

FROM WHERE WE STAND

You Must First Cast Out The Beam

Several weeks ago the Lancaster County Pomona Grange passed a resolution urging stricter enforcement of the litter laws along our highways. This is, we feel, a worthy project. Those of us who travel along the main roads through the county and those of us who work on the farms along those roads can not help being appalled at the tremendous amount of litter that collects along the highways.

The law is explicit and should be enforced more rigidly, as it is enforced in some of our neighboring states, but lets take a look at the other side of the picture. The Holy Scriptures according to the New Testament advises us to first cast out the beam that is in thine own eye and then thou can see clearly to cast out the mote that is in thy brother's eye.

Not many weeks ago we were told of a very near accident when an automobile skidded on a curve covered with manure which had sifted off the spreader as it went from barnyard to field. There is a law on the books prohibiting loads that sift onto the highways, and we feel that it is important too. This may be an isolated case, and perhaps the driver of the car was probably over critical because he was personally involved, but even one accident needlessly caused is one too many.

Now we are not saying that two wrongs make a right or that one wrong excuses another, but we are asking that we take a good look at ourselves. Sometimes we are prone to criticize others for the things we are guilty of ourselves.

As an example of what we mean take the report of the National Livestock Conservation committee. They report that every year thousands of dollars are lost by farmers because their livestock reach the slaughter houses with bruises and other injuries from broken equipment, protruding nails and other sharp objects where livestock is housed or handled. Packers report that one of the biggest causes of loss to carcasses is bruises

caused by improper handling and poor or broken handling equipment. This does not take into account the hundreds of head of high priced breeding stock killed or injured on the farm and never reaching the packing house.

How long has it been since you took a good look behind the barn. We are so much in the habit of looking toward the road and seeing the nice clean lawn that we sometimes forget that our livestock look at the farm from a different angle.

We were on a farm recently while the cows were being driven up the lane from the pasture. Sitting right across the lane was an old discarded weeder too worn out to ever be used in the field again. Long ago it could have been turned into cash as scrap, or with two minutes of time it could have been pulled to the other side of the fence where its pointed teeth and sharp corners would cease to be a threat to the delicate udders of high producing dairy cows. But through neglect or pressure of time the job was put off and the hazard remains.

We realize that the owner of that property has the right to clutter the area behind his barn with scrap and litter if he so desires, but is it logical to ask for punishment for others when we create nearly the same hazards ourselves.

We believe that we should look to law enforcement officials to uphold the statutes of the commonwealth, but we also feel that we as farmers should accept part of the responsibility too. We have seen farm families on the road throw objects out the window of their car onto the property of others, and some of these same farmers would be the first to complain about litter if it were on their farms.

Let's all get behind the Grange and see to it that this fine law is enforced, but let's not stop there. We as farmers must first recognize and correct some of our faults before we can demand that the same faults in others be corrected.

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



Davidson

THIS WEEK

—In Washington

With Clinton Davidson

Too Much?

With the 1959 harvest season in full swing this week farmers are gathering another bumper crop of almost everything except cash.

For the second year in a row total farm marketings this year will set a new record, yet net farm income will be more than a billion dollars under last year.

That is the heart of the farm problem which has Washington more worried than ever before. It means higher costs of government farm programs at the same time that farmers are having their income cut.

It means, too, that there will be heavy pressure of Congress next year to do something about (1) growing

surpluses and rising farm program costs, and (2) farm income depressed to the point where it endangers national prosperity.

Despite farm income officially estimated by USDA at 12 per cent below last year, farmers are spending almost half a billion dollars more in farm operating expenses. They are caught in a tightening cost-price squeeze. **City Workers Hit** . . .

When farmers' income is reduced by a billion dollars and they must spend half a billion more for the things they buy it means they must either cut down on family living expenses or go deeper into debt.

Many are doing both. When they reduce their buying of such "luxuries" as automobiles, refrigerators, clothing, etc., it means fewer jobs for factory workers. And, when factory workers lose their jobs they must cut down on purchases of the things farmers produce. Also, they buy fewer things that other factory workers produce.

That is why many people who take the trouble to look at both sides of the "farm problems," realize that when farmers are hurt many city people also suffer. What city workers gain in cheap food they more than lose in the loss of farm customers for what they produce for sale to farmers.

For every farmer on the

land there are three people in towns and cities who make a living processing and marketing farm products or in manufacturing trucks, tractors, automobiles, clothing, etc., that farmers buy. **Smear Campaign**

All of us hear and read about the \$7 billion a year "farm program" costs and some assume that this is money paid to farmers as a subsidy. The facts completely disprove the charges that the government is "keeping farmers in clover and Cadillacs."

Of that amount almost \$2 billion a year goes to finance foreign aid programs. More than \$600 million is spent for food for free distribution to schools, charitable institutions and others in this country.

