

EDITORIAL COMMENTS By DIETER KRIEG, EDITOR



A land of plenty, but where's the goal?

Someone once observed that time will tell whether we are indeed a great nation, or just a bunch of lucky people who came into a land of plenty. The time for the verdict may be at hand as "plenty" becomes "limited supply" and in some cases shortages are even reported.

our resources has always been an indicator of how much we have and how we live. In past decades, there's no denying that our consumption was quite often characterized by waste, and that's still true in some cases, but we're waking up to the fact that supplies aren't endless.

live in a vast land that is extremely blessed with all sorts of resources. The question still remains, however, whether we're a truly great nation, or just a bunch of lucky inhabitants.

A flight out West earlier this year made me more aware of that situation. We had flown out of Baltimore on what may have been

the worst Winter day of the season. Arriving in Las Vegas, we were greeted by absolutely perfect weather. So, it can be said that while one part of the country is pretty near

(Turn to Page 28)

COMMENTS FROM READERS

Anti-litter law may create problems

Dear Editor: I read your editorial of May 5 with interest and some consternation. The question of whether a state should pass laws outlawing non-returnable containers is not something that can be decided by anti-litter sentiments or possible injury to tires, important as those are to most of us.

Pennsylvania has about 150 fluid milk bottling plants, most of them relatively small operations. If a law were passed that, in effect, required these plants to install bottling machines and bottle washers...whether glass, lexon, or some other substance...it would be a catastrophe for more than 90 per cent of them. They couldn't afford to put in the

equipment. They couldn't afford to discard present expensive equipment. They probably couldn't get bottle washing equipment which hasn't been used by the dairy industry for a decade or more except in isolated instances.

What about Pennsylvania's competitive situation vis a vis industries in neighboring states? If Pennsylvania imposes costs on its beer, soft drink, dairy, and other beverage bottlers that neighboring states do not require, how can you keep national concerns who market by regions and not just by individual states?

You're talking about jobs, consumer costs, and impossible mechanical

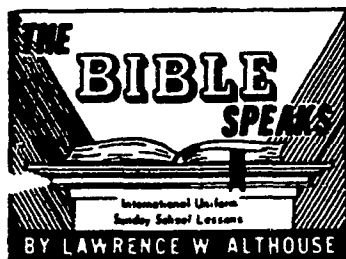
requirements...at least for the dairy industry.

We would be far better off to work harder at enforcing tough anti-litter laws and setting up reclamation depots for metal, plastic, paper, and glass which are convenient, advertised, and available in every area.

There will always be the subnormal neanderthals who junk up the countryside.

And, there will always be a certain amount of waste in an urban, industrial society. But, let's not rush into legislation which creates more problems than it solves.

Best personal regards.
Sincerely,
Bruce V. Snow,
Manager
Public Relations
Dairylea Cooperative, Inc.



A LETTER FROM CHRIST

Lesson for May 13, 1979

Background Scripture:
2 Corinthians 2:14 through 3:18.
Devotional Reading:
2 Corinthians 3:17 through 4:6.

From time to time in my adult life I have been asked how I chose to enter the Christian ministry. Upon reflecting on that question, I have often recognized that there were multiple influences by which God led me in that direction. Still, the two major influences were my pastors during the years of my high school and college youth, Mark J. Steierwald and Paul Price. Both were fine preachers, yet it was not their sermons that reached me, but their lives: somehow, through them Christ was able to speak to me. Their ministries were like personal letters from Christ.

Written On Your Hearts

The Apostle Paul thought that all Christians were to be like that and when he wrote to the troublesome church at Corinth, he reminded them: "You yourselves are our letters of recommendation, written on your hearts, to be known and read by all men" (2 Corinthians 3:2). Whatever authority and effectiveness Paul and his associates might carry from Christ, it would be reflected in the lives of the Christians at Corinth if... if they would permit Christ to speak through them.

Christ wants to speak through each of us, but not all of us are willing to let him

do so. Yet there is nothing more effective and convincing than when the Good News of Jesus Christ is embodied in a human being.

Thus, Annie Johnson Flint writes:

We are the only Bible
The careless world will read;
We are the sinner's Gospel,
We are the scoffer's creed;
We are the Lord's last message

Written in deed and word—
What if the line is crooked?

