

# Freedom and Food

A meat industry spokesman has noted, "... the wildly fluctuating prices and intermittent periods of bulging supplies and shortages which have plagued both the (meat) industry and the consumer..." may be traced to numerous sources. Inflation, unfavorable weather, price controls and the energy crisis have all taken their toll. Then there is the unprecedented world demand. Interestingly enough, this demand can also point the way to stabilization of meat supplies and prices through the smooth functioning of the law of supply and demand.

The wisdom of allowing the natural forces of the marketplace to operate unencumbered by governmental price freezes and stringent

regulations is clearer now than ever before. According to Newsweek magazine, more and more people throughout the world are expressing a desire for meat as the major source of protein in their diet, thus setting into motion the law of supply and demand. Prices tend to rise with demand. These higher prices work as an incentive to farmers and ranchers to invest in larger herds and expand production facilities. This, in turn, increases supplies and eventually leads to a lowering of prices.

Through the dynamics of the free, incentive-producing marketplace, the United States has become the world's greatest food producer. The survival of future generations depends, to a large degree, upon the functioning of that free market.

## "Grassroots Opinion"

FINDLAY, OHIO, REPUBLICAN-COURIER "American housewives may occasionally get a little miffed at the prices they find in their friendly neighborhood supermarkets, but at least they don't have to waste much time on their rounds, as shoppers do in the communist countries. A Polish newspaper... (has) reported that a family in that country spends 6.5 hours a week standing in line for one thing or another. These were the average waits: To make a bank withdrawal, 45 minutes; to send a postal money order, 30 minutes; to buy a piece of meat, 40 to 45 minutes; to reach the fruit and vegetable counter, 15 minutes. The annual total for the country is 2.5 billion man-hours, enough to increase Poland's gross national product by 20 percent. All that waiting would not be tolerated in America, where people are so impatient they honk at the car ahead of them the moment the traffic light turns green. With the exception of long waits at the gas pump, that is."

HEPPNER, ORE., GAZETTE-TIMES "You heard about the shoot-from-the-hip ecology nut who devised this bumper sticker for his VW: 'Eat a beaver, save a tree.'"

COLLEGEVILLE, PA., INDEPENDENT. "In prosperous Japan labor unions and business management are partners... not antagonists. They consider themselves as a team and work together for mutual benefits. This is what we used to do here in America too... and we had better do so again in a hurry if we hope to get back into the world market and thereby put our jobless... to work again. Selfish and unscrupulous union leaders can and will ruin our country if we don't soon wake up."

ADAIR, IOWA, NEWS: "When we level criticism, we hope that it is constructive, not destructive. Numerous dedicated people are working day and night to make our country and our way of life even greater than it now is. Such people deserve credit, recognition and encouragement. Let's give it to them!"

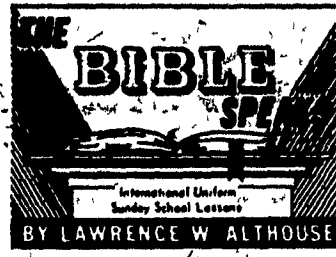
GREENSBURG, KANS., KIOWA COUNTY SIGNAL: "Apparently the Russians aren't going to sell our wheat back to us at a huge profit. At

least that's the latest report out that we have read. That would be a pretty good trick to sell us back our wheat that they haven't even touched yet and make about \$4.00 per bushel to boot. And we Americans are supposed to be such sharp wheelers and dealers. The USA bought Alaska from Russia for less than two cents an acre and I suppose they want to get even."

YORK, NEBR., NEWS-TIMES: "A prime mover to cut down inflation must be the federal government. And the only way the federal government can cut down or even slow inflation is to keep spending within the limits of income. And until the federal government does that, you can talk yourself blue in the face about getting more or less than what you paid in and all you're doing is putting wallpaper over the cracks. There now seems to be a small current of congressmen who are determined to get the budget sliced so that it results in a surplus instead of a deficit. Our best bet to curb the inflationary practices of the federal government is to hope this ripple becomes a tidal wave."

TRENTON, GA., DADE COUNTY SENTINEL: "Try this -- The next time you read in the papers about -- 'the government gave...' 'the government lent...' 'the government supplied...' -- Just substitute the words 'taxpayers of the United States' for the word 'government.'"

"Absenteeism," reports The Wall Street Journal, "surges most sharply among managerial personnel, a study shows. The rate of absenteeism among fulltime nonfarm wage and salary workers rose 10.3 percent between 1967 and 1972, according to new data on "unscheduled absences" of less than a week. But the rate for managers soared 27.7 percent in the same period, the Labor Department finds... A breakdown of the 1972 data shows women generally have a higher absenteeism rate than men. Divorced men had a rate of 2.5 percent, well below the 3.1 percent for married -- and supposedly more stable -- males. Absenteeism decreases with age... The overall rate of absences caused by illness, injury, jury duty, personal business and other reasons stood at 4.3 percent... (in 1972), up from 3.9 percent in 1967."



### BROKEN WALLS

Lesson for July 7, 1974

**Background-Scripture:** Ephesians 2:1 through 4:16  
**Devotional Reading:** 2:1-10.  
Jerusalem is today--and long has been-- a city of walls.

