

## American Farm Bureau Announces New Scheme for Supporting Commodity Prices

FARM BUREAU this week came out with what they call their "new approach" to farm commodity price supports. The heart of the plan is a 90 per cent price floor based on average market prices for the preceding three years.

The American Farm Bureau Federation (not to be confused with the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Cooperative, a separate organization) calls its new plan a way to get away from arbitrary formulas, administrative discretion and political controversy in putting a floor under prices.

This is to be done by relating price supports to what has been happening in the market place where commodities are bought for use. The plan has been proposed for cotton, corn and other feed grains, and for study by farmers for possible use for other price supported commodities.

Corn prices, for example, would be supported at 90 per cent of the average market price for the previous three years. Supports for feed grains other than corn (oats, barley, rye and grain sorghum) would be comparable to the corn support price after adjustments for differences in feeding values and other factors.

In the case of corn the price support for the 1957 crop would have been a little lower under the market support plan than the rate actually in effect for those who stayed within their allotments, but higher than the non-compliance rate. The non-compliance rate is the one to consider because only 14 per cent of the 1957 crop was eligible for the compliance support rate.

The 1954-56 average farm price of corn was \$1.36 a bushel—so the 1957 sup-

port price would have been 90 per cent of \$1.36 or \$1.22 a bushel.

The part of the new plan that will look best to producers is that no acreage allotments, no commercial or non-commercial producing areas and no marketing quotas will be in effect.

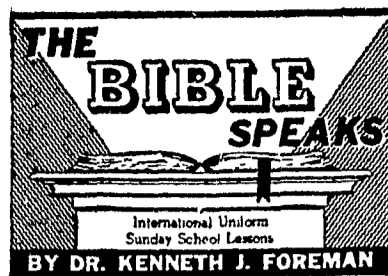
The Farm Bureau does include participation in the Soil Bank as a part of the new program. However with the acreage reserve part of the Soil Bank dead after this year, it is doubtful that the program can be revived.

Wild fluctuations in farm prices are not likely with a three year price average being taken as a base, the AFBA says. The farmer, by keeping an eye on prices, can pretty well estimate the support price well before planting season and adjust his acreage accordingly.

The AFBA cites the hog and egg markets as two examples of non-supported commodities that have adjusted their own prices by producer estimates of the price structure.

References to "administration discretion" in the new plan can be taken as a direct slap as Secretary Benson. The Secretary has been extremely unpopular with the AFBA since he used "administrative discretion" and lowered the milk support price this spring.

There are some flaws that jump out immediately. Milk is the first of these. Milk pricing is now one of the most complicated procedures in the Nation. To try to set a 90 per cent price on a three-year average will call for more administration and committees and administrators than ever before. Other problems are bound to crop up as other commodities are mentioned.



Bible Material: Matthew 5 13-48; 23:23-26; Luke 9 51-56.

Devotional Reading: Luke 11:37-44.

### Jesus on Justice

Lesson for July 13, 1958

If any one is an authority on the subject of justice, it should be God Almighty himself. Christians believe that God's mind is revealed to us in Jesus Christ. So it is extremely important to find out what Jesus had to say on any topic. Now Jesus never once used

the expression "social justice." He didn't have to. For the question of justice never comes up at all unless there are as many as two persons involved in a situation. And if there are as many as two, you have a social situation and any justice there is social justice. Furthermore, the kind of justice that counts is social. Court-room justice isn't worth much if it does not produce social justice.



Dr. Foreman

#### Nothing Cancels Out Justice

Some people have supposed that living in the New Testament light, we have outgrown the need for justice—that Christians live by love, or grace, or faith, or mystic vision, or something else, anything else but justice. Some people will tell you that the gospel cancels out justice, that justice is an Old Testament word and we Christians have outgrown it. This is not true. Nothing cancels justice. For one thing, most of Jesus' teaching dealt with right relationships among men, and the short name for that is justice. For another thing Jesus did speak directly of this thing. He condemned the Pharisees severely because they had forgotten it. According to Luke's account, Jesus said the Pharisees had neglected justice and the love of God. In Matthew's story, Jesus said the Pharisees had neglected justice and mercy and faith. Note in both cases: Justice and . . . He mentions justice first always.