What if the line is blurred? *

Our Sufficiency
Many of us will react by

protesting that we are not able to bear such a responsibility. We are not up to being "letters from Christ"! Paul realizes that there is more involved than just our own adequacy: "Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to claim anything as coming from us; our sufficiency is from God..." (3:5). And it is a sufficiency available to all who will open themselves to it.

Halford Luccock has said that, although we should be letters from Christ, many people are rather like advertising circulars,

"recommending themselves with all the frantic earnestness of a television announcer." Others, he said, seem to resemble a bill that says, "You owe me so and so." "But," he continues, there are some, by the grace of God, who are letters, people in whom we can read in clear letters a message of Christ."

What about you and your life?

(* Quoted from "Jesus Christ And We" by Annie Johnson Flint, Evangelical Publishers, Toronto, Canada.)

NOW IS THE TIME

By Max Smith, Lancaster County Agricultural Agent

Phone 394-6351



TO MANAGE ALFALFA

The first growth of alfalfa looks very promising in most fields. Growers should be on the alert for weevil infestation and either harvest, or spray and wait 10 to 14 days before cutting. (depends upon material used.) Established stands can be harvested in the bud to early bloom stage of maturity. New stands should be permitted to come into 25% bloom before taking the first cutting.

If weevil are feeding when the first cutting is made,

then the stubble should be sprayed immediately. Many good growers will topdress with a phosphorus-potash fertilizer after removing the first cutting. For the second cutting leaf hoppers will be the major insect threat.

Most fields will need sprayed when the new growth is 3 to 6 inches high; this insect (leaf hopper) is one of the most important ones to control in order to get maximum second and third cuttings. Give the best of attention to your alfalfa stand; it will pay dividends.

TO INSPECT LIGHTNING ROD SYSTEM

The thunderstorm season

is at hand. Many buildings in this part of the state are protected with a lightning rod system. This should give considerable protection during severe storms. That is, if the system is properly connected and well grounded into moist soil.

We suggest that all owners of buildings with rods give the system a thorough inspection at this time. Be sure the cables are free from litter and properly connected at all points. Buildings are very expensive to replace; the rod investment is a good one and should give protection when in good order.

TO RESPECT THE PROPERTY OF OTHERS

Many farmers utilize modern herbicides to control weeds. These sprays will get the job done when properly used. However, the drift or fumes from these sprays can do considerable damage to nearby property; we often get calls from home-owners reporting sprayers being used very close to property lines. When this is done the wind had better be blowing away from the other person's property. Public relations are strained when the drift from a weed sprayer falls upon the property of others.

We urge farmers to avoid

these problems by keeping away from property lines and from gardens, trees, and shrubs.

TO FOLLOW THE LABEL DIRECTIONS

Don't be guilty of getting into trouble with your pesticides and then read the label. You'd be surprised as to how often this is the case. All growers should recognize the importance of reading the label, or instructions, before using a product.

Most of the chemicals

have been approved for a certain purpose; the rate, timing, and method of application is very important. Don't guess about these things.

Also, don't feel that if one pound of material per hundred gallons is good, that two pounds will be better. This is not true and can get farmers and gardeners into trouble. Again, read the label carefully on every container and then follow the directions. Be safe — not sorry.

Farm Calendar

Monday, May 14

Sewage Sludge meeting, and demonstration, 7 p.m. at the Penn Township Waste Treatment Plant, York County. The facility is located 1 1/2 miles east of Hanover off of Route 116. Turn left on Ridge Avenue at the Hanover Brands plant. The treatment site is about 1/4 mile across the railroad tracks.

Poultry servicemen's seminar, Shamokin Dam, Holiday Inn. Stan Smith of Agway, Inc. will speak on "Controlled Feeding." Dinner is at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 15

Lebanon County FFA officers' meeting, 7:30 p.m. at ELCO H.S. ag room.

Lancaster County FFA meeting, Manheim Central H.S. ag room, 7:30 p.m.

Agricultural Conference for Pennsylvania Bankers, Penn State, today through Thursday.

Ephrata Area Young Farmers monthly meeting, 7:45 p.m. at the high school's vo ag room. Topic: Farm employer's responsibilities, Jan

(Turn to Page 32)

RURAL ROUTE

By Tom Armstrong

