

**EDITORIAL COMMENTS** By DIETER KRIEG, EDITOR



**Best wishes to the dairy co-op**

Best wishes are due to the dairy cooperatives which serve Pennsylvania and neighboring states. Some of them have faced some rough times in recent years, and none were spared the unusual marketing pressures which arose two years ago and peaked last Winter. Managers of the co-ops, as well as dairymen themselves, scrambled to meet the challenges. For some, the challenges haven't been totally met. But the quest goes on.

Eastern Milk Producers Cooperative is attempting to find greater stability in milk marketing through the recently signed pact between its board of directors and Aldovin Dairy of Tunkhannock, which, like Eastern, has had its share of financial burdens in recent years. Despite the fact that the two milk marketers have been competitors, Aldovin and Eastern have agreed to work together for the common good of the dairy industry. Another phase of Eastern's program involves a new cheese plant which will be located in Bradford County. In essence, it is expected to be the "relief valve" for surplus milk, one of the major concerns of every dairy. We wish them well with those plans as the

profit realizations of thousands of dairy farmers are involved.

Inter-State Milk Producers Cooperative and Maryland Cooperative Milk Producers, Inc. are putting their hopes for a brighter future in a powder and butter plant near Carlisle which was constructed at a cost of \$8.2 million. Both cooperatives look to their Holly Milk Cooperative as playing a most important role in coming years. It is expected to reduce excess marketing costs and generate additional profits. We wish them well.

Other cooperatives, such as LeHi Valley Cooperative Farmers and Dairy Lea are also looking for improvements in their respective situations. May they be successful with their plans to create bright marketing prospects for their member dairy farmers.

The central problem has been, and still is, that the marketing of agricultural products isn't like buying and selling automobiles or boots. The marketing of agricultural products is much more complex and subject to such highly unknown and unpredictable variables as the production of individual farms and animals, the weather, and the whims

of individual producers, to name a few. Also farm products are subject to spoilage and a high degree of government inspection. Marketing milk - or most any agricultural product - isn't easy. It's more than

most farmers could handle on their own. The efforts of those involved in marketing deserve our sincere best wishes.

**Applause for the efforts of many**

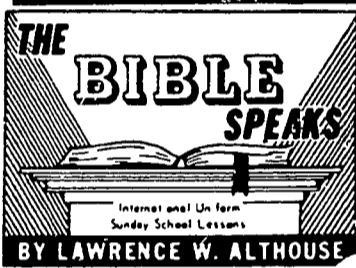
"That just goes to show you what people can accomplish if they just get together and aim for common goals," a friend of mine commented recently after having viewed a television documentary about the much publicized Project Clearwater. That was the effort by some 500 volunteers in Frederick County, Md. to turn a severely run-down farm into a national showplace for conservation practices. It was done in just a day.

While that gigantic display of human cooperation was unique and noteworthy, it does not stand by itself.

The barn-raising is another community effort which deserves applause. Workers come by the score to help a friend and neighbor, turning ruins into glory.

Another massive project, and one which I'm happy to have been personally involved with for a day, was the clean-up of Johnstown after it was struck by a devastating flood last Summer. Seeing entire neighborhoods wiped out completely, with homes shattered and partially buried in mud is enough to deflate any individual's spirit. But the combined efforts of thousands got the impossible job accomplished.

Whether it's a time of disaster, or a time for rejoicing, such as the feast following a barn raising, and the local chicken barbecue or pork roast, or farmers' picnic, it's the efforts of a group of people - not just one - which are noteworthy. As my friend said, it's remarkable what people can do if they get together and all pull in the same direction.



**BEHIND THE LAW**

Lesson for October 1, 1978

**Background Scripture:**  
Deuteronomy 5:1-5;  
Jeremiah 31:31-34;  
Matthew 5:17-20; 7:28, 29.  
**Devotional Reading:**  
John 5:43-47.

In Israel today one finds a continuing controversy of gigantic proportions over the Jewish religious law. A minority of ultra-conservative Israelis would make the state of Israel a theocracy, a nation strictly and uncompromisingly governed by its ancient laws as interpreted by its legalistic rabbis. The majority, however, believe that these religious laws would make it virtually impossible for Israel to exist as a nation.

**A Stone Or A Tree?**

The problem is not with religious laws, but with the ways in which these laws are

regarded and interpreted by men. These divergences might be depicted in symbolic terms in the difference between a stone monument and a living growing tree. For some, the religious laws constitute an unchanging, inflexible once-given reality. For others, the laws of God are a living, growing entity that is as vital and contemporary as the God who created them.

