

Ag legislative needs

BY DICK ANGLESTEIN

Ag legislative needs are a lot in the news these days

In Harrisburg, farm groups are beating the drums for their favorite bills they'd like to see passed during the upcoming Lame Duck session that combines Thanksgiving with deer hunting

The milk dealers want to make sure the PMMB is retained

The Grange wants prompt payment to poultrymen.

And, a lot of lobbying is proceeding behind the scenes.

Well, let me throw a couple of ag bill ideas into the Harrisburg hopper:

--All taxpayer-funded allocations to agriculture for research and bailouts be put strictly on an equal matching fund basis

--Fairs which now receive State money directly out of the Pa. General Fund be required to file an annual audit to give taxpayers a complete accounting of their financial activities.

To me, some recent phone calls from a dairy co-op to Harrisburg were the final straw concerning taxpayer bailouts of agriculture

Recently, more than \$2.5 million dollars in tax monies went to help bail out some dairymen caught in the bankrupt Milk Security Fund. The bailout gave dairymen 65 cents on

the dollar on their losses in the Scheps Cheese fiasco

This co-op caller was inquiring in Harrisburg if the bailout couldn't be brought up to 100 percent payments to the dairymen

To this caller and any others like him we say "EUREKA!"

A couple million for Avian and more to the dairymen. Where does it all end?

There's psuedorabies and Johnes' What next?

Potomac Fever in horses? Virus in mushrooms? Or maybe even rabies in farm cats and dogs?

If farm and commodity groups can't show enough interest in their own welfare to come up with equal matching funds, nothing should come from the taxpayer

Ag will never really help to get its own house in order as long as it can drink freely at the public trough

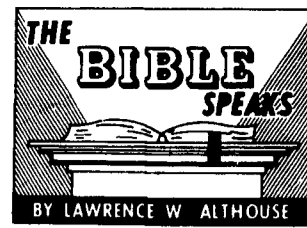
It always seems a bit hypocritical to me, too. Most in agriculture espouse the conservative theme, particularly at the federal level, but their actions at the state level don't live up to their words

Now, to the fairs. Here in Lancaster County, two fairs literally thumb their noses at the public concerning full disclosure of their financial activities. And besides, both Ephrata and New Holland also close down their main streets -- state highways no less -- and turn them into midways of glitter, games and gluttony

Are there any other fairs in the state who so blatantly disregard the taxpayer's right to know? And with taxpayer funds paying for fair premiums, we think livestock competition should be limited to junior shows. Most open competition at fairs only amounts to a handful of participation and indirect subsidization of that handful of breeders.

If fairs want open competition, let the respective breed associations pay for premiums through entry fees or whatever

We don't expect any such legislative action this lame duck session, if ever. State legislators will have only time enough this year to buy their cranberry sauce and air the mothballs out of their hunting duds.



THE SOUL HAS A BODY October 21, 1984

Background Scripture:
1 Corinthians 3:9-17; 6:12-20;
Ephesians 5:15-20.

Devotional Reading:
1 Corinthians 4:1-5.

Although Jesus himself demonstrated more concern for people's physical bodies than probably any other religious leader, Christianity has historically tended to ignore the human body and place all of its attention on the human soul. At best, Christians have been indifferent to their bodies; at worst, they have been downright hostile to them.

Some people have tended to blame Paul for this development, pointing to his frequent references to the "dangers of the flesh." But the term, which in English we translate as "flesh," did not mean the physical body so much as it meant the lower part of our human nature.

GOD'S TEMPLE

As a matter of fact, Paul had a very high concept of the human body. In 1 Corinthians 3 he states it in lofty terms: "Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?" (3:16). And again: "For God's temple is holy, and that temple you are" (3:17).

Now, Paul is not just speaking symbolically, for God does ac-

tually dwell in each and every one of us. Our bodies are the physical means whereby the Spirit of God is expressed in the world. Just as the presence of God in a building makes it a sacred place, a temple, so the presence of God in us makes our physical bodies a sacred place as well.

In 1 Corinthians 6, Paul uses another analogy to stress the importance of the human body: "Do you know that your bodies are members of Christ?" (6:15). In other words, our union with Christ is not only a spiritual union, but a physical one as well. Therefore, the way we regard and treat our physical bodies is also very much a part of our Christian discipleship.

If we fail to take good care of our bodies, if we use them in dishonourable ways, if we fail to keep them as pure as we attempt to keep our souls, we will be judged accordingly. The body is not just an empty shell for the spirit, as some people seem to think, it is part of the totality that God gives us and we must treat that physical self with due reverence and respect.

GLORIFY GOD

Thus, Christians need to be reminded, not only that they have a soul to keep and safeguard, but that that soul has a body and the body is no less a temple of God than the soul. In 1 Corinthians 6 Paul is concerned with sexual immorality as a violation of God's presence in our physical body. It is a message sorely needed in today's world where so many people have presumed to divorce sexual conduct from the realm of morality.

But that bodily sanctuary of the Holy Spirit is defiled not only by illicit sex, but by chemicals, overeating, intemperance, misuse, dissipation, lack of exercise and self-control -- all of which defile the wonderful physical body which we share with God.

