



MARCH 17-23, 1980

Spring has sprung!

Don't remove winter mulches too soon. Spring begins March 20 at 6:10 AM. First quarter of the moon March 23. Average length of days for the week, 12 hours, 10 minutes. Postal workers went on strike March 18, 1970. Uncle Tom's Cabin published March 20, 1852. Some people's manners would shock a monkey.



Ask the Old Farmer: What is the meaning of the expression "getting a jim over the Johnson bar"? This was used commonly in the late 1920s and early '30s around Spokane, Wash., mostly among railroad and lumber workers. O.P., Seal Beach Calif. Had the same meaning as "getting the Johnson bar, when the train was stopped it was straight up and down on the quadrant. To start the engine and take the slack out of the cars the throttle was pushed down the quadrant to the stop pin. As the slack was taken out, the throttle was gradually drawn back to running position. Home Hints: Keep ants out by putting talcum powder along their favorite entrances.

OLD FARMER'S WEATHER FORECASTS

New England: Cloudy and cold to start, then snow turning to heavy rain coast, snow in mountains, weekend is rainy and milder.
Greater New York-New Jersey: Snow, 10"-15" north through end of week, showers for weekend, seasonal.
Middle Atlantic Coastal: Snowstorm throughout the week, by week's end, clearing and warming, few showers.
Piedmont & Southeast Coastal: Cold wave starts the week, with rain east and snow west, through weekend, partly sunny and mild, possible showers.

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Sechrist Auction

Monday, March 3

Report supplied by auction
CATTLE 94. Steers High Choice 65.00-68.25; Good 63.00-65.50; Holsteins Good 60.00-62.50; Standard to Good 57.00-60.00. Heifers High Choice 62.00-64.00; Good 60.00-62.00; Holsteins Good 52.00-56.00. Feeder Steers Good and Choice 75.00-92.00; Standard Good 65.00-75.00. Bulls Good and Choice Commercial 59.50-64.00; Standard to Good 57.00-59.00. Cows High Yearling Commercial 52.00-54.85; Cutters 50.00-52.00; Canners Low Cutters 47.00-50.00; Shells 44.00-47.50.

CALVES 105. Calves Choice and Prime 120.00-129.00; Good and Choice 110.00-120.00; Standard and Good 95.00-110.00; Bulls 100-120 lbs. 95.00-125.00; Hfrs. 90-140 lbs. 100.00-210.00; Culls 50.00-85.00.

FEEDER PIGS: 138 head. U.S. No. 1 and 3, 30-45 lbs. 18.00-28.50; U.S. No. 2 and 3, 30-50 lbs. 15.00-26.00; U.S. No. 2 and 3, 50-75 lbs. 28.00-32.00. Sows 250-375 lbs. 35.00-39.75; 400-500 lbs. 29.00-34.50. Boars 300-500 lbs. 27.00-30.00.
SHEEP 10: Lambs Good to Choice 65.00-80.00; Medium and Good 60.00-70.00. Ewes 20.00-29.50.

Private Treaty Fat Hogs, Select No. 1 and 2, 190-215 lbs. 36.50-37.00.

Private Treaty Fat Hogs, No. 1 and 2, 190-240 lbs. 36.00-36.25.

Private Treaty Fat Hogs, No. 1 and 3, 190-260 lbs. 35.50-35.75.

G&M Livestock

Monday, March 10

Report supplied by auction
 Market report hogs lower, steers, cows weak.

DAIRY COWS: 750.00-1390.00.

STEERS: High Choice and Prime 68.00-71.25; Good to Choice 64.00-68.00; Standard to Good 58.00-64.00.

HEIFERS: High Choice and Prime 65.00-67.85; Good to Choice 62.00-65.00; Standard 54.00-62.00.

FEEDER STEERS: Good to Choice 300-500 lbs. 75.00-90.00.

BULLS: 1200-1824 lbs. 64.00-70.25; 900-1200 lbs. 59.00-64.00.

COWS: High Choice to Prime 54.00-56.00, few to 57.50; Good 52.00-54.00; Utility 48.00-52.00; Cutters 45.00-48.00; Canners Down to 40.00.

CALVES: High Choice 110.00-124.50; Good to Choice 100.00-110.00; Standard to Good 80.00-100.00; Utility 60.00-80.00.

FARM CALVES: Hol. Bulls 110.00-139.00; Hol. Heifers 180.00-240.00.

FEEDER PIGS: 15-30 lbs. 12.00-23.00; 30-50 lbs. 22.00-30.00.

HOGS: 200-240 lbs. 36.50-37.50, few to 38.85; 170-190 lbs. 34.00-36.50.

SOWS: 30.00-37.00.

BOARS: 28.00-32.00.

SHEEP: 25.00-31.00.

LAMBS: 60.00-70.00.

Life is a mouthful for gerbils. The cuddly little pets keep busily chewing most of the time to wear down their teeth -- which never quit growing, reports National Geographic World magazine.