#### Is Justice Impossible?

About the only way to get around this (or to try to do so) is to fancy that somehow or other Jesus' teachings do not apply to us. All one need say about that point of view is that when a "Christian" reaches the point where he will not take his orders from the Lord Jesus, he had better consider whether he rates the name of Christian after all. However, there are a pair of further objections we should consider. One is that since only God knows what is finally fair, we must leave all matters of social justice to him. He alone is judge of the whole earth; and our own "justice" can never be based on full knowledge of all the facts, as God's is. So let's give up the whole thing, shall we? NO! Such talk is unadulterated nonsense. The grain of truth in that argument is that perfect justice—like perfect mercy or faith or love of God—is not obtainable in this life by us mortals. Nevertheless, mercy and faith and love are the Christian's business—and so is justice. We need God's forgiveness for the injustices of our "justice;" but we would need his forgiveness far more if we never tried to be just at all.

#### Isn't Ours a "Different" World?

Another way people try to bypass Jesus' teaching is to point out that we are living in a different world from his. One very important difference is this: Most of the people we deal with, in our complex, industrial, urban civilization, we never see and do not even know who they are; whereas in the world of Jesus' time a man knew all his neighbors and he never dealt with any one else. It is a difficult business just to live right with people you know. But how is a dairy farmer going to be fair with the consumers in a distant city he never sees? How is a stockholder in General Motors going to live right with, and do right by, Mr. Reuther? How is a plain citizen of the U.S.A. going to do the right thing by a plain citizen of the U.S.S.R.? These are terribly difficult questions. Any reader can write out a page full of such problems between now and church time. He will not find all the answers in the book. Perhaps no one knows the answers—yet. But remembering how our Lord put justice first, we cannot dodge the duty of thinking hard and long on how we in our time can make justice a real thing.

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BY JACK REICHARD

### 75 Years Ago

Seventy-five years ago this week Mrs. William Crowe, seventy, Pennsylvania farmwife residing in Chester County, met with an unusual accident. It seems that the Crowe family, like many farm families in those days, was in the habit of using pump well a makeshift refrigerator in summertime, by lowering perishable foods placed in pots and buckets through a trap door on the pump bed, suspended on ropes and let down near the water level in the well.

Mrs. Crowe was in the act of lowering a pot of fresh meat into the well that evening, when she lost her balance and plunged head first into the well, in which there were about three feet of water. A daughter in the kitchen heard the noise made by the pot striking the walls in its descent and ran to the well, only to find her mother at the bottom which was 15 feet deep.

The daughter, horror-stricken, immediately summoned neighbors who rescued the elderly woman from her perilous position. The victim sustained no serious injuries, but her body was considerably bruised and scratched. Mrs. Crowe explained that she suffered a slight attack of vertigo while lowering the pot into well which caused her to fall.

### Thousands At Funeral Services Of Two Brother Physicians

On July 10, 1883, thousands turned out to pay their last respects to Aaron C. and Washington C. Detweiler, brother physicians of Reading, Pa., who were drowned in the Schuylkill River. The funeral services were held in the St. James Lutheran Church. Both doctors were members of the Methodist Church, but it was not large enough to accommodate the vast multitude of sympathizing friends.

The deceased were well known in the Reading area. In addition

to their many friends thousands were drawn to the funeral out of sheer curiosity. Prior to the church services, the crowd mounted the stoops of the residences and patiently waited their turn for hours to view the bodies. Police were stationed at both homes to maintain order.

### 50 Years Ago

Fifty years ago this week the Democratic National Committee in executive session at Lincoln Neb., adopted a resolution outlined as follows.

"No contributions shall be accepted from corporations; no contributions over \$10,000 shall be accepted. All contributions over \$100 will be made public after October 15, 1908. Contributions under \$100 will not be published. "W. J. Bryan will be officially notified of his nomination for president at Lincoln, his home, on August 12, 1908".