NOW IS THE TIME

By Jay Irwin

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To Reduce Egg Breakage

Egg breakage is costing poultry producers a great deal. You would be surprised how much. Some poultry producers do not realize how many eggs they are losing because they do not keep an accurate record of them. In studies where this has been checked carefully, we find the percentage of eggs broken ranging from 2% to 5% up to 20%.

With a flock of 30,000 layers averaging 70% production, a loss of 4% is 84,000 eggs or 7,000 dozen a year. This loss comes to \$3,500 when eggs sell for 50 cents per dozen.

Check the nests or cages for needed repair. Often we find eggs being broken right in the cages. Check the egg trays. If these are

defective, they can break many eggs. Careful handling will reduce breakage if eggs are gathered by hand. Trying for too much speed in gathering may cause more loss than a little extra time.

With mechanical gathering, check the escalators to be sure they are timed properly and are not breaking eggs. Check the orientors to be sure eggs are not piling up. This is an egg cracker on many farms.

To Evaluate Farm Records

The 1984 cropping season is about over and soon it will be time to summarize your farm accounts and be reporting to the IRS. In addition to the need of good farm records for tax reporting purposes, I'd like to suggest these farm records be used for future farm

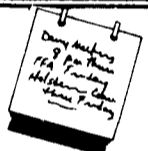
planning and in making major farm decisions. When time permits and as the outside work winds down this fall, it is a good idea to spend some time in your office and do some "pencil pushing" regarding the most profitable parts of your farming business. Your records of success or failure of the various enterprises are the best guide to future expansion or termination.

To Control Mice and Rats

Birds may migrate south for the winter, but mice and rats migrate from the outdoors to the indoors. And they may choose your home.

When nights become chilly, mice and rats move into garages, storerooms and barns. And if there is food in these areas, they're

Farm Calendar



Saturday, Oct. 20

Woodlot management program, 9 a.m. - noon, Hercules Powder Inc., Roxbury Twp., N.J.
Pa. State National Farmers Organization convention, Lamar Holiday Inn, 11 a.m.
Keystone Classic Sale, Pa. Siftmental Assn., Waynesboro.

Sunday, Oct. 21

Ninth Annual Pa. International Trade Conference, Hyatt Hotel, Pittsburgh, continues through

Tuesday

Monday, Oct. 22
Pa. Grange Annual Meeting, Gettysburg, Sheraton, continues through Thursday.

Tuesday, Oct. 23

Income tax preparation workshop, Meadville Holiday Inn, continues through Thursday.

Wednesday, Oct. 24

Pa. Poultry Conference, Holiday Inn, Grantville, continues tomorrow.

OUR READERS WRITE, AND OTHER OPINIONS

My mouth is watering

Dear Editor

Your writeup in Agri-View on Oct. 6, 1984 entitled "The Calories Cometh" was tops. I agree with you 100 percent.

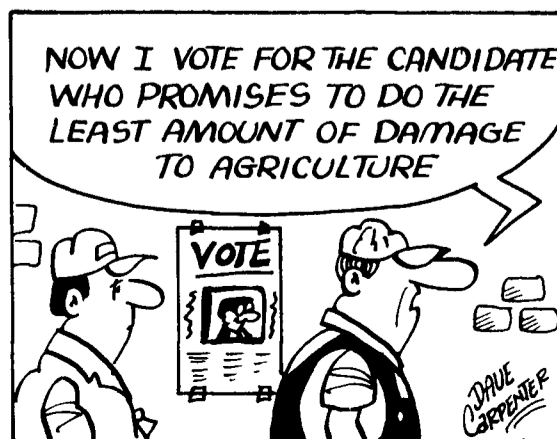
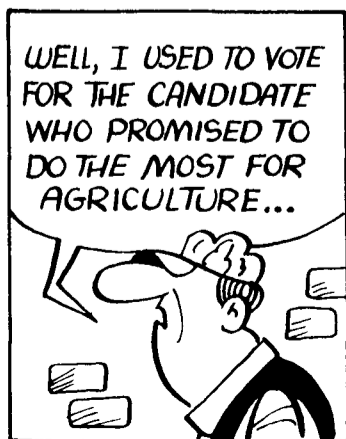
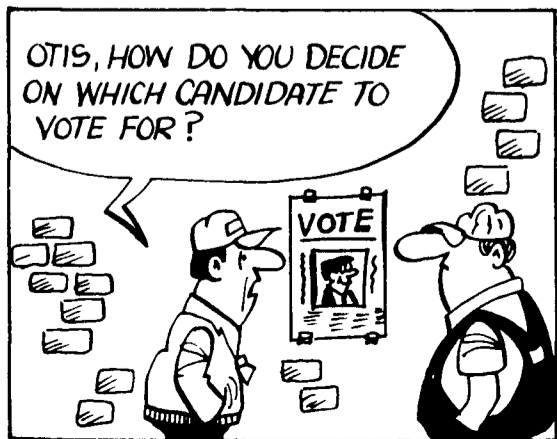
If you would live next door, I would see that you get a slice of homemade bread, which would be whole wheat, and some grape jam that had a wax sealed jar with a string in the wax for easy lift off.

I am very much interested as a hobby to have a collection of USDA Agricultural Yearbooks. I would like to know when the first one was printed and how many have been issued to date.

I did come across a Pa. Yearbook in hard cover dated 1917, which I never knew was issued. I found it at a yard sale. I would like to hear from someone about how many of these were printed.

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DAVE CARPENTER