

Lincoln Laid Groundwork For Agriculture's Future

Although preoccupied with the spreading ravages of the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln placed important emphasis on the future of American agriculture.

In one year, 1862, the Lincoln Administration took three separate actions which would have major long-range effects on the agricultural needs of a growing nation.

Living up to the bargain he made for western support to get elected, Lincoln signed three agriculture related acts.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture was organized and given independent status to promote the nation's farming.

The Homestead Act was passed and agricultural development of the West entered a new era.

Agricultural education received a much needed boost with the passage of the Morrill Land Grant College Act.



In his first message to Congress, President Lincoln called for the establishment of an agricultural and statistical bureau and on May 15, 1862, the U.S. Department of Agriculture was created.

Actually, since the founding of the country in 1776, efforts had been under way to form such a federal body. In his

last annual message to Congress, George Washington advocated the creation of a board of agriculture.

Benjamin Franklin, followed by Thomas Jefferson and others, started the practice of smuggling seeds back home from foreign countries. Later, all U.S. consuls in foreign lands were enlisted in these collection efforts.

The first agricultural division was created under the Commissioner of Patents and the distribution of seeds to leading farmers was started. Shortly before the Agriculture Department was created, the country even had an experimental federal five-acre garden plot in Washington.

On July 2, 1862, the Land Grant College Act was passed and agriculture education was launched on a national basis. These early education efforts were beset with many problems, but progress was made. By 1892, organized college extension teaching in agriculture was begun.

Agricultural education, which began under local societies, such as the Philadelphia Society for the Promotion of Agriculture in 1785, was put on a formal and continuing basis.

On May 20, 1862, President Lincoln signed the Homestead Act. Now supposedly heads of families could receive 160 acres of the public domain. Many problems and scandals concerning land development resulted in numerous changes in the law in coming years. But gradual settlement and agricultural development moved westward.

Thus, within a scant month and a half back in 1862, Lincoln with three strokes of his presidential pen shaped the future of American agriculture.

MAKE BURGERS A REAL BONANZA



Bonanza Menu
 Burger Bonanza
 Toppers, Butter-Blue, Cheese-Relish,
 Chili-Cheese, Cheese Olive
 Dunkin' Dip (French Fries)
 Green Salad, Choice of Dressing
 Assorted Ice Cream Cones
 Chilled Milk

"Come one, come all, get your burgers here!" That could be the barker's call at the midway, or it might be the voice of the chef at your own backyard grill.

But getting the burgers is just a beginning. You can supply a parade of toppers which make the hamburgers a real bonanza. Favorite ingredients can get into the act here with Butter-Blue cheese topping for some, a Cheese-Relish Spread for others. Some might like a combination chili sauce and Cheddar cheese while still others would prefer a sour cream base accented with shredded Brick cheese and pimiento-stuffed olives.

And that's not all, folks! For the French fry fans, there's a special Dunkin' Dip made of a spicy combo of sour cream and chili sauce.



BURGER BONANZA

- 1 1/2 pounds ground beef
- 1/2 cup dry bread crumbs
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1/4 cup chopped onions
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper
- 8 hamburger buns
- Butter-Blue Cheese Spread
- Cheese-Relish Spread
- Chili-Cheese Spread
- Cheese-Olive Spread

Combine meat, crumbs, milk and seasonings, mix lightly. Shape into 8 patties. Broil or grill to desired doneness. Spread buns, as desired, with

BUTTER-BLUE CHEESE SPREAD

- 1/2 cup butter
- 1/4 cup crumbled Blue cheese
- 1/2 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce

Combine softened butter, Blue cheese and Worcestershire sauce, mix until well blended. Approx 3/4 cup.

CHEESE-RELISH SPREAD

- 2 packages (3-oz each) cream cheese
- 1/4 cup pickle relish
- 1 tablespoon prepared mustard

Combine softened cream cheese, pickle relish and mustard, mix until well blended. Approx 1 cup.

CHILI-CHEESE SPREAD

- 1 cup (4 oz) shredded Cheddar cheese
- 1/2 cup chili sauce

Combine ingredients. Approx 1 cup.

CHEESE-OLIVE SPREAD

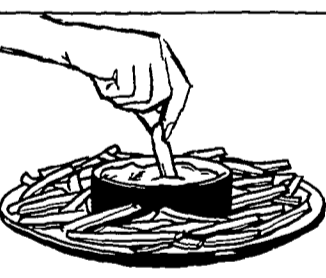
- 1/2 cup dairy sour cream
- 1/2 cup shredded Brick cheese
- 1/4 cup chopped pimiento-stuffed olives

Combine ingredients. Approx 1 cup.

DUNKIN' DIP

- 1 1/2 cups dairy sour cream
- 1/2 cup chili sauce
- 1 (2 pound) package frozen French fries

Combine sour cream and chili sauce, chill. Serve with French fries, prepared according to package directions. 2 cups.



Big top toppers make a bonanza with burgers. Butter, cheeses, chili sauce and relish are the main ingredients.

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