

Editorial

The addage — a chain is only as strong as its weakest link—can be used in analyzing agriculture. There are many strong links. Livestock, for example, can make more rapid gains with less feed because of drugs and more efficient methods of feeding and housing. Crop production has nearly doubled through the use of insecticides, fungicides and prescription fertilizing. But at the end of the chain is a weak link which can throttle or nullify the effects of all previous improvements. This is the economic or marketing link. Fortunately, it hasn't gone unnoticed. Land grant colleges and the USDA have greatly expanded and improved their marketing research and studies. However, at present, most of this knowledge is concentrated in these groups and agencies who are "in the know." It has yet to filter down to the individual farmer in the form of simple, basic and usable information. We must agree that economic outlooks are fine but, unfortunately, they only tell what is likely to happen—not why. We hope that our marketing knowledge will soon be able to catch the speeding train of technical advancement. Only then will agricultural producers be able to fully use marketing as an effective tool.

We want to take this opportunity to congratulate the National Grange and the Sears-Roebuck Foundation who have just completed their jointly sponsored Community Service Contest. This contest, the winners of which were Grange chapters, is designed to help rural communities improve themselves through the establishment or improvement of religious centers, schools, hospitals, health centers,

roads and recreational facilities. Efforts are also made to improve land utilization and productivity. Many other aspects of rural concern are targets hit by the contest. It should set an excellent example for other organizations and help to convince non-believers that farm organizations devote at least part of their time to non-political activities and that commercial interests are truly interested in a better America.

How long has it been since you took a morning or afternoon and inspected your farm? We don't mean to take a look at the financial records you keep or at those hogs or steers in the feed lot. Instead, we mean for you to take a long walk and inspect every field on the farm. This may sound rather strange, but we believe many farmers would find it beneficial to take a casual but thorough and serious look at their farm. They should let nothing go unnoticed. Is that new tile drain or diversion ditch performing its duty? Does that handfull of soil feel "right" to the touch? Are those newly planted trees growing satisfactorily? Is as much soil being lost on that back 40 as was being lost 10 years ago because of erosion? How bad is the heaving and winterkill in permanent pastures and small grains? Will that line fence have to be replaced before next year? These are only a few of the items—there are many more. Such an on-the-farm excursion may prove to be very rewarding through the discovery of small but insignificant conditions that, collectively, could spell the difference between success and failure.

—The Indiana Farmer



Davidson

THIS WEEK —In Washington With Clinton Davidson Extra-Legal Law

There has grown up in relatively recent times a fourth branch of the Federal government that, although little known outside of Washington, wields an important influence over every person in the country. This fourth, known as "regulatory agencies," exercises all the functions of the other three — legislative, administrative and judicial.

These agencies have the authority to make rulings and decisions that have the full force of law, and then administer those rulings. They are not a part of our court system, but they exercise court powers.

There is no uniform code that governs their operations. Each has more or less made its own rules as it went along. Naturally, as a result each of the more than 30 such agencies operates under different procedures.

Three Hats
Congress over the past past quarter of a century has created so many boards, committees and commissions that it now has created special investigating committees to gather information to be used in adopting a "uniform code of ethics" for them.

Among the agencies, etc. involved are the Federal Communications Commission, the Federal Trade Commission, the Civil Aeronautics Administration, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Interstate Commerce, and a long list of others.

Those agencies, through their regulatory powers, exercise a life and death authority over almost every form of business. They determine such things as which radio or TV stations and programs can listen to, where and when airplanes can fly and the fare they charge.

Almost no business of any

consequence can operate without the permission and approval of one or more of these regulatory agencies. And, if they don't like the way you operate, they can put you out of business.

Wearing one of their three hats they can make laws. Under another they can act as a court to interpret those laws. Under still another they have the power to enforce their decisions.

Centralized Power
Probably the most significant development in the field of Federal government in the past generation has been the progressive shifting of legislative powers from the Congress to these agencies and the increasing displacement of court functions by the growing number of administrative tribunals.

Although perhaps not the intent or purpose, the creation of new agencies with tripartite-judicial powers, is rapidly leading us toward an all-powerful Central Government.

It is I think, a dangerous practice for Congress to delegate its lawmaking powers to appointed agencies, not directly responsible to the people. It is equally dangerous to delegate court powers to any body which is not a part of our system of courts.

The framers of the Constitution wisely created three separate branches of government under a system of balances. When a fourth, with all the powers of the three, is created it is a desperate gamble with our basic rights.

Many, and perhaps all, of these regulatory agencies are needed in our highly complex economy and society. The point here, and in a later article, is that we must become alert to the dangers of this system of "Government by proxy"

Pipeline Milkers Cut Labor 20%

Pipeline milking systems permit dairymen to get more for their labor at milking time — enabling them to get along with fewer men and add more cows to their herd according to a recent year long study at Cornell Univ.

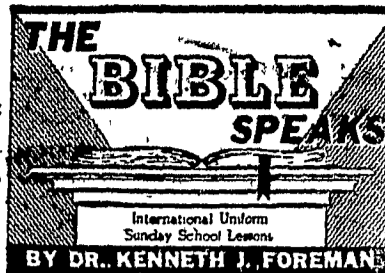
The study further showed that for many dairymen, improved milking procedures made possible an efficient one-man business of 30 cows or more. Total chore time for farmers with loose housing milking-parlor arrangements was found to average eight minutes per cow daily. This compares with 10 minutes per cow daily for farms with around the barn systems in stall barns.

