks make very good bedding for all types of livestock and could save considerable money by cutting out the purchase of other bedding materials. Be sure the fodder is dry enough so that it will not mold or heat when baled or brought into the barn.



ONE WORLD

Lesson for November 12, 1972

Background Scripture: Isaiah 45:1-6, Amos 9:7-18, Jonah; 1 Timothy 2:1-5
Deviational Reading: Ephesians 2:11-22

Following the death of writer F. Scott Fitzgerald, there was found a number of outlines or plots for novels. One of these was the story of an estranged family who inherited a house. The provision of the inheritance was that,



Rev. Althouse

they had to live happily in it together.

F. Scott Fitzgerald was probably thinking of that story as a parable of our human plight. The people of the world have inherited a household, the planet earth, but we cannot enjoy that inheritance until or unless we learn to live in it happily and together.

Cyrus, the annointed!

Many people erroneously assume that their religion is strictly "a private affair" that has nothing to do with nations and races. Yet the Bible has a great deal to say on this subject and much of what it says is along the lines that F. Scott Fitzgerald was suggesting in his unwritten novel.

For example, though we tend to think of the Old Testament as having primarily a parochial, nationalistic viewpoint, there is in reality a perspective that is surprisingly universal and worldwide. The prophet Isaiah speaks

glowingly of Cyrus. Yet, Cyrus was not a Jew, but a Persian king who had become master over most of the Near East. Isaiah spoke of him as the Lord's "shepherd" and "servant", as the "annointed one", or "messiah."

Isaiah was saying that this Persian king, who did not acknowledge or know God, was being used by God to achieve his purposes in the world. What this can mean for us today is the recognition that God works in our world among men and nations, using not only men who consciously try to serve him, but many others as well. It means also that God is in control as the Lord of history.

Like Ethiopians

Amos also spoke with a universal flavor. The Jews thought of themselves as God's chosen people. But Amos says to them, "Are you not like Ethiopians to me . . . ? (Amos 9:7). What made a people dear to God was not their name or their heritage, but their obedience to him.

We can see this same concern in the admonition by the writer of 1 Timothy to give "supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgiving . . . for all men, for kings and all who are in high positions . . ." (2:1, 2). Though some of these kings and leaders were godless men, leading godless nations, the writer urged that prayer be lifted up on their behalf so that God's will might be done in all of them, not just a selected few.

"From the one man (Adam) he created all races of men, and made them live over the whole earth" (Acts 17:26-TEV). The Bible calls us to see this planet as one world under one Lord.

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