

Farm Commentary

Three is Really a Crowd.

G Sherwood Huntzberger had a surprise last Friday when one of his grade Holsteins presented him with three new calves, two heifers and a

bull weighting a total of 215 pounds. The birth of triplets is a rarity in the bovine world, with odds of one to 48,000 against it.

Western Europe Has Beef Problems Too

Recent reports from Europe indicate that cattle farmers' incomes in the nine EEC countries are plunging and a mountain of beef is growing in storage. The present system of support price for producers has caused this surplus, and it now threatens to break down the support program.

European Economic Community farmers are presently receiving in the marketplace only 88 percent of the fixed beef price. Deliveries to government storage have shot up since March. March storage holdings were a manageable 40,000 tons, but have now reached 100,000 tons. It is rumored that there will soon be a subsidized sale of beef to Russia (similar to the butter affair of the year ago) and this can be expected to raise a furious outcry in and out of the European Economic Community. Some farmers have even been ad-

vised to sue the authorities who can no longer take surplus beef because storages are filled to capacity.

On top of the beef already in storage is the 750,000 tons of imported beef being delivered under existing contracts this year. These contracts were probably negotiated last year when a severe beef shortage was being predicted for 1974.

Even if the nine partners manage to unload the current beef crisis, they could like the rest of the world, be swamped by still bigger beef surpluses in 1975.

We have talked for years in the U.S. about the potential to export beef if we ever overexpand. Now we find ourselves in a plentiful beef situation and bans on our beef have been imposed in Japan, Canada, and Western Europe. We may have to eat our way out of our own developing beef surplus.

GOP Holds Lancaster County Ag Hearing

A meeting was held Monday at Andy's Restaurant, near Millersville, to probe the attitudes of farmers on the state government's role in agriculture. The meeting was set up by Amos Funk, chairman of the Republican Agricultural Platform Committee which is working on behalf of the Lewis campaign for governor.

The biggest beef aired by farmers at the meeting was the lack of action by the Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board. Daniel Martin, a Manheim RD1 dairy farmer and a director of the Inter State Milk Producers

Cooperative, said the Milk Marketing Board has been "totally derelict" in its duties.

"The board's inaction," Martin said, "is wrecking the Pennsylvania dairy industry and forcing Pennsylvania producers into federal milk order markets." Martin added that he felt the board should be maintained, but that it should actively enforce the milk marketing laws.

Other concerns aired at the meeting dealt with the problems too much big government, problems with soil conservation planning, and the spectre of federal land use laws.

Will-wonders-never- cease Department

A doctor in St. Charles, Ill., has been giving his patients a pink slip with their bills for the past six years. The slip says, in its entirety: "TO ALL MY PATIENTS -

My fee schedule is based upon standard medical practice in this area.

However, for retired persons on limited pensions, or any others whose financial circumstances are difficult due to extensive illness, unemployment, or for other reasons, I will reduce my fees.

Under these circumstances I suggest a 25 percent reduction, but more or less may be appropriate to your situation. No discussion is necessary - simply write the amount of reduction you choose on the statement with your remittance.

Reasonable and regular partial payments are satisfactory.

Richard R Grayson, MD"

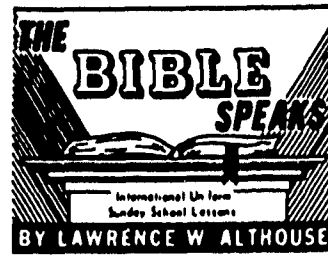
Dr. Grayson told the American Medical Association that his is an honor system, and that only two or three percent of his patients do, in fact, reduce their bills.

"Mostly," he said, "the patients who reduce their bills are older people, trying to survive on their Social Security checks, or people who are of work, or young families who have got caught in the inflationary spiral."

"Only twice, that I know of, did patients reduce their bills just to see what I'd do about it. I didn't do a thing. As I said before, it works on the honor system."

"And on only one occasion did a patient ask me to write off the full amount of his bill. He was a young father who had lost his job some weeks before. Jobs at that time were hard to find in this area."

"Of course, I was happy to mark that patient's bill 'Paid in Full'."



CHRIST ABOVE ALL

Lesson for August 11, 1974

Background Scripture: Colossians 1:15-29; Philipians 2:2-11

Devotional Reading: Colossians 1:15-27

Some time ago a woman was trying to explain to me some of her religious "hang-ups." Among these, she said, is the question of the importance of Jesus Christ. "I believe in God," she said, "but I can't understand why so much is made over Jesus." Her sincerity was both refreshing and challenging. Because she was willing to voice her doubts, I was given the opportunity to try to deal with them. I found myself wishing that more people would be as sincere in verbalizing their religious concerns.

The image of God

First of all, I told the woman that, for me, Jesus Christ is the highest of all revelations of God. She had indicated that she believed that God revealed himself in the lives of many people, including people outside our religious tradition. I too believe that God reveals himself in many ways, both inside and outside the church. At the same time, I have never found any source of revelation as complete and full as that which we have in Jesus Christ.