### New Starch Co. Chartered In Lancaster County

Back in July, 1908, the charter of the Penn Starch Company had been received in the Recorder's Office at Lancaster. The company planned to transact its business in Lititz which included the manufacturer of starch, glucose, oil, etc. The subscribers and directors were: Israel G. Erb, Thomas W. Barnes, John S. Gault, Martin G. Hess and Ralph E. Pratt. The capital stock was \$120,000 divided into 12,000 shares at \$10 par value.

### Stolen York Co. Team Recovered at Quarryville

Fifty years ago this week, in southern Pennsylvania, the owner of a team stolen at a festival at Fawn Grove, York County, accompanied by a constable, recovered the horse and buggy at the livery stable of Fritz & Evans, Quarryville. It was learned that the stolen team crossed the Susquehanna River at McCall Ferry, stopped at The Buck, then pro-

### Lancaster Farming

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ceeded towards Quarryville, where the thief tried to sell it. The livermen questioned the rightful owner of the team and the thief made his escape.

### Abundance of Fish

When Moses R. Snavelly, of near Manheim, Lancaster County, drained his ice pond during July, 1908, area sportsmen secured fifteen bushels of fish including suckers, yellow perch, catfish and sunfish. Instead of taking all home the sportsmen placed a large number of the fish in the pond at Kauffman's Park and Chiques Creek.

Lancaster merchants announced store closing hours during the month of July and August, 1908, as follows:

"On Monday night the stores will close at 9 p.m. On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 5 p.m. On Friday at noon and on Saturday they will close at 10 p.m."

### 25 Years Ago

Twenty-five years ago many motorists from all over the country found the Esbenshade Turkey Farm, comprising some fifty acres, located on Route 41, about two miles east of Strasburg, not only a Lancaster County showplace but also an unusual point of interest.

Back in July, 1933, there were 2,000 growing turkeys of the Mammoth Bronze and other varieties featured. There were for sale Table Turkeys, Day Old Baby Turkeys, Breeding Stock and Turkey eggs for hatching.

Under the personal management and operation of Ellis H. Esbenshade, in 1933, the Farm was originally started by his father, Abram, in 1903.

## Now Is The Time . . .

By MAX SMITH

County Agricultural Agent



Max Smith

**TO FEED ADDITIONAL ROUGHAGE** — No doubt the recent rains will bring back many of the pastures that were turning brown, however, if the pastures do not respond and give lush growth, it is suggested that the dairy herd be fed either hay or silage to supplement the grass. If the cows get thin in flesh and production drops during July and August, it is very difficult to regain this flesh and production to a maximum amount during the fall and winter.

**TO CLIP PASTURES** — The second mowing of the summer is due on many grazing areas; the first clipping should have been done during late May or early June. This practice will encourage more uniform growth of the grasses and more uniform grazing of the animals. In addition weeds will be prevented from going to seed and the general appearance of the pasture will be improved.

**TO PREPARE FOR SUMMER SEEDING OF TREFOIL** — Along with other legumes birdsfoot trefoil may be seeded during the summer and make some forage production next year. However, it is important that the trefoil be seeded the last week in July or the first week in August; general soil requirements and other seeding practices are the same as for alfalfa. For best results only one grass such as timothy, brome grass, or orchard grass, should be seeded with trefoil and no other legume.

**TO PLAN FOR EXTENDED PASTURE SEASON** — The seeding of temporary pasture crops for late this fall and early next spring will furnish economical feed nutrients. Both winter rye and Dual wheat may be seeded during August or September for additional pasture this fall. The ground should be prepared as for any other small grain crop and three to four hundred pounds of a complete fertilizer used to encourage rank growth. Both domestic ryegrass and field brome grass may be seeded late this summer for fall and early spring grazing.

**TO PURCHASE PUREBRED RAMS** — The use of a good, purebred ram on any flock of sheep is a good practice; the improvement in the vigor and conformation of the lambs will make him a good investment. Many animals are offered for sale during the summer months and local growers are urged to select their rams before too late in the season.