

FROM WHERE WE STAND

Don't Let Your Skimmer Leak

Some of us can still remember how Grandpa milked old Bossie by hand and strained the milk into a crock in the cold water at the springhouse. After it had cooled, Grandma came out with a long handled, shallow ladel and skimmed off the cream.

Skimming off the cream was not a hard job, but then Grandma had to be very careful that some of the cream did not dribble back into the crock because then she not only lost what leaked back, but the rest got stirred up and she could not skim it.

Well, the days of the crock in the springhouse are a long-ago memory, but some of us are still letting our skimmers leak. Agricultural research has given us the cream in improved strans, varieties, implements, and methods, but we are letting profits dribble away because we are not particular enough about details.

As a case in point, we all know Lancaster county farms are capable of producing 100 (plus) bushels of corn most years, yet one agricultural leader this year said that after taking a series of yield tests he is convinced that a majority of the farmers in the county are growing less than 60 bushels average. With hybrid varieties to fit all conditions, insecticides, fungicides and herbicides to control pests, improved machinery, fertilizing materials for all soil types, and improved cultural practices for the using, somewhere along the line the skimmer is leaking.

It does not insure success to adopt one approved practice and forget about the rest. Sometimes one small factor may be the difference between profit and loss. When a teacher of Vocational Agriculture asked a boy why he hadn't stayed with his sow while she farrowed, the boy answered, "Well she lost only one," but that one pig multiplied by several farrowings might mean the difference between a growing business or a going out of business sign.

Several years ago a young dairyman asked the writer to help him analyze his farming records to see if he could find out why his dairy was not making money. We looked at as fine a set of rec-

ords as you could ask to see. In the barn we looked at the cows (some good ones) and the young man started to point out individuals and their records.

"This cow returned \$225 over feed cost last year. This one was a boarder. This one cost us \$150 to keep." The look of surprise he got caused him to hasten to explain, "Well, that cow has been around so long Dad just hates to get rid of her."

That was where his skimmer leaked. In culling you have to be ruthless enough to forget sentimentality and believe the records.

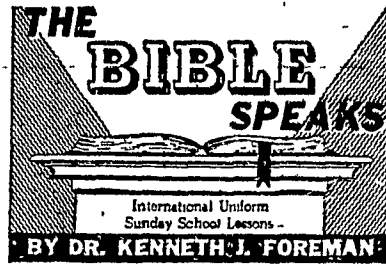
Professor Joseph Hanlein, dairy specialist at the University of Delaware said in a speech recently that the average cow in the United States has the inherited ability to produce much more milk than the American farmer is getting out of her. He went on to explain that only about 14 per cent of the milk a cow produces is attributable to her heredity. The other 86 per cent is controlled by feeding and management. Professor Hanlein continued by pointing out that a farmer can take a cow with good blood lines, feed her a perfectly balanced ration, breed her at the right time, and then with improper milking procedures cut her production by as much as 30 per cent. That is a lot of cream to drip back from a leaky skimmer.

A few years ago one of the major feed companies went into the Ozark hill country and bought a load of native razorback sows. These sows had averaged less than three pigs per litter before they went to the test farm, but after a period of feeding and conditioning they were bred to healthy boars and raised an average of over eight pigs each.

All this is reminiscent of the story about the book salesman who ended his sales pitch to the farmer by saying, "With these agriculture books you can farm twice as good as you farm now." to which the old fellow replied, "Shucks, son, I don't farm half as good as I know how now."

We have the cream and we know how to dip it up, but we had better learn how to keep our skimmers from leaking.

At least that's how it looks from where we stand.



Bible Material: Acts 4:32 through 5:16.
Devotional Reading: I John 4:11-21.

Fellowship of ... ?

Lesson for November 1, 1959

THE CHURCH is never called the "fellowship of believers" in the New Testament, but it is often called that, nowadays, by Christians. There is a good reason for the name. The early church was a fellowship of believers. This means as the record shows us, that the early Christians were of "one heart and soul." This does not mean that they thought alike, for the writer of Acts carefully avoids saying they were of one mind. They were united not in opinions but in their faith. They were believers-in rather than believers-about. A perfectly unanimous church, all holding the identical opinions in the identical way, would not be a Christian church, but a congregation of parrots. Belief is more than opinion; and in this broader sense the church is indeed a fellowship of believers.



Dr. Foreman

Givers

Is this all? It might be all, if Christian faith were the dead sort of thing some people think it is. But faith, as we see it in the lives of New Testament Christians, never appears by itself. We read that these believers worked out a scheme to eliminate poverty among them. The scheme did not work, for we know that some years later collections were being taken up for the benefit of the Jerusalem church. But all the same, nobody—especially no apostle—arose to say to that church, "All your concern with people's property and their living conditions is off the Christian beam. It is out of our line, it is not a Christian's business to know how other people live. Religion is belief, it is not distribution of worldly goods." There is little doubt that some must have talked that way, because some talk that way today. But the church of those

days did find it their duty to see to it that no one was left in need. In an old American city half a million people were helped early this year. They could no longer help themselves. The sequence was that in the city they drifted closer and closer to starvation. There was no one to help feed these helpless people. They were barely half the church contribution or showing. These count themselves "believing" churches — they believe?

