

Editorial

You leave home in the morning and it's raining. Several hours later after fighting traffic, wet roads and windshield oil slick, you start the hunt for a parking place within a mile of the office. Finally, there's one, right by the door.

By this time, the rain has stopped, the sun's out and you step right square into a beautiful autumn day. All of a sudden, you're two inches taller. Then, you see the parking meter is stuck with an hour left.

Yessir, little things mean a lot.

Arranging our first week in the new Lancaster office, getting acquainted with the new printer and his staff, keeping an eye out for photogenic turkey and being trained by the new secretary; it really is a fine way to approach the holiday season.

This year, distances being what they are, we'll spend Thanksgiving and Christmas with friends. Thanksgiving is already planned with a very wonderful couple near Washington. We've known them for a good many years, over a period when their home at Denver, was away from home for DOZENS of youngsters.

During my army days, many week-end passes were spent there. Then they moved to Washington and yours truly returned to the "halls of ivy." Then, about June or July, 1957 came word that after 20 years of marriage and selfless sharing of their happiness with others, they had become the parents of a boy.

Thanks be the youngster has fine level-headed parents, because there are many "aunts and uncles" who will do their best to spoil him, yours truly not expected.

Yessir, these little things.

Having just arrived here in the section of America where Thanksgiving day had its birth, we find ourself anticipating the occasion even more than the boy who fed the turkey and just plum forgot the hens and hogs.

With Thanksgiving Day coming, it might do to look at our blessings and try some simple arithmetic.

For farmers in all areas, we can include history's highest crop production, from the smallest number of acres in years. Farm efficiency has increased so rapidly within the memory of any person now living that for the first time in man's existence, "Food Surplus" is a problem. Might all nations carry this burden.

Increased control of disease is another blessing of this year. Bovine brucellosis soon may be a memory. Polio as a slowly-fading shadow, its departure delayed only by our failure to use the protection provided by dedicated scientists. This year, more weapons were developed in the fight against cancer and soon, the ultimate weapon will be found. Even the "lesser" diseases have met organized resistance, as man wakens to the blessing of "Strength in unity."

Even in politics, as shown in recent elections, Americans seem to be voting more and more on issues and for candidates and less and less for the party symbols, breathing real strength into the "two-party system." Not as the saying goes, "Voting for the best men, since our own party has them all."

At Cape Canaveral, Florida, American rocket scientists, young, eager and determined to explore space; leave their jobs each day to drive home—to happy wives and children—: While in Siberia and Manchuria, their counterparts trudge to cold cells to be chained to hard cots and await another day of slavery for their bodies.

But so long as those enslaved bodies retain hope of freedom, the blessing of man's spirit grows.

In Budapest, People's Republic of Hungary, all is quiet, where free men fell before oppression. But someday

Thanksgiving Day, when Americans may ignore the world's problems and concentrate upon expressing their gratitude for the many good things they receive.



Davidson

THIS WEEK —In Washington With Clinton Davidson FARM ISSUES

WASHINGTON

Now that the election excitement has died down in Washington, farm issues are shaping up as one of the toughest problems which the new Congress will face when it convenes in January.

Agriculture Secretary Ezra Benson will insist that farmers be given more freedom to plant and market as they please. The new Congress will be equally concerned with "protecting" farmers from excessively high production and damaging low prices.

The most pressing farm problem with which both Congress and Mr. Benson must deal is that of mounting surpluses. Government holdings of farm commodities may reach, and possibly exceed, \$10 billion by early next year.

The government is now spending at the rate of more than 4 billion a year in an unsuccessful effort to reduce surpluses through (1) acreage allotments and direct payments to producers and (2) subsidized disposal of as much of the excess as possible.

Soil Bank Flop

The billion dollar a year Soil Bank under which farmers have been paid to retire 25 million acres from production has failed to stem the rising tide of surpluses. The costly Soil Bank acreage reserve program is being discontinued after this year.

Total crop production this year will top any previous year by more than ten percent. This record has been

set with fewer acres in cultivation than any year since the 1880s, and by a third fewer farmers than there were 25 years ago.

The government is spending more than \$1 billion a year to cover losses and storage costs on surpluses. It is spending another \$2 billion a year in financing surplus disposal, mostly through what amounts to a give-away program abroad.

Gigantic Stockpile

Our stockpile of wheat, corn, sorghum, soybeans and barley is at an all-time record high. Wheat supplies in October were more than two billion bushels, enough to fill two freight trains with their engines in New York and their caboose in San Francisco.

Farmers are harvesting a record 3.8 billion bushels of corn to add to an already record 1.5 billion bushels left over from previous crops. It would take five across-the-country freight trains to carry that much corn.

The next Congress must face up to the problem of how to stem that tide of excess production. It will find urban taxpayers pressing it for a good reason why the government should continue to spend billions of dollars a year on programs about which both farmers and city people complain.

Mr. Benson's proposal is simple: Ease government planning restrictions and lower price supports to the point where there will be a market for everything farmers produce. Lower prices, he argues, will result in in-

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FARMING CHANGES —

Our changing agriculture has brought about many new alterations in the farmer's way of life, says Wayne Kelly, Penn. State extension farm management specialist. The changes include the crops he raises, the breed and number of animals on the farm, the places he sells, and his marketing methods.

