

Editorial

We used to read much about the nomads of ancient times—the desert dwellers who ever so often moved their tents, flocks and families from one place to another—but nothing in history has yet matched the mobility and restlessness of the American people.

According to the U. S. Bureau of Census, the decade of 1947-57 was a period of internal migration such as the nation had never known before. The Census Bureau figures show that actually about one-fifth of the civilian population, or not less than thirty million people, changed location every year in that period.

It is interesting to note that about two-thirds of these movers stayed in the same county in which they lived. The other third traveled farther, relocating either in another country or another state.

Whether by inclination or necessity, this "moving spirit" affected not only individuals and families, but institutions and industries as well. Decentralization led to the development of large suburban shopping centers and the building of industrial plants outside city limits all over the country. Changing farm conditions brought a steady migration from farm to city, in fact, altogether some six million farmers have moved to town since 1947.

The implications of such wholesale shift of population and industry can hardly be overemphasized. For one thing, economists tell us that it makes for good business. People on the move don't pile up money; they spend it. But we are wondering what it does to the social and spiritual character of the nation.

In former generations, it was not uncommon for one family to spend a whole lifetime on the same farm or at least in the same community. The early pioneers were generally known as settlers—people who stayed put. The result was a strong physical and sentimental attachment to a certain home or location. It created an inner stability that showed itself in the thinking, planning and living of the whole family. It built group solidarity.

There is much truth in what the poet says about it taking "a heap o' livin' to make a house a home." Unfortunately, all too few today stay long enough to do that amount of living in one particular house. Being able to pick up and go at will has its advantages, but the really lasting contributions are made by those who can invest their money and talents in a place which they can call their own—over a period of years.

—Mennonite Weekly

Credit holds the key to the future of the family-type farm in America, a na-

tional farm credit spokesman told members of the Fresno National Farm Loan Association at Fresno, Calif., last week.

Addressing the credit cooperative's 25th annual meeting, Robert B. Tootell, Governor, Farm Credit Administration, predicted that "good credit service can make it possible for the commercial family farm to endure and continue to dominate the farm scene by helping it become increasingly efficient."

"Credit makes possible the substitution of capital for labor on farms," Gov. Tootell pointed out, "and it is keeping the farm family in the swim of fierce competition that is featuring our changing agriculture today."

Farmers have already demonstrated their ability to operate efficiently, the farm leader said. "Only 12 percent of our working force as engaged in primary agricultural production. Yet, our farms are meeting our food and fiber needs today with considerable spare, thus releasing the other 88 percent of our people to produce other goods and services. This is an important factor contributing to our high standard of living. In many countries it takes a large part of the population to raise the needed food and fiber. As a result they have much lower standards of living."

However, Gov. Tootell warned area farmers that tremendous changes are taking place in our agriculture and in the structure of the market for agricultural products.

"Chain stores and super markets are growing rapidly in food retailing," Gov. Tootell said. "They demand large quantities of high quality, uniform farm production. Thus, the wise farmer is the one who produces to fit this market. He often uses cooperatives to enable him to join with other farmers to assemble, process, and market large quantities of uniform quality products. These and other changes have far reaching credit implications and are forcing farming to become more and more a business and less merely a way of life."

"The cooperative Farm Credit System, which serves as a mechanism for pooling farmers' credit and tapping the money centers, particularly demonstrated its value in 1957—the tightest money year since 1929. That year, farmers and their cooperatives borrowed nearly \$3 billion from the credit system. These loan funds were obtained primarily through the sale of bonds and debentures to the investing public. No farmer who had a sound basis for credit was turned down for lack of funds."

—The Farmers Exchange

or administrative agency they have two strikes on them. **A Fair Trial**

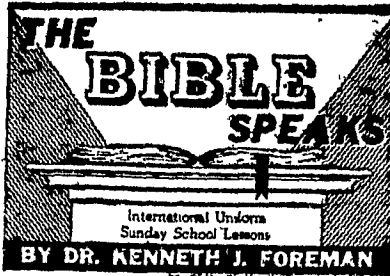
It is entirely within the province of congressional committees and properly constituted government agencies to hold hearings for the purpose of gathering information necessary to carry out their functions.

Those functions, however, should not include the power to act as a court of law to deprive citizens of their liberty or property. That is the proper function of our courts.

Some committees have operated on the theory that if they make their charges and insinuations strong enough a sizable portion of the public will believe there is guilt. (Turn to page 8)

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Bible Material: Luke 20 27-40; John 14 1-7.
 Devotional Reading: 2 Corinthians 4 13-15.

Death Not The End

Lesson for February 8, 1959

WHAT IS IT like in the next world? Some people ask because they desperately want to know how it fares with a loved one over there. Other people ask the question out of idle curiosity. Others still ask the question merely to show (if they can) how ridiculous any answer must be. It was this last sort of people who asked Jesus the old question about the much married woman who got to heaven and found her seven husbands there already. (They didn't put it just that way, though we would.) Their question was, Which of the seven ex-husbands would be the right one for the heavenly duration? It was an old chestnut, no one could possibly claim to know enough to answer it. So they tried it on Jesus.