The researchers point out that, while pipeline milking systems are expensive, the original costs decrease as herd size increases. With 30 to 40 cows, the initial outlay may be less than \$2,000, money that can be recovered by savings in time and labor. For 40 cows the savings represent more than nine hours of weekly labor, or 485.6 hrs. yearly. Rating his time at common labor prices, the farmer stands to save nearly \$1,000 annually with the modern system.

Patrolize Lancaster Farming Advertisers.

Lancaster Farming

Lancaster County's Own Farm Weekly
P. O. Box 1524
Lancaster, Penna.
Offices:
53 North Duke St.
Lancaster, Penna.
Phone - Lancaster
EXpress 4-3047
Dan McGrew, Editor;
Robert G. Campbell, Advertising
Director & Business Manager
Established November 4, 1955
Published every Saturday by
Lancaster Farming, Lancaster Pa.
Entered as 2nd class matter at
Lancaster, Pa. under Act of Mar.
3, 1879 additional entry at Mount
Joy, Pa.
Subscription Rates: \$2 per year;
three years \$5. Single copy Price
M-ers
ial A



International Uniform
Sunday School Lessons
BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

Bible Material: Matthew 25:31-46, Mark 13:1-37.
Devotional Reading: 1 Peter 4:12-19.

Trouble and Faith

Lesson for February 22, 1959

IT IS A thousand pities, but it is a fact, that the Christian church, which ought to be united by the Bible, has become split over it. Not split by it, but over it, in varying and discordant interpretations of what the Bible means. No passage in all Scripture has been the subject of more debates and differences than this 13th chapter of Mark, along with the parallel chapters, Matthew 24 and Luke 21. These are the chapters that report what Jesus said as he looked down the vista of time to the "end of the age." (That is a more literal translation of the Greek expression sometimes translated "end of the world.") Many Christians, despairing of getting any unanimous explanation of these difficult sayings, have just given up the whole business as a waste of time. Yet these chapters are not a mere puzzle.



Dr. Foreman

Faith Expects Troubles

Let us stick to one general helpful truth which meets us here, namely the relation of trouble and faith. First of all, as Jesus looks down the years, he does not see the light growing brighter and brighter. At least, he does not see the future with the eye of the unadulterated optimist. He uses some frightening language—wars, earthquakes, famines, "abomination of desolation," tribulation, and darkness at noon as at midnight. Jesus gave no backing to the idea that if you have faith enough "all your troubles will be bubbles" as the song says. Some troubles are very solid, they can smash a man and his hopes. No matter what goodness there may be in the world, no matter how good God is, there are going to be troubles ahead. People who give up their faith in God because they run into a squall-line of trouble-clouds, which they can

neither fly over, and cannot have read the Jesus very carefully. If Jesus had seen of darkness he would pessimist. If we follow shall by faith see not as a certainty (though, and when, only) but also we shall see troubles. Most important see God on his through famous story of Mary whose wife once appeared in deep mourning was astonished. "Who asked. "God must be answered. "At any time been going around week looking and talking were dead." Martin Luther point God is not dead many Christians were looking ahead, see troubles, and not the God wisdom without whose row falls. Beyond that we see Christ coming not true to Christians of the future as stretchless, a never-ceasing out victory. Between all that Christ lived will come to pass "The tribulations we must Kingdom," Paul said.

Faith Outlives Trouble

Jesus did not play down or underestimate what women who follow him called upon to undergo many troubles before troubles, as he pointed expressions like "the sufferings . . . the yet . . ." Even in a Christian's ordinary life one who dies centuries "end of the age," the troubles which will be crushing apart from God. But the point of living on the earth even though heavens (and earth pass away, the men and women shall not pass away. You, wherever you are afraid that these things may be swept away? So God's word assures us swiftly or by slow degrees wears the solid granite visible are destined to destruction. But not all visible! You, the real You, will outlive all. But how? In terror, call to faith to cover you, O faith?

(Based on outlines of the Division of Christian National Council of the Christ in the U. S. A. Community Press Service)

Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



Max Smith

TO KEEP DAIRY COWS WELL FED—Comfortable quarters for the ing herd is very essential; high production over a period of years depends upon udder health. Concrete should be used at all times with some form of bedding, the knees and hocks should be bedded and by all means have a thick bedding between the concrete and the der.

TO PREVENT CALF DISEASE—pneumonia and scours are two common ailments of the young calf; these cases are more common during the winter months; clean, dry quarters on the and sunny side of the barn are ways of trying to prevent these infections; also, pens free from drafts are important. Frequent cleaning and disinfecting of the stall or recommended.

TO MAKE BROADCAST SEEDINGS EARLY—success may be expected with the broadcast method seeding grasses and legumes early in the spring rather later. In the case of legumes such as alfalfa and clover is recommended that the seeding be made the last 10 of February or the first week in March. With this method the alternating freezing and thawing of the topsoil is needed to get sufficient cover. This may not be possible if seeding is made late in March or during April.

TO PREPARE FOR WILD GARLIC SPRAY—The effective time to spray for killing wild garlic is in the spring when the plants are about six inches high; this should come early in March depending upon the season. The first weed spray to be put on each season should be the ester form of 2, 4-D at the rate of three to four pounds per acre. Dairymen should recognize the value of this and make every effort to reduce the garlic so that the red milk will be less of a problem.