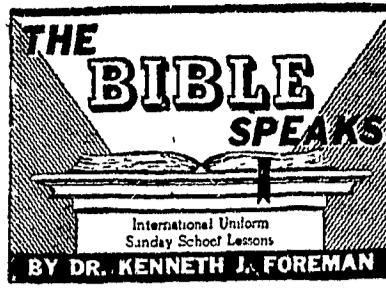
A white roof on farm buildings will reflect sun rays and lower the temperature inside the building by as much as 10 degrees.

Scandal is one thing that never gets shop worn by being continually passed around.

Uses for farm products in this country.

Congress, in the past, has contended that this would drive prices so low that two million farmers would be bankrupt within three years. Mr. Benson retorts that it would be better to bankrupt two million farmers than to continue an unsound program.

The next Congress will be pressured, both by Benson and by city taxpayers to reduce the cost of farm programs. That may be the big farm issue.



Bible Material: Mark 2:1-3:6.
Devotional Reading: I Peter 4:12-19.

Opposing Jesus

Lesson for November 23, 1958

WE COMPLAIN about other people on account of their faults. Suppose we met a man without fault? We should probably go right on complaining. We can be very critical of other people's sins; but suppose we met a sinless man for once? We should probably not know it; for we would, by long habit, go right on carping and complaining.

This is not just imagination. That was precisely what happened to Jesus of Nazareth. Many wonderful stories cluster about him, but one of the most amazing facts is that he had enemies. You would think that surely when the Divine Love in human form "went about doing good," the welcome would be unanimous. But it was not.



Dr. Foreman

Breaker of Patterns

We should not forget that Jesus did not die a natural death, he was murdered. And this not by some alley assassin, some mad crank. He was done to death by the forces of "law and order," by people high on the ladder of respectability. His opponents were not obscure persons from the criminal classes, they were people who had front seats in church. The murder on Calvary, for murder it was, like all events had its beginnings long before. What did Jesus do, what did he say, to induce solid and respected "pillars" of society to suspect, fear, hate him?

It was chiefly that he was a breaker of patterns. Those who disturb or even criticize other people's ways of life, ways of thought, always run into storms of opposition and abuse.

God on Our Streets!

One of the familiar patterns that Jesus broke was theological, an idea about God. This idea-pattern

Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH

County Agricultural Agent



Max Smith

TO GET YOUR AGRONOMY GUIDE — The 1959 edition of the Agronomy Guide has been recently released by our Extension Service. This publication carries timely information about the production of all crops including varieties, fertilizers, and cultural practices. We recommend it strongly for all county farmers.

TO CONTINUE CALFHOOD VACCINATION — The importance of vaccinating heifer calves from four to eight months of age should be recognized by all livestock breeders; this is one of the best methods of building resistance against the disease of brucellosis in the future herd. Local veterinarians should be consulted about this treatment.

TO SUPPLY SALT AND MINERALS — All livestock have free access to salt at all times; the custom of mixing salt with the grain is satisfactory but not sufficient for the best production from some animals. Also, it is important that minerals be furnished; the main mineral elements being calcium and phosphorus; this may be mixed with the feed at the rate of about two-pounds per hundred or more satisfactorily to furnish a trough or box containing minerals at all times. This is especially true with steers that are on heavy grain feeding.

TO PROVIDE FRESH AIR AND EXERCISE — Young dairy cattle and steers should not be housed tightly for best results; most animals prefer to spend a greater amount of time outside if given the chance. Yearling dairy heifers may be wintered in outside barns with an exercise lot; it is a waste of time to stall them and have to clean their stable each day. Steers will usually make more efficient use of their feed if allowed outside daily-exercise. Warm, stuffy barns are not adapted to heavy grain consumption and fast, efficient gains.

was that God was far off, "high and lifted up," remote from the stirrings and scramblings of men. But Jesus said things, strange things such as forgiving the sins of a man who had not so much as opened his mouth to say "I repent," so that it sounded as if he were actually claiming to be equal with God. A God in heaven men could understand, or thought they could. But a God who walks on our street, who talks to shady characters and even eats with them? A God focused in one human personality? No, this could not be, though the theologians, the Pharisees . . . and the spiritual descendants of the Pharisees to this very day oppose Christ, and the high claims made in his name, for the same reason.

"Our Way of Living"

For one person who opposed Jesus on theological grounds there must have been many more who opposed him on social grounds. Many church people will permit their preacher, for example, to have any theology he pleases; right left or center. But let the preacher move just a trifle to the left socially, and his resignation is requested. Jesus experienced this. He broke through old social patterns. It was thought then, just as many think today, that men can be measured by the social class to which they belong; and that there should never be crossing of class lines. Jesus broke with these old social patterns. "A man's a man for all that" describes his attitude to men. He knew that individuals are far more important than their class-status. But for this completely democratic attitude to men, he was opposed . . . and still is.

If Jesus started opposition by his claims to deity and his ignoring of many established social patterns, he aroused real horror in some people by his fresh and free attitude to moral problems. His healings on the Sabbath Day were cases in point. No one had a higher regard for the law of God than Jesus did. But his critics confused the law of God with their own interpretations of it. Jesus on the other hand would not believe that moral problems can be settled by formulas, or that the formulas of yesterday are always and invariably right, for today. Laws are good, but Jesus did not accept even the law of Moses as God's last word. Jesus' approach to every moral problem was to ask, in effect, "What is this doing to people?"

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