



OPINION

Farmers Will Be Losers

More than half of Pennsylvania's manufacturing jobs could become vulnerable if the North American Free Trade Agreement is approved in its present form. A new study by the Washington, D.C. based research group called the Manufacturing Policy Project has estimated that as much as 58% of PA's jobs could be lost. This translates into 349,500 jobs.

The study, "Jobs at Risk", identifies the types of U.S. companies that are most likely to move to Mexico to reduce their operating costs. Labor is cheaper, property is cheaper and environmental as well as labor laws are lax.

American companies are already buying up Mexican farmland with the intent of producing and processing food in Mexico for shipment to the U.S. The Mexican petrochemical industry had always been closed to outside investors, but recent legislative changes have allowed even this to be opened to U.S. industry.

A group of American and Mexican investors called the AmeriMex Maquiladora Fund was created in 1992 for the sole purpose of identifying, buying and relocating companies to Mexico.

Although there is nothing to stop U.S. firms from moving to Mexico now, the provisions contained in NAFTA will open Mexico to more direct investment in such areas as banking, transportation and telecommunications. Once those investments are in place, it opens things up for manufacturing and agricultural interests to move into Mexico and take jobs with them.

"While NAFTA proponents say the agreement would create jobs in the U.S., this study seems to indicate the exact opposite," said Robert Junk, President of the Pennsylvania Farmers Union. A number of companies are already in the process of moving."

Where agriculture is concerned, major food processing companies will expand to Mexico and gain even more control over the market at the expense of farmers here in the U.S.

NAFTA was written by corporations for their own benefit so they can take advantage of cheap Mexican labor and almost non-existent enforcement of labor and environmental laws. Until Mexican standards are brought up to par with ours, the agreement should not become reality. The working class and the farmers in this country will be the losers if it does.

Farm Calendar



Saturday, June 26
Kutztown Folk Festival, Festival Grounds, June 26-July 5.
Bucks-Montgomery Dairy Princess Pageant, Delaware Valley College, 7 p.m.
Annual Octoraro Creek Nature Walk, Black Rock area of Octoraro Creek, meet at Ken Shoemaker's house, 9 a.m.
Hickory Ridge Antique Farm Show, Horace Potter residence,

near Milford, Del., thru June 27.
Sunday, June 27
National Holstein Convention, Rochester, N.Y., thru June 30.
Monday, June 28
Butler Fair, thru July 4.
Wolf's Corners Fair, Tionesta, thru July 4.
Tuesday, June 29
Grazing Tour, Somerset Co., bus departs from Logan Valley

Farm Forum

As I look back on my reign as 1992-93 SUN Area Dairy Princess, I have to say it was a successful year for me to promote Pennsylvania's number one industry, farming. As dairy princess I have met many new people and become friends with area farmers. Representing the farmers at local and state events was a challenging and rewarding experience for me this year.

During my reign I have completed 55 school programs, 31 newspaper articles, 31 radio spots, 17 store and mall promotions, 17 non-farm presentations, 10 farm meetings, and 11 special events. With these programs I have represented the SUN Area at such state events as Ag Progress Days, the State Dairy Princess Pageant, and The Pennsylvania Farm Show.

I would like to thank my family for their support, encouragement, and help. Travelling over 3,634 miles I thank my parents for the use of a vehicle to drive and get to these destinations. I thank the SUN Area Dairy Promotion Committee for all their help in making this year a success. I would also like to thank all the people I met along the way and had the opportunity to share my knowledge with. Your hospitality and attention was greatly appreciated.

I wish the best of luck to Taryn Laidacker, the 1993 SUN Area Dairy Princess. May she have just as great and unforgettable of a year as I have had.

1992 SUN Area Dairy Princess
Michelle Dugan



NOW IS THE TIME
By John Schwartz
Lancaster County Agricultural Agent

To Salute The Egg Industry

Pennsylvania is now second in the nation in egg production. California is still number one, although its production declined from 7.4 billion dozen in 1991 to 7 billion in 1992.

Pennsylvania, Ohio, Texas, Iowa, and Minnesota had increased egg production in 1992 over 1991 levels. Pennsylvania replaced Indiana as the second largest producer. Last year, Pennsylvania produced 5.5 billion eggs or enough eggs to feed 20 million people.

This represents 10,464 eggs (872 dozen) being laid every minute in Pennsylvania. How people are eating eggs is changing. Egg product production is an expanding part of the egg industry. The continued introduction of valued-added products further increase egg product usage.

Shell eggs used in egg products as a share of total consumption increased from 15 percent in 1985 to 23 percent in 1992, or the equivalent of almost 55 eggs per capita. Egg product use is expected to increase to the equivalent of 56 eggs in 1993, 24 percent of total per capita consumption.

To Employ Your Children

If you have been reluctant to hire your children to work on the farm this summer because of tax liability, here is some good news.

You may employ your children in your farming operation and they will pay income tax based on their tax bracket, not yours. You may remember the 1986 tax law contained the so-called "kiddie tax." It

Mall, 8:15 a.m., returns to University Park, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, June 30
Centre Co. Conservation Field Demo, Kar-Mar (Mark Kauffman) Farm, Spring Mills, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Thursday, July 1
Somatic Cell Count drops to 750,000.

