

Lancaster Farming

Serving The Central and Southeastern Pennsylvania Areas

EDITORIAL COMMENTS

BY DIETER KRIEG, EDITOR

Oops, I goofed

Looks like an editorial appearing on this page a couple of weeks ago went to press about the way a dairyman goes to do his milking when he forgets to close the valve on the bulk tank.

An unfortunate combination of timing and inadequate explanation on my part may have given readers the impression that I was opposed to the 80 per cent parity level for milk prices. The editorial, entitled "Yes,

they are high enough," was in reference to milk prices and was written after President Ford vetoed the 85 per cent parity request. That level of support prices was requested by some farm organizations, but was deemed unnecessary by some others, including this writer. The 80 per cent level, however, coupled with quarterly adjustments, was needed and when it was passed it was regarded as being sufficient.

Unions, keep out!

Many years ago unions in the United States started with what most people would agree were good causes. Over the years, however, they, with apparent consent of the U.S. government have allowed their power to develop into a monstrosity which is now beginning to threaten farms, according to the American Farm Bureau.

The detrimental effects union power could have on the production of food are many, the most obvious of which is that food is perishable and we can't afford to have employees striking when commodities need to be harvested. Cows always need to be milked unless they're dry, and they need to be fed and cared for. Unions will hopefully never be present in the field or barnyard. I doubt that farmers would ever willingly submit to them. But unions don't operate that way. Some leaders within their ranks are as cruel as any criminal ever was and I present the following account by Samuel Kirkland, a Florida backhoe operator, to prove that fact.

The construction worker, on an excavating job for builder Reuben Brown, refused to submit to demands made by Dick Nell, president of Local 675 of the International Union of Operating Engineers - AFL-CIO.

Kirkland describes Local 675's methods of persuasion, as he presented them in a sworn deposition:

"The union steward for the Operating Engineers local, Chuck Moore, stopped me on the way to work and asked me if I was planning on working. I said, 'Yes'...

"He said, 'If you do it will cause trouble.' He said there were about

195-200-Operating Engineers there and he would bring them in to stop me working and if I went in there, 'We will cut your hands off and stuff them in your pocket and tote you across Marco Island Bridge...'

"They said because I wasn't union, I couldn't operate the machinery on the island... On Thursday we went back. They told me not to come back any more. I went back on Thursday anyway and had a deputy (sheriff) with us working under cover... We were on the job site and they pulled up and said to me, 'You came back, huh?'

"I told them, 'Yes, I have a right to do a job'... They told me to get off the machine. I got off and started running. They said, 'Let's get him.'

"I ran by the deputy, around the machine and when I saw I didn't have a chance, I hit the ground...

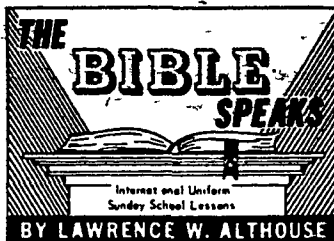
"They hit my head with a crescent wrench, they poured something in my face" — metal filings in his eyes — "and I lost my vision for a time, they kicked me and beat me and were talking about cutting my hands off. One of them pulled a knife and the deputy fired a shot... Then they congregated around him, hit him on the head, beat him up..."

After the attack, Nell, president of the local, said, "Well, I guess Reuben (Brown) will sign a union contract with us now... If he don't get right, it's going to get pretty wormy for him."

Newspaper columnist, Ralph de Toledano, had the following to say in one of his recent editorials:

"The beating that Samuel Kirkland received at the hands of the con-

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WHO ARE YOU FOOLING?

Lesson for March 21, 1976

Background Scripture: Matthew 22:15 through 23:39.
Devotional Reading: Matthew 22:34-40.

Upon reading the twenty-third chapter of Matthew, a boy in my confirmation class exclaimed: "Gee, Jesus sure had it in for the scribes and the Pharisees, didn't he?"

When we read the gospel narratives it certainly seems that way: his bitterest words and acts are aimed at the scribes and Pharisees. Yet, some people today find that difficult to understand, for the scribes and Pharisees were, for the most part, the most conscientious and dedicated followers of the Jewish faith. They were dominated by a passion to make that faith relevant to the daily lives of the people.

'Whitewashed tombs'
Why was Jesus so hard on these dedicated religionists? Why did he reserve his strongest language for them?

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. So you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but within you are full of hypocrisy and iniquity" (Matt. 23:27, 28.)

The answer is that, although these people were in truth the most dedicated and faithful followers of the Jewish faith, they still were not what they pretended to be. It seems that the person who is "good" and pretends to be even better, is not actually as "good" as the person owns up to being what he is. In other words, Jesus expected more of the "good" people. The proof of their being "good" would be their refusal to pretend to be more than they really were.

The measure of your fathers

The scribes and Pharisees dutifully honored and revered the prophets and saints who had been martyred in their time, but this struck Jesus as hypocritical: "... you are the sons of those who murdered the prophets. Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers" (Matt. 23:31, 32).

Jesus did not mean that they were the biological descendants of these tyrants, but rather that they were their spiritual heirs and offspring. In other words, despite what the Pharisees said about these long-dead martyrs, if they were to come back from the dead



NOW IS THE TIME...