Leesport Auction

Wednesday, March 12

Report supplied by PDA

CATTLE 282. Compared with last Wednesday's market, slaughter steers uneven, Good & Choice Steady to \$1 lower, Standard steady to 50¢ higher. Slaughter heifers steady to \$1 higher. Slaughter cows \$2.50 to \$3 lower. Choice 1000-1250 lbs. slaughter steers 65.50-68.10, one at 68.85, Good & Choice holsteins 1300-1500 lbs. 62.00-65.00, Good 63.50-67.00, few to 68.50, Standard 62.35-63.50. Choice 950-1350 lbs. slaughter heifers 63.60-65.85, few to 67.25, few Good 58.25-63.75, few Standard 54.25-58.75. Utility & Commercial slaughter cows 51.00-52.75, few to 53.50, few Commercial No. 4-5 49.00-50.75. Utility & Commercial slaughter cows 51.00-52.75, few to 53.50, few Commercial No. 4-5 49.00-50.75. Utility & Commercial slaughter heifers 63.60-65.85, few to 67.25, few Good 58.25-63.75, few Standard 54.25-58.75. Few Yield Grade #1 1275-1745 lbs. slaughter bulls 62.35-70.00, few 960-1200 lbs. 55.60-60.00. Few Large Frame #2 670-970 lbs. feeder steers 61.00-64.50, few Medium Frame #1 600-890 lbs. 64.00-78.00; few Large Frame #1 635-735 lbs. feeder heifers 62.50-70.00, few Medium Frame #1 450-625 lbs. 63.50-66.50; few Medium Frame #1 735-900 lbs. feeder bulls 60.00-66.50.

CALVES 129. One Choice vealer at 126.00, few Good 99.00-119.00, Standard & Good 110-130 lbs. 79.00-85.00, few 90-110 lbs. 70.00-77.00, few 70-85 lbs. 60.00-66.00, few Utility 50-90 lbs. 49.00-65.00. Farm calves, holstein bulls 90-135 lbs. 120.00-157.50, few down to 80.00; holstein heifers 90-125 lbs. 137.50-175.00, one at 193.00; few beef cross bulls & heifers 90-115 lbs. 102.50-148.00.

HOGS 419. Barrows & gilts \$2 to \$2.50 lower. US No. 1-2 195-235 lbs. barrows & gilts 36.00-36.60, few to 37.00, No. 13 190-240 lbs. 35.00-36.00, small lot 38.00, No. 2-3 210-285 lbs. 33.00-35.00. Sows \$1.50 to \$2.50 lower. US No. 1-3 325-535 lbs. sows 30.00-33.00, few to 36.50, few No. 2-3 440-510 lbs. 28.50-29.75. Boars 26.00-28.00, few to 31.75.

FEEDER PIGS 168. US No. 1-3 25-45 lbs. feeder pigs 43.00-68.00 cwt., few No. 1-3 75-125 lbs. 30.00-40.00, lot Utility 25 lbs. 34.00 cwt.

SHEEP 56. Choice 25-30 lbs. spring slaughter lambs 129.00-133.00, 50-60 lbs. 106.00-119.00, few 60-90 lbs. 79.00-95.00, few Good & Choice 80-125 lbs. wooled slaughter lambs 65.00-76.50. Slaughter ewes 21.00-33.00.

GOATS 12. Kid goats 17.00-28.00 per head.

Shenandoah Valley Livestock

Harrisonburg, Va.

Saturday, March 8

Report supplied by auction
STOCKER, FEEDER, AND SLAUGHTER CATTLE. Good Light Steer Calves 88.00-91.00; Medium 83.00-88.00; Plain 78.00 and down; Good Heavy Steers 80.00-84.00; Medium 75.00-80.00; Plain 70.00 and down; Holstein Steers 57.50-71.00; Good Slaughter Steers 64.00-66.25; Medium 59.00-64.00; Plain 55.00 and down; Good Light Heifer Calves 77.00-81.00; Medium 72.00-77.00; Plain 67.00 and down; Good Heavy Heifers 62.00-66.50; Medium 57.00-62.00; Plain 52.00 and down; Slaughter Cows 55.00-59.75; Utilities 50.00-55.00; Canners & Cutters 48.00 and down; Milk & Stock Cows 665.00 and down; Stock Bulls 74.00 and down.

CALVES. Veal Calves 110.00 and down; Baby Calves 145.00.

SHEEP & LAMBS: Choice Blue O 66.50; Good Red O 60.00; Feeder Lambs 57.00-60.50; Slaughter Ewes 28.00 and down.

HOGS: Top 36.00; Heavy 30.00-33.35; Light 26.00; Sows 38.00 and down; Boars 26.00.

Valley Livestock

Valley Stockyards

Athens, Pa.

Monday, March 10

Report supplied by auction
 Reported receipts of 527 calves, 101 cows, 23 heifers, 10 bulls, 15 steers, 150 hogs. Cattle market reported strong, calf market reported easier.

