

Mad Cow Disease Comes to North America

Yesterday (May 20th, 2003), Canadian health officials admitted that Mad Cow Disease has infected their nation. A new North American panic is about to begin. Millions of Canadians may have consumed over one-billion quarts of tainted milk during the past five years. Do you imagine that the single mad cow lived on a farm and did not also infect one or more of her sisters?

Of course, her milk was pooled with milk from the other cows. One cow produces ten thousand quarts per year, or 50,000 per five years. If she lived with a herd of 100 animals, her milk was pooled with two hundred similar herds once it got to the processor. Multiply 20,000 cows times 50,000 quarts. My, oh my. That adds up to one billion. This is cause for concern, isn't it?

Upon hearing the news on Tuesday, May 20th, America immediately barred Canadian beef imports. How about the ice cream, cheese, and milk imports? Would you eat dairy products from a diseased mad cow? Chances are, if you live in Canada, you've been doing just that. You may even be living with an irreversible ticking time bomb in your brain.

When I was a senior in high school (during the age of Aquarius), a policeman gave an anti-drug talk to our health class, explaining that marijuana use leads to heroin addiction, because every heroin addict once smoked grass.

I remember raising my hand and commenting that drinking beer leads to heroin addiction too, because every heroin user probably drank beer before taking on pot. I got detention for my comment that day, but that and subsequent punishments have failed to modify my behavior. When I see something wrong, I point fingers and ask questions.

When Mad Cow Disease bonked Britain in 1986, most scientists blamed it on meat consumption. Well, most meat eaters were cheese eaters or milk drinkers too.

In the year 2003, Americans are prohibited from donating blood if they've lived in England for more than a month and have eaten meat. Follow the logic here. A dairy cow filters ten thousand liters of blood through her udder each day. Milk is actually white blood. So, if a suspected individual cannot donate blood, how can one continue to drink milk from suspected diseased animals?

Did England miss something? Britain's defining mad cow moment should have been an August 23, 1997 story published in the London Times, written by Michael Hornsby. The following quote should spur our Canadian neighbors to the North into dumping milk into the St. Lawrence Seaway:

"A 24-year-old vegetarian has been diagnosed with Cruetzfeld-Jacob disease. Scientists fear that milk and cheese may be the source of infection."

Many scientists theorize that Mad Cow Disease can take decades to manifest deadly symptoms in infected humans. Does meat or milk cause Mad Cow Disease? The British journal Lancet reported in November of 1999 (Volume 354:9191):

"Routes of transmission of bovine spongiform encephalopathy have not yet been determined."

Author Virgil Hulse recognized a possible milk link. In his *Mad Cows and Milkgate*, Hulse wrote: "The destruction of milk from suspected cows was recommended in England to insure the public's safety...Experiments also indicate that temperatures reached during pasteurization of milk and household cooking does not kill the agent. In the United Kingdom on December 1, 1988 the government announced a ban on the sale of milk from infected cattle..."

Canadian officials have identified a cow with bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), and that means just one thing: Mad Cow Disease is in our neighborhood! Get ready for a 21st century plague that might make SARS seem like the common cold in comparison.

Robert Cohen

<http://www.notmilk.com>

The Unfinished Symphony

Although Beethoven had gone deaf, he wrote and conducted the Ninth Symphony as his own personal ode to joy. Imagine what Beethoven's Tenth might have sounded like? It remains beyond our comprehension as to what dimensions Albert Einstein would have opened while expanding upon his theory of unified fields. The most creative of imaginations would hardly do justice to the enchanted fields of flowers under starry nights that Vincent Van Gogh might have translated upon canvas had he not died at 37 years of age. Try to imagine the adult toys that Nikola Tesla or Thomas Edison might have constructed for humankind's amusement. What unique paths to peace might America have taken had FDR or JFK or MLK lived another five years?

I have recently discovered the writings of Ellen G. White. For seventy years, this woman of prophecy related to her followers thousands of personal revelations from God, some lasting for a few moments and others lasting for hours. The 50,000 pages of text that she produced serve as nutritional guidance for members of the Seventh-day Adventist church. In 1868, White sensed that one day milk and dairy products would no longer be safe to consume. This was White's perception of things to come, based upon her great wisdom. She wrote:

"I wish to say that when the time comes that it is no longer safe to use milk, cream, butter, and eggs, God will reveal this." (1868)

Thirty-four years later, White had not yet received her absolute "dairy" vision, but she allowed for future prophecy by writing:

"Let the people be taught how to prepare food without the use of milk or butter. Tell them that the time will soon come when there will be no safety in using eggs, milk, cream, or butter."
(1902)

Had Ellen G. White been alive today, she might have written opus after opus, symphony after symphony, merging modern day science and religion, making more powerful our twenty-first century NotMilk movement. Other Ellen G. White quotes:

"I frequently sit down to the tables of the brethren and sisters, and see that they use a great amount of milk and sugar. These clog the system, irritate the digestive organs, and affect the brain." (1870)

"Animals from which milk is obtained are not always healthy. They may be diseased. I would recommend that people eat flesh meats sooner than large quantities of milk and sugar. It would not do the injury that milk and sugar do." (1870)

"Sugar and milk combined are liable to cause fermentation in the stomach, and are thus harmful." (1890)

"Especially harmful are the custards and puddings in which milk, eggs, and sugar are the chief ingredients. The use of milk and sugar taken together should be avoided." (1893)

"The light given me is that it will not be very long before we shall have to give up any animal food. Even milk will have to be discarded. Disease is accumulating rapidly." (1899)

"The health food business is in need of means and of the active cooperation of our people, that it may accomplish the work it ought to do. Its purpose is to supply the people with food which will take the place of flesh meat, and also milk and butter." (January 1, 1900)

"If for dessert sweet cake is eaten with milk or cream, fermentation will be created in the stomach, and then the weak points of the human organism will tell the story. The brain will be affected by the disturbance in the stomach." (1900)

Ellen G. White's unfinished overture is soon to be completed, for I have been touched by a similar vision.

For me, White's treatment of nutrition represents the thunderous opening chords of Tchaikovsky's First Concerto. With a flourish, I expect to finish her unfinished work with my own crashing finale from Rachmaninoff's Third Piano Concerto. The resulting symphony will become our rhapsody upon a theme of NotMilk.

Robert Cohen