Southeast Pa. Twilight Fruit Growers meeting, County Line Orchard, Kempton, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, July 2

Saturday, July 3
Clarion-Venango Co. Dairy Princess Pageant, Salem Community Building, Salem, 6:30 p.m.
Simon Gratz Days, Gratz Fairgrounds, thru July 4.

Sunday, July 4
Independence Day
Pa. Governor's School of Ag Sciences, Penn State, thru August 7.

Monday, July 5
Judging School, Crawford, thru July 6.

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required that unearned income (interest and dividends) in excess of \$1,000 received by a child under 14 years old be taxed at the maximum marginal rate of the parent. However, earned income is different and your children's pay is considered earned income.

With a \$3,600 standard deduction, they may earn that much and owe no taxes. If you provide more than half of the child's support, you may still claim the dependency exemption. You do not have to pay social security tax on your children's earnings if they are under 18 years old.

For more specific details, consult your account or income tax advisor.

To Vaccinate Successfully

The success of a vaccination program may be hindered if cows

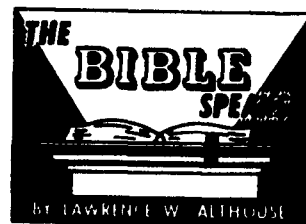
are vaccinated while under stress. Cows begin to be stressed when temperatures approach 80 F. Cold temperatures will also stress cattle. Other stress factors include illness, parasitic loads, and poor nutrition.

For best results, avoid vaccinating sick cattle and choose a time when cows are not undergoing temperature stress. If the vaccination program requires a booster shot, be sure to administer it at the proper time.

The booster shot is designed to elevate the cow's response above that of the first shot. If delayed too long, the response of the cow to the booster will only be as great as her response was to the first shot.

Consult your veterinarian for more information or for recommended vaccination programs.

Feather Prof's Footnote: "Democracy without morality is impossible." Jack Kemp



I AM FILLED
June 27, 1993

Background Scripture: Philippians 4

Devotional Reading: Romans 5:1-11.

Paul's letter to the church at Philippi is a marvel. Written from jail under the most trying circumstances, Paul seems absolutely overflowing with thanksgiving and joy. No less than eight times, Paul speaks of his joy.

In Philippians 1 he speaks of how his imprisonment is contributing to the proclamation of the gospel, "and in that I rejoice." (1:18). In the very next verse: "Yes, and I shall rejoice." (1:19). In Philippians 2:2, he urges them to "complete my joy by being of the same mind..." A little later, he says, "Even if I am to be poured as a libation upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all" (2:17). Giving instructions for their reception of Paul's representative, Epaphroditus, Paul counsels, "So receive him in the Lord with all joy" (2:29). In Philippians 3:1, he says again, "Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord" and again in 4:4, "rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say Rejoice." And finally, "I rejoice in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me" (4:10).

TO BE CONTENT

How could a man in his circumstances be so joyful? As I said previously, the source of his joy was a different way of looking at life. For one thing, he focused on the good things rather than the bad and he counsels the Philippians to do the same when they are threatened. "Finally, brethren, whatever is true, ...honorable, ...just, ...pure, ...lovely, ...gracious, ...excellence, ...worthy of praise, think about these things" (4:8). Yes, there are a lot of unworthy things in the world, and we are accustomed to occupying our minds with those. But does that help us? Does that make us better? Does that build up faith or bring peace? No, never. So why not concentrate on what has a positive effect upon you instead of that which tears you down? That's what Paul did. Just as some people know about the existence of the good but focus on the bad, Paul

knew about the bad but concentrated on the good.

Secondly, as I said when we looked at Philippians 1, Paul did not let the situation determine his state of mind "...for I have learned, in whatever state I am, to be content. I know how to be abased, and I know how to be abundant; in any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and want." Most of us can feel pretty content when we abound and have plenty. But when we are abased and are in want, that is another matter. So we let our circumstances decide for us if we will feel joy or sorrow. But not Paul. He knew that to feel joy you have to think joy. You have to "think about these things" that are positive and constructive.

A ROW OF BOTTLES

I remember a story about the sickly author, Robert Louis Stevenson. One day, while he was sick in bed, his wife marveled at his cheerfulness and said, "I suppose you're going to tell me this is a good day?" And he replied: "I refuse to let a row of medicine bottles be the circumference of my horizon." Just as Paul looked beyond his prison walls and saw hope, so did Stevenson look beyond his life-long struggle with ill health.

Paul realized that what made the difference in his daily life was not the good or bad things that happened to him. The secret of "facing plenty and hunger, abundance and want," was to be found, not in the circumstances which he could not control, but in what he could — his reliance on Jesus Christ. "I can do all things in him who strengthens me" (4:13). It is not good fortune that makes life worthwhile, winning the lottery, getting a raise, and so on. It is Christ. When we put our dependence upon things, we are disappointed sooner or later when these things wear out or forsake us. Christ alone can sustain us through all of life.

Looking at it this way, we can understand how, even in his circumstances, Paul can say, "I am filled" (4:18).

And so can we.

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