Holstein Heifer Calves to 182.50; **Veal Calves** 65.00-119.00; **Bobs**, 90-110 lbs. 65.00-89.00; **Bobs**, 80 and down lbs. 45.00-70.00; **Grassers & Feeders** 59.00-115.00; **Lambs** 26.00-62.00; **Easter Lambs** to 150.00; **Sheep** 22.00-34.00; **Hogs**, 200-250 lbs. 33.00-40.50; **Sows** 27.00-34.00; **Boars** 22.00-27.50; **Pigs** 12.50-24.00; **Heifers** 47.00-55.00; **Steers** 58.00-64.00; **Steers, feeder** 55.00-86.00; **Bulls** 53.00-67.00; **Cows, utility** 49.00-52.50; **Cows, fat** 47.00-49.75; **Cows, medium** 45.50-49.75; **Cows, poor or small** 41.00-46.00; **Horses** 305.00-515.00; **Ponies** 55.00-135.00; **Goats** 12.50-37.50.

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Belknap Auction

Wednesday, March 12

Report supplied by PDA

CATTLE 72. Compared with last Wednesday's market, slaughter cows weak to \$1 lower. Few Good slaughter steers 62.50-64.00, few Standard 56.75-60.50. One Choice slaughter heifer at 61.25, few Standard 52.25-55.50. Utility & Commercial slaughter cows 50.00-55.00. Cutters 49.00-53.00, few Canner & Low Cutter 45.00-47.75. Few Yield Grade #1 1340-1960 lbs. slaughter bulls 60.50-67.25; few yield grade #2 900-1390 lbs. 56.00-59.50. Medium Frame #1 330-470 lbs. feeder steers 77.50-87.00; Medium Frame #1 320-510 lbs. feeder heifers 63.00-71.00.

CALVES 111. Vealers about steady. Few Choice vealers 110.00-123.00, few Good 98.00-105.00, Standard & Good 90-110 lbs. 70.00-82.00, 65-85 lbs. 64.00-72.00. Farm calves, holstein bulls 90-130 lbs. 78.00-116.00, few holstein heifers 85-110 lbs. 101.00-175.00; beef cross bulls & heifers 70-130 lbs. 76.00-96.00.

HOGS 379. Barrows & gilts \$1.50 to \$1.75 lower. US No. 1-2 200-240 lbs. barrows & gilts 35.00-35.70, No. 1-3 200-250 lbs. 34.40-35.20, No. 2-3 210-270 lbs. 33.00-34.50, No. 1-3 150-190 lbs. 28.00-32.00. Sows \$1 to \$1.50 lower. US No. -13 290-565 lbs. sows 30.25-37.00, lot 200-360 lbs. 22.00-28.00. Boars 19.00-30.00.

FEEDER PIGS 95. US No. 1-3 30-40 lbs. feeder pigs 16.00-23.00 per head, No. 1-3 40-50 lbs. 23.00-29.00, Utility 30-40 lbs. 14.00-17.00 per head.

SHEEP 4. Few Slaughter ewes 22.00-26.75.

Peoria Cattle

Thursday, March 13

Report supplied by USDA

Receipts this week: 2900
 Last Week: 3600
 Last Year: 3700

Trading generally slow all week on Slaughter Steers and Heifers and mostly steady with Wednesday of last week. Cows weak to fully 1.00 lower, most decline on cutter and breaking utility Bulls fully steady. Receipts continued small and this fact responsible for preventing price declines on

Monday and Wednesday as beef cuts at retail and wholesale levels very slow.

SLAUGHTER STEERS: few loads mixed Choice & Prime 3 to mostly 4 1225-1400 lbs. 64.50-65.50, Choice 2-4 1050-1225 lbs. 67.50-69.00, mostly 67.50-68.50; load 3 1133 lbs. Monday 69.25 and few head 69.50; Mixed Good & Choice 2-4 900-1200 lbs. 66.00-67.50; Good 2-3 950-1200 lbs. 63.00-66.00; few small lots Good and Choice 2 1200-1325 lbs. Holsteins 61.00-62.00, few standard 59.50.

SLAUGHTER HEIFERS: load lots Choice few Prime 2-4 mostly 3-4 900-1050 lbs. 66.50-68.00; Mixed Good & Choice 2-4 900-1050 lbs. 65.50-66.50; Good 2-3 62.00-65.00.

COWS: Utility and few commercial 1-3 mostly 48.00-52.00, late few to 53.00 and early few Utility 1-2 53.00-54.00; cutter 1-2 45.00-48.50.

BULLS: Yield grade 1-2 1100-2200 lbs. 55.00-61.00, few 11700-2055 lbs. 62.00-63.00.

New Holland Dairy

New Holland, Pa.

Wednesday, March 12

Report supplied by auction
 Reported receipts of 176 cows, 108 heifers, and 7 bulls. Market stronger.

Load of Pa. fresh cows, 910.00-1325.00; Load of Pa. fresh cows, 1100.00-1575.00; Load of Butler Co. springers 1050.00-1500.00; Load of N.Y. fresh cows, 970.00-1650.00, springers 1290.00-1475.00; Load of NY fresh cows, 910.00-1300.00, springers 1200.00-1510.00. Herd of 39 head, all stages 520.00-1025.00; Herd of 36 head, all stages 630.00-1625.00. Locally consigned cows, 780.00-1350.00; Grade Springing heifers 850.00-1250.00; Open Heifers 500.00-725.00; Bulls 335.00-785.00.

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