The writer of Colossians says it this way: "He is the image of the invisible God" (1:15). The word "image" can mean either a copy or the appearance of something. Obviously, Paul is not using "image" to indicate that Christ is a copy of the Father, but that he is the appearance of him. We often say of someone's child that he or she "is the image" of his or her father or mother. We do not mean they are an exact copy of the parent, but that there are great likenesses. This is what was meant in Genesis 1 when that writer says that man is created "in God's image."

I myself might say that when I look at Jesus Christ, I see the nature of God the Father. He is the most complete reflection of what God is all about. If I want to know about God, I look to Jesus and find my answers. All the fullness.

Paul also suggests another reason for the centrality and supremacy of Christ: "... in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell" (1:19). When I look at nature, I find one perspective of God's nature revealed. When I read the prophecies of Isaiah, I find another perspective. If I read the holy book of another religion, I can find glimpses of God that speak to me. But when I contemplate the life and person of Jesus Christ, I find a picture of God that is three-dimensional.

This, to me, is the genius and uniqueness of Christ: not just one perspective, not just a portion of the picture, but "in him all the fullness of God" is represented. Like the Eastern mystic, Jesus

NOW IS THE TIME...



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TO INSULATE BUILDINGS

The old saying, "It pays to insulate" is still very true. As energy costs continue to rise, it is good economics to try and have buildings of all kinds that will do a good job of holding the desired temperature. There are many kinds of insulation and folks intending to build should evaluate the R-Factor of the various materials. In many cases it is not the thickest materials that will do the best job of resisting heat or cold losses. In nearly all types of home or building construction good insulation is considered to be a good investment. In farm buildings insulation is an important factor for good ventilation in addition to temperature control. Evaluate the R-Factor of the material before investing.

TO USE DRUGS CAREFULLY

Most drugs and medicines will do a good job if administered and handled properly. However, it is important to become familiar with the drug and use it according to the label directions. Everyone is residue conscious these days and authorities are quick to detect abnormal feed and food items. Such details as proper amount, withholding periods, and safe storage should be closely managed. The keeping of accurate records of the use of all drugs and chemicals is still very important and every farmer should have these records to prove his treatment. The local veterinarian

should be the authority as to additional details.

TO INVEST IN FARM HOMESTEAD LIGHTS

Farm homesteads that have good lighting are becoming more common. Automatic lights that burn during the night provide protection for the entire family and are considered to be an excellent investment. The protection provided from prowlers and wild animals is well worth the cost; in addition, good lighting prevents falls and accidents, and makes night activities around the buildings much easier. Most electric power companies have a rental or lease plan available for these lights on a monthly payment plan. We encourage additional use of these automatic lights.

TO PLAN FOR MAXIMUM PRODUCTION

Again the supply of feed grains seems to be short of the demand. Livestock and poultry producers face the problem of high grain prices, and depressed market prices for their feed or food crop. This high cost of feeds could reduce the production of milk, eggs, and all kinds of meat to the point of scarcity and much higher prices. It appears that every farmer should again try to produce the maximum yield of feed grains on his land; the demand is strong and prices favorable. The planting of fall grains is now in the planning stage and maximum acreage is desired.

Farm Calendar

- Sunday, August 11
- 11-16. XV World's Poultry Congress & Exposition, Rivergate, New Orleans. Monday, August 12
- 12 - 14. Penn State adult farmer-teacher workshop, Ephrata Junior High School
- 12 - 16. Lebanon Area Fair.
- Tuesday, August 13
- 9:00 a.m. - Dairy judging workshop. Open to anyone who'd like to learn about dairy judging. Conrad Weiser High School
- Wednesday, August 14
- 9:00 a.m. - Livestock judging workshop. Open to anyone who'd like to learn about livestock judging. Conrad Weiser High School.
- Thursday, August 15
- Ephrata Area Young Farmers fishing trip, Rock Hall.
- Friday, August 16
- Fulton Grange Youth swimming party, home of

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Albert Sr., Port Deposit Road. Saturday, August 17
7:00 p.m. - Pomona Grange picnic, Holtwood Athletic Field. Colerain Grange hosting.

Farm Youth Calendar

- Monday, August 12
- Aryshire, Jersey Brown Swiss 4-H meeting 7:30 p.m. at Muddy Running Park
- Work night for Silver Spur Club
- 4-H Pig Show tagging and weighing in.
- Tuesday, August 13
- 4-H Pig Show and Sale 8:00 a.m. Lancaster Stockyards
- Mt. Joy Photography Club meeting 7:00 p.m. at Blassbrenner U.M. Church
- Wednesday, August 14
- Red Rose Baby Beef and Lamb Club tour in the Strasburg-Lampeter Area beginning at the Elvin Hess Farm 9:00 a.m.
- Thursday, August 15
- 4-H County Achievement Day
- Saturday, August 17
- 4-H Trip to Oxford County

was a man of prayer, meditation, and spiritual discipline. Like the Westerner, however, Jesus was also a man of action, of deeds as well as words. He is the perfect blending of all man's potentialities. That is why to me Christ is above all.