Surrounding the "old city" are walls that, for the most part, were built by the Turks to keep out armies of the Western world. The Mosque of Omar, one of the world's great Moslem shrines, stands on the site of what was once the Jewish Temple. Its presence on this holy site serves as a constant and painful reminder of the walls that separate these two faiths.

#### The Diving Wall

The writer of Ephesians also speaks of a wall, "The dividing wall of hostility" broken down by Christ (2:14). This "dividing wall" is a reference to the wall that separated the Court of the Gentiles from the inner courts of the Temple that were restricted to Jews. A Gentile would be subject to instant execution if he were to go beyond that wall.

Today in Jerusalem there is a scale model of the city of Jerusalem as it was in the time of Jesus. Dominating the model city is the Temple and one can see the wall that separated the Jews from the Gentiles. Last November as I stood and studied that model, I remembered those words of Ephesians:

For he is our peace who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility.

So, Jerusalem today stands as both the symbol of the walls that divide men from one another and also as a reminder of God's reconciling purpose for the world.

The writer of Ephesians speaks of the barriers that existed in his own day: "... remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the Commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenant of promise..." (2:12). These experiences of separation, alienation, and being strangers are no less with us today in our own world.

#### No longer strangers

This, however, is not God's will for men. His plan is to pull down these walls, bridge the gaps, overcome that separation and alienation, and reconcile us both to God and one another. It is his intention that those who are "far off" be "brought near," so that they are "no longer strangers and sojourners, but... fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God" (2:19).

One looks at today's walls and wonders how they can ever be pulled down. They are so high, so formidable, so resistant to our efforts. Yet, says Ephesians, Christ, the wall-breaker, is more powerful than man, the wall-builder.

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## NOW IS THE TIME.

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### To Spray For Leafhoppers

The third cutting of alfalfa will be starting on many local farms. These cuttings are very valuable hay crops and maximum yields should be the goal. The protection of these plants from leafhoppers is usually needed at this time of the year; heavy infestation will result in yellowing and the stunting of the plants. An application of methoxychlor or dimethoate when the third cutting growth is 3 to 5 inches high will control the insects and result in higher yields. Don't wait until the crop is hurt before applying the spray material.

### To Manage Temporary Forage Crops

The use of sudan grass or one of the sudan-sorghum hybrids for summer pasture or green-chopping is very common. However, some special care should be used in using these crops in order to prevent toxicity to livestock. The sudan grass should be at least 18 to 20 inches high before using in a fresh condition. This stage of growth should be recognized on the first growth as well as second or later the entire area be mowed high (3 to 4 inches) in order to give uniform growth to the second crop. If these crops are to be made into silage, they should be cut just after heading and prior to the blossom period.

### To Prevent Heat Losses

Extremely hot weather and high humidity can result in losses of livestock and poultry. This is especially true of cattle and hogs on high energy rations in the

fattening pen. Plenty of shade and fresh water will reduce the stress along with good air movement. In buildings large fans may be used to keep the air moving. In dairy barns with stanchions the exhaust fans can be used to pull the air through the barn with the "tunnel" method of ventilation. Hogs can be comforted by the use of foggers or sprinklers on the concrete feeding floors. When the temperatures get into the 90-degree range it is time to give some attention to animals in order to prevent losses.

### To Soil Test For Fall Seedings

New seedings of alfalfa to be made next month, or seedings of grass mixtures to be made in September, or fall grain fields to be seeded down next spring should be tested soon to determine the lime and fertilizer needs. Lime should be worked into the soil several months prior to seeding in order to do the most good. Early August is the best time to make a summer alfalfa seeding in this area and new pasture mixtures should be seeded late August to mid-September. All of these crops require a soil pH near natural and may need some lime before seeding. Winter grain fields that are to be seeded to alfalfa or clover next spring should be tested in order to have the lime worked into the topsoil this fall rather than broadcast on top of the ground this winter or next spring. Give lime time to work for sweeter soils.

## Farm Calendar

Tuesday, July 9  
PP & L 14th Annual Agricultural Leader Conference at Sweet Arrow Lake, Pine Grove, Pa.

Wednesday, July 10  
Chester Co. Extension Office Homemaker Meeting at Chester Co. Federal Savings and Loan Office, on Market and High St., West Chester.

Thursday, July 11  
Keystone Stud Ram and Ewe

Show, Farm Show Building, Harrisburg 8:30 a.m.

Banquet for Keystone Ram and Ewe Sale, Shindler's Restaurant, Camp Hill.

Friday, July 12  
Keystone Ram and Ewe Sale, Farm Show Building, Harrisburg 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, July 13  
8:00 p.m. - Elizabethtown Young Farmers Alfalfa Meeting Ag classroom.



**PAY DAY**... Malinda Sue Partridge, San Ramon, California Brownie and Garrett Byrne, a local cub scout, brought collection of all-aluminum cans to San Francisco Wells Fargo Bank for payment of ten cents a pound from Roger Hoffman, manager of Reynolds Metals Company facility at nearby Brisbane. The Brisbane facility has paid Californians \$1 million, is largest volume aluminum collection point open to the public.