Dr. Foreman

Death and the Bible

As with so many of Jesus' answers to questions which in themselves were stupid, silly or malicious, in answering this question Jesus ignored the single case these hecklers brought up, and went right to the root of the matter. The fact was, the Sadducees who asked this question did not believe in life after death for anybody, at all, any where, any time. The Jews who did believe, and Jesus himself, did not speak of "heaven" and "hell" as a rule, but lumped all the future life together in the one expression, "the Resurrection." When they said "the Resurrection", they did not mean Jesus' or Lazarus' or any one person's resurrection. They meant the life-beyond-this-life, the ultimate life God has in store for his human creatures. Where most Christians today would say "the immortal life" or something of that sort, they said "the Resurrection." Jesus did not argue with the

unbelieving Sadducees, gave them two plain reasons why they made the mistake of all life after death. One they did not know the

Another reason for the Sadducees' doubt, Jesus said, was their ignorance of the power of the resurrection. Many people think of the resurrection as a natural sort of thing on a par with spring butterflies. The Bible on the other hand always looks on the resurrection as a gift of God's grace. Mortality is not something God cannot rob us, so the resurrection is something which God bestows on us. Arguments about what "can" or "can't" be done in this life, are not only out of pure ignorance, but more especially the Power of God who is Love. We do not know what God will provide, but we do know that He will provide whatever his wisdom choose.

"Beyond"

Jesus dropped a hint about the nature of the future life. Many Christians have been fearful even though it does not mean answer all the questions one can ask. This hint is in the shocking statement that at the Resurrection there is no marrying nor giving in marriage, but that human beings will be like the angels (he did not say they would be angels!) in heaven. If there is any one element of human life which is universal, it is sex. To be beyond the life beyond is not to be on the sex-centered plane. One, leaves us wondering if it is not all. In every respect most all, that we can conceive of, "Life Beyond" is in the sense beyond. It is beyond experience, beyond all our imaginings. Many religions imagine the next life in terms of one, only with more of the same. There is imagery in the Bible of this sort, too. But the Bible bears out this hint of Jesus: the next life is not just one more of the same. It is beyond the Christian; it is worse than that. It is a life which we know about it is as Jesus himself said, and it is "Where I am, you may not know." It is all we need to know, but we cannot be there. That we cannot see the blueprint of heaven is not that it does not exist.

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For Publication Week of

Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH

TO ACCEPT FARM SUPPLIES EARLY—Many concerns offer discounts provided the farmer takes the goods before the spring and summer rush season. The one way to reduce production costs as well as to get the kind and quality of supplies needed. In many cases the popular brands and varieties are not available when needed.

TO PROTECT STORED FARM SUPPLIES—Seeds and fertilizers may be stored for months, and in some cases for years, provided they are stored in dry places and protected from rodents and insects. In the case of fertilizer, it is important to keep it away from all moisture; rain, snow, even moisture from the ground will cause caking and in some cases with nitrogen fertilizers may cause combustion and fire the building. Rodents and moisture are most common enemies of stored seeds.

TO PROVIDE EXERCISE FOR HERDS AND FLOCKS—Daily outside exercise is very essential to the health of breeding sows and the ewe flock at this time of the year. With the swine herd it is quite common that sows are confined and watered in a small pen and not given a chance to get about. In many cases this causes an over-weight condition resulting in weak pigs and awkward sows at farrowing time. With the ewe flock insufficient exercise may result in pregnant ewe disease or weak lambs. The feeding of hay, grain, or water in separate ends of the exercise pen will force animals to move about even in the dead of winter.

TO RECOGNIZE VALUE OF NITROGEN—Practically all plant growth is stimulated by the addition of nitrogen as a fertilizer; from farm manures and especially poultry manure. Nitrogen is one of the most important plant nutrients. Commercial fertilizers carrying only nitrogen in large percentages of nitrogen, will also give more growth. Top-dressing of winter wheat or grass pastures early in the spring will increase yields of most crops. Earlier grazing may also be realized through the use of nitrogen.



Davidson

THIS WEEK

—In Washington

With Clinton Davidson

Headline Hunters

Congressional investigating committees are beginning to line up big business executives to give them the same kind of "treatment" meted out in previous Congresses to communists and labor racketeers.

The crime they are to be accused of is that they are "conspiring" to raise prices and thus cause inflation. One legislative proposal would require businesses to give the government advance notice of any intention to raise prices.

Staff investigators from at least four business investigating committees have begun or soon will begin, probing into business files and records in search of evidence on which to hale business men before the committees for public hearings.

President Eisenhower's State of the Union message, which dealt at length with the danger of inflation, did nothing to reassure business that it can expect a "friend" in court when put on trial before the congressional committees.

Anti-Business Drive

Business men we have talked with fear that the advance notice proposal, if adopted, would result in government-administered pricing just as the Interstate Commerce Commission, for example, establishes transportation rates.

The thoroughly disturbed Wall Street Journal, which usually reflects business thinking, recently headlined a warning that Congress plans the "Biggest Anti-Business Drive Since the New Deal."

The U. S. Chamber of Commerce, which also has big business interests, is quoted as saying "they (the committees) won't lay the cause of inflation at labor's door. They have to find a scapegoat, and business is it."

It could be that business men are "talking scared," but if so they are being given some very plausible reasons for doing so.

Many business men are becoming convinced that the government is against them and that any time they appear before a congressional