Max Smith
County Agr. Agent
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To Cleanup Drug Residues

The withdrawal period on feeds containing various drugs and antibiotics should be recognized by every food producer; these are clearly marked on the container or package. However, after the feed has been withdrawn there still may be some feed residue containing the material; the proper cleanup of the feed trough or bunk is a very important part of complying with the regulations. We feel that most producers follow the instructions for the various feed additives, but often fail to remove the residual feed materials in and around the feeders. This should be thoroughly done at the start of the withdrawal period. Food and feed quality must be protected at all times.

To Apply Sewage Sludge Carefully

In and about cities and towns there are many opportunities for farmers to utilize sewage sludge from the public disposal plants. This organic waste is useful as a fertilizer and as a soil conditioner when it is applied in the proper amounts. There is some danger of excessive applications on the same land by loading the soil with too much of the heavy metals contained in sludge. We refer to the possibility of toxic amounts of cadmium and copper. I'd suggest that farmers utilizing this type of material to keep in touch with the person in charge of that particular sewage plant and request information about the amount of these elements in the sludge. Tests can be made on the sludge and the soil to keep abreast of the conditions.

To Prepare For Early Plantings

The calendar indicates that planting time is here for some of the early crops and vegetables. Whether or not the weather will cooperate in this respect is yet to be seen. However, we suggest that farmers and gardeners get ready for these early plantings when the soil and air temperatures permit. I'm thinking of plantings of spring oats, early potatoes, alfalfa, and the hardy

and begin to prophesy again as before, the Pharisees would be among the first to oppose and try to destroy them.

The problem, thus, was not just that the scribes and Pharisees were fooling others, but they were first of all fooling themselves. They were "good" people, but they weren't nearly as "good" as they supposed. And because they assumed that they "knew better," Jesus expected more of them than others.

And you? Who are you fooling?

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vegetables such as peas, radishes, lettuce, and onions. All of these can stand some cold weather and will give better yields when planted during the latter part of March. However, we still suggest that the soil be permitted to dry so that it can be easily worked. To "mud in" the plants or seeds is not a very good practice.

To Force

Early Pastures

Livestock producers who have some permanent pasture areas can apply fertilizer to part of the field in the next few weeks in order to grow the grass faster; this will enable the livestock to be turned into this area a week or two earlier than normal. On straight grass pasture 30 to 40 pounds of actual nitrogen per acre will give results. On grass-legume stands a complete fertilizer such as 10-10-10 at the rate of 300 to 400 pounds per acre is suggested. A suggested area of 1/4-acre per animal unit is suggested for this treatment.

Farm Calendar

Saturday, Mar. 20

Vineyard pruning sessions at Bob Hummer's on Colebrook Road, east of Landisville, 9 a.m.; and at the S.E. Field Research Lab of Penn State, located 2 miles north of Landisville on Auction Rd., 10:30 a.m.

Monday, Mar. 22

Sheep Producers meeting at the Lancaster Farm and Home Center, 7:30 p.m. Producers from neighboring counties welcome. Sheep management, third in a series at Penn State's Schuylkill Haven campus, 7-30 p.m.

Conrad Weiser Young Farmers hear talk on "New Chemicals and their Use" at the high school, 7 p.m.

Eastern Milk Producers meeting at the New Holland Fire Hall 7 p.m.

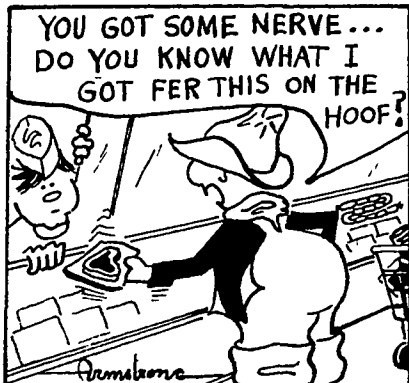
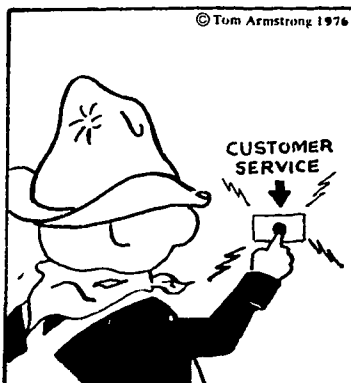
PA Young Farmer's Region II Leadership Conference at the Eastern Lebanon County High School 10:00 A.M.

Tuesday, Mar. 23

Milking School at Penn State in the J. O. Keller Conference Center. Meetings begin today and continue through Thursday. Topics to be discussed include: Anatomy and Development of the Udder, Hormones of Milk Production, Physiology of Milking, How the Milking Machine Works, Vacuum and Milking Systems, Milking Routines, Milking Labor Studies, Equipment Maintenance, Cleaning Principles, Cow Psychology, Mastitis - The Disease. A \$10 registration fee is required.

Cedar Crest Young Farmers hold regional volleyball [Continued on Page 16]

RURAL ROUTE



By Tom Armstrong

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