Doers

Every church congregation is expecting too much of its members. The readings from the week after week are not merely a book to be read. It is not only to be believed, either. It is to be done. Jesus drew a line between hearers and doers, and the early church not only did, but it did it with food and clothing, the health of the members. They did not wait for the presence of disease before they were by such tragedies, that they could, and it was their duty to deal, to relieve and with them. In short, the church was a Fellowship of Doers.

All churches are made up of people who pray. But the feature of that early church was that they longed to it prayed to be together. We do not know that the prayer began with "Sovereign Lord, who has created all things, whose collection of people we are not left in doubt, was the prayer of every man. When the minister pray" he means it. When the minister unite in prayer, 'does congregation do it, O him pray along with about something else.

Churches are too often with being sitting. Supper, Fellowship, singing, giving, doing—what God really together for—go hal done at all.

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



Davidson

THIS WEEK

—In Washington

With Clinton Davidson

Laud Senator

Twenty years or more ago a beloved national humorist got more laughs from his wisecracks about Congressmen than from any other source, and the unintentional effect has been a lasting misconception regarding the work and character of the average member of Congress. We have tried from time to time in this column to provide a more correct picture of our public servants, and so this week we are doing a bright sketch of one of our favorite Congressmen, Sen. Willis A. Robertson of Virginia.

Sen. Robertson is chairman of the powerful Senate Banking and Currency Committee, which has jurisdiction over the Securities and Exchange Commission, Small Business Administration, Export-Import Bank, Export Controls, Price and Wage Controls of the Defense Production Act, Consumer Credit Controls, Housing and all Securities Legislation, the Federal Reserve Board, and the National Banking Act. What Are Senators Made Of?

At a public meeting of the Ways and Means Committee of the House, in 1941, my wife remarked: "The fourth man on the Democratic side has such a splendid personality; it accents kindness and even a degree of serenity. Who is he?"

When I called on this gentleman (then Representative Robertson in his sixth term as a member of the House) I learned that his father was a Baptist minister, a ripe scholar who could read the Bible fluently in Greek, Latin and Hebrew; that he devoted the best years of his life as a home missionary serving mountain churches in southwest Virginia, or as Rep. Robertson expressed it at that time "He rode a mule as to preach in small church-

es." As a result of this heritage Sen. Robertson has been an active member of the Senate Wednesday breakfast group which discusses Biblical teaching, and he tries to serve the Nation in a manner pleasing to the Lord.

While a member of the House Ways and Means Committee, in which all tax legislation must originate, the Virginian statesman helped write 12 tax bills, steered the Hull Reciprocal Trade Agreements Program, was largely responsible for simplification of income tax forms, and for the "pay-as-you-go" tax plan. Economy in Government

His fiscal studies first as a member and then as chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, served him well on the Senate Banking and Currency Committee, on which he served 12 years before becoming Chairman, and in his work as member of five Senate Appropriations subcommittees which handled 96 per cent of the total budget.

I know from long personal relations with the Senator, that he has consistently worked for economy and a balanced budget, while at the same time sponsoring relatively inexpensive but vital items which have been of great assistance to farmers.

Although Sen. Robertson has received numerous plaudits for this effective work on the several important financial committees of Congress, in the opinion of this writer his religious heritage and religious activities are responsible for his absolute integrity and fairness at all times.

Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



MAX SMITH

TO ALLOW COWS TO GRIND OWN HAY—The practice of grinding several hundred pounds of ground ton of dairy feed is not favored and feeding recommendations with great variation in the quality of hay is included. In addition, the hay is made more bulky and in turn stored in heavier amounts. Ground hay has a place in a ration with high moisture grains in order to prevent heat molding.

TO EXTEND PASTURE SEASON — Livestock production can be continued until the freezing weather snows over. Pasture crops such as winter rye, domestic veygrass, field brome grass, or any of the grass pastures such as bluegrass or orchardgrass grazed late in the fall without danger to livestock. However, legumes after frosts and freezing weather should be regarded as dangerous from the standpoint of bloating.

TO FERTILIZE COVER CROPS—Many winter cover crops will continue to grow late into the fall; additional fertilizer such as straight nitrogen or a complete fertilizer will increase the growth of the crops and produce more matter to turn under next spring.

TO MOW LAWNS—The question of how late in the season a lawn should be mowed is often discussed. Turf experts recommend that the grass be clipped regularly as it grows. The idea of allowing extra growth for winter protection may only increase the trouble from snow mold and other fungus diseases. Mow as long as there is grass.

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