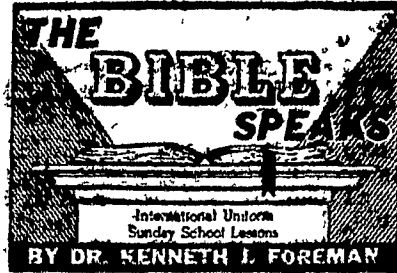
It includes, too, more than \$500 million in loans to REA and other cooperatives, which farmers repay in full, with interest. Another \$650 million goes for such things as research to improve food quality, for meat inspection and like programs of primary benefit to consumers.

Half a billion a year is invested in preserving our soil, water and timber resources in order to assure a plentiful supply of food for future generations. The charge that farmers are "getting something for nothing" from the government is completely false.

Until city people understand that, as farmers already do, Washington is going to have difficulty in making the needed changes in present farm laws.

You don't buy safety, you build it.

Better not invite trouble. It always accepts.



Bible Material: Acts 5:17-42.
Devotional Reading: Psalm 37:30-40.

God First

Lesson for November 8, 1959

"WE MUST OBEY God rather than men." So said the Apostles long ago. It is one of the famed quotations from the Bible. Is this just something from "Bible times" or does it mean something today?

"In God We Trust" is a motto everybody has seen on his money.

But how many people do trust in God more than in money? They say that the difference between North and South America is that the Europeans who came to settle South America came to find gold, but those who came to North America came to find God. Is this true? And if it is, could you guess it from what North Americans spend their time running after?



Dr. Foreman

What Kind of God?

"Everybody talkin' about heaven ain't goin' there," an old "spiritual" sings. You might add, "Everybody talkin' about God ain't his real friend." With better grammar we might say that there is a lot of talk about God, in magazines and clubs and newspapers and even in the church, that is no more than talk. It does not go deep and it means very little. But even when it does go deep and mean something, does it mean the right thing? We don't want to be pessimistic about this. We don't mean to accuse the whole population of being hypocrites. Nevertheless there is an appalling lot of loose talk (set to music sometimes) about God. "GOD FIRST" is a noble motto. A God who is not first is no God. But "God first" is noble only if it means the right kind of God—or in other words the true God, for the true God is the only right kind of God there is.

Therefore all wrong kinds of God are actually no gods at all,

Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



MAX SMITH

TO CHECK DAIRY BARN VENTILATION

—Many dairy barns are filled to capacity and thus difficult to properly ventilate. An electric fan exhaust system is recommended and with a thermostat gives good results. Preventive maintenance: take out the foul air, remove excess moisture, and keep temperatures low. Surely add to cow comfort and to quality milk production. Special literature on the subject is available.

TO SPRAY CHICKWEED—Moderate

culture includes weeds that grow during the winter. Therefore, we must apply chemical sprays this fall. Chickweed infestation in grass and hay fields should be applied during November and December. The chickweed plants become mature. The DiNitro should be applied earlier when the weather is warm. The Chloro IPC Sprays when temperatures are below 60 degrees. Do not wait until next February or March for control.

TO WATCH THAT FRESH COW—Many good cows

lost due to faulty care and management at freshening time; this is especially true in the fall and winter. Chilling or injury to the udder of the fresh cow may result in a severe case of mastitis. At freshening time the cow should be provided with plenty of room in a clean, well-bedded box stall. Feed her a balanced ration and gradually as milk flow increases and depending upon the quality of the roughage.

TO RECOGNIZE THE VALUE OF QUALITY ROUGHAGE

—The winter feeding program has started on many stock and dairy farms; we stress the liberal use of roughages as the foundation of all feeding programs. Roughages from quality roughages are cheaper than the milk from grains. With herds of dairy cattle, sheep, and horses feed costs will be reduced if large amounts of quality roughages are fed. A complete forage test will reveal the quality of roughage that you are feeding this fall.

only make-believe gods out in the minds of people. For instance, about "the Man up there" may think they are gods, but they are not. A man, not even an infidel man.

Rival Gods

It is not far wrong whatever a person's heart puts first, the gods. Religious people worship God from whom all blessings come. But if we may judge by their actions they would prefer another god. They would have a rival god. It would be "Praise God which all blessings flow, wealth, but public opinion, power, success, height of tailfins and in the motor) may lead God to those who are coming from such things. It is perfectly harmless. It may be a pretty toy, is only a doll. But if you hold a doll and so on, and prays to it, it is bad. Success and security things; it is when they become rivals to the true God.

Loyalty Oath

We hear a good deal about loyalty oaths. The fact is that a man who is a professed member of a church or a public body, when he has taken a loyalty oath, is bound to it. Now what? If that is the case, if he is seldom in the church again, if he is counted on to share the work, if he cannot give a tenth of his income to the Lord, then a loyalty oath amounts to nothing. Temperance Sunday, a day of abstinence, a man sort, is living without for others, not for our own comforts. A "member" who habitually indulges in luxuries (whether or not he shares for the needy (in mind or spirit) through all the members in name only. Can "God First," we can obey God first. A man who is himself alone shows after all, a stranger.

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