The approach of Jesus to God's laws was certainly the latter view. His dynamic rather than static approach brought him into conflict with some segments of the

religious establishment. He was accused by some as seeking to abolish the law because Jesus intended to put people ahead of legalistic principles.

Yet, instead of abolishing the law, said Jesus, his God-given mission was instead to fulfill "the law and the prophets." His approach was to accomplish the purpose behind the laws. The purpose of the sabbath, for example, said Jesus, was to help people, not hurt them. To interpret any law or commandment in such a way as to deny love to anyone would be a denial of the purpose for which the law had come into being.

**A New Covenant**

Jesus' approach to the law was not as radically new as it may have seemed. Other Jewish leaders had regarded the commandments in much the same manner. As far back as Jeremiah (7th century BC), there was anticipated a new approach to the covenant: "Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah...I will put my law within thej, and I will write it upon their hearts" (Jeremiah 31:31, 33).

What both Jeremiah and Jesus recognized was the dangerous tendency to allow

the law to become a substitute for God himself. As William Temple once put it, "...no law, apart from a Lawgiver, is a proper object of reverence." Jesus did not come to abolish the law, but to point people to the Lawgiver and his purpose. His approach to the law was not less than but more than: "...unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 5:20).

One must always look behind and beyond the law to the Lawgiver.



**NOW IS THE TIME**

By Max Smith, Lancaster County Agricultural Agent  
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pastures, and in most years there will be a pretty big acorn crop.

If the cows start eating these acorns, then the milk flow will be reduced drastically. Either the cows should be removed from the area, or someone should pick up the acorns before the cows are turned out daily.

**To Evaluate Ventilating Systems**

Colder weather is approaching when barns will be filled with livestock and foul air will be a problem. In confinement barns, we urge

the use of exhaust fans along with inlets and air ducts. Penn State publications are available that should be of help.

Insulation is also a part of good ventilation in order to prevent condensation. Dripping walls and ceilings are hard on both animals and the structure. Open-fronted buildings may still need some panels that can be regulated and some roof slots to permit the escape of foul air.

**To Prepare for Frost**  
When it comes the first of

October in this part of the country we can expect frost at any time. Also, when it does arrive in early October there should be very little damage, because it is on schedule and we should be ready for the freeze. Most garden crops can be salvaged on short notice, while others will not be injured by old Jack Frost.

Late corn headed for the silo will stop growing after a killing frost but still can be safely put into the silo; this operation should be done within a few days following

the frost in order to keep the stalks from getting too dry. Fields of sudan grass or one of the sudan-sorghum hybrids should not be grazed for at least a week after a killing frost; the crop may be ensiled or made into hay, and after a 30-day curing period, will be safe to use. Get ready for colder weather; it will surely come.

**To Store Pesticides Safely**

Many farmers and gardeners are about finished with their spraying for this season. The materials may be stored and used next year

in most cases. However, they should be safely stored away from children, pets, and livestock. Safety folks suggest they be put into a separate room or building and kept under lock and key.

When leftover pesticides are left lying around in the barn, machinery shed, or garage, they are a definite hazard. Animals can get out of their pens and eat some of the chemicals. If there is a chance this can happen, it will happen sooner or later. Don't take chances. Practice pesticide safety the same as highway or farm and home safety.

**TO BEWARE OF ACORNS**  
Dairymen who are grazing their milking herd in woodlots, or in pastures with oak trees, should be on the alert for fallen acorns. Our Veterinary Science folks tell us that acorns are somewhat toxic to cattle and will dry up most cows for the rest of their lactation. We are aware of many oak trees in

**RURAL ROUTE**

By Tom Armstrong



**Farm Calendar**

**Sunday, October 1**  
National 4-H Week, October 1-7.  
**Monday, October 2**  
Annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Association of District Directors Inc., held at the Sheraton Berkshire Inn, Reading. Meetings and work shops to be held October 2-5. Registration is at 9 a.m.

**Tuesday, October 3**  
Lebanon County 4-H teen awards night at Zoar Lutheran Church social room, 7 p.m.  
**Wednesday, October 4**  
Honorable Philip Alampi, Secretary of Agriculture speaks at meeting Hunterdon County Board of Agriculture, Extension (Turn to Page 38)