

FROM WHERE WE STAND

I Had No Shoes And Complained

An old Persian proverb states, "I had no shoes and complained until I met a man who had no feet."

For several years the favorite topic of the alarmists has been our growing pile of surplus supplies of food and fiber. Almost every columnist in the country has succumbed to the urge to take a poke at the surplus problem. Almost everyone and everything has been blamed for the buildup of agricultural commodities in the United States.

We have been so propogandized by the alarmists that we have largely lost sight of the real problem. We have been told that we must curtail agricultural production. "Cut livestock numbers and put more acres out of crop production", say these self appointed economists. And all the while the plant geneticists and livestock breeders are giving us better strains and varieties and better cultural methods. Even with thousands of acres being taken out of agricultural production every day for housing or industrial development, and our population growing at phenomenal rates, supply is still keeping up with the demand.

And so the controversy rages. Acting Secretary of Agriculture, True D. Morse added fuel to the fire recently in commenting on storage facilities, when he said that the Commodity Credit Corporation is currently holding more than two million bushels of grain in commercial storage. The bill to the American taxpayer is over a million dollars a day, and this is just for the storage, not purchase of the grain.

Extremists take this figure and do all sorts of things with it. We would be foolish to say that 365 million dollars a year is small change, but lets just compare it to a few other figures the nation

produces. In 1957 the American people had forced upon them 410 million dollars worth of advertisement of alcoholic beverages. It must have been effective advertising because that same year we in America paid out 10 billion dollars for that alcohol. In the same year over 10 billion was spent for tobacco and twice that amount went for gambling. Just one billion in a year would be almost 3 million every day. Can you imagine worrying about one million for storage when we throw away almost 60 million on gambling in the same amount of time.

Right now we do have a temporary over supply of several farm commodities, and we are not trying to minimize the seriousness of the situation, but we think that is just what we have — temporary over supply.

Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra Taft Benson, recently told the national officers of the Future Farmers of America that our so called surpluses could very well become a blessing in disguise if there should be a serious world famine.

Even today there are over a billion persons in the world who woke up hungry this morning and will go to bed tonight without even one square meal. Over half the people in the world are perpetually underfed while we labor under surpluses.

If the alarmists would like to attack something, let them attack our system of food distribution rather than trying to hamstring progress by curtailing production.

We should all be truly thankful that we live in a country blessed with the ability to produce surpluses.

We should not complain about our lack of shoes when much of the world tries to progress without feet.

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

incident on the grounds that the industry was in the process of setting up its own organization to prevent such things as this from happening.

At the suggestion of the FCC, I talked with the party who headed this organization and asked him what penalty would result from someone violating criminal laws on television. He replied that his organization intended to provide a seal of good behavior for broadcasters and that in the event of such violations this accrediting seal would be taken away.

Television is having its difficulties today and will have even greater future difficulties, largely because the industry has not been willing to inflict any more than a "tap on the wrist" punishment by removing a seal.

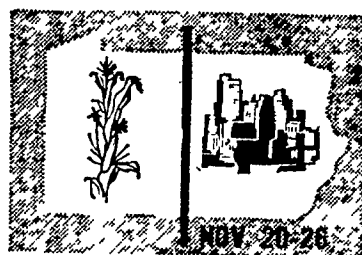
Since this self policing organization was formed, liquor advertising has been introduced on TV and profanity has increased. Mr. Doerfer, Chairman of the FCC, has suggested, since the quiz show scandals, that the idea of a TV "czar" for television should be looked into.

To rate meats as economical buys, compare cost per serving or the amount of lean meat the cut provides.

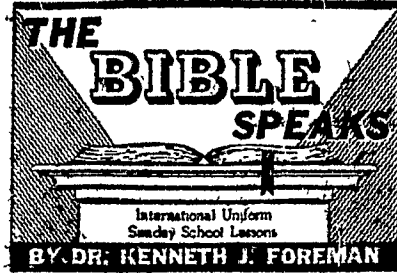
FILLERS
All soils reflect long-time climatic conditions under which they develop.

Spray cattle for lice control before harmful infestations develop.

PENNSYLVANIA



FARM | CITY WEEK



Bible Material: Acts 8.
Devotional Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:14-20.

The Good News

Lesson for November 22, 1959

IT CANNOT be said too often: Christianity is not an organization, it is not a creed, it is not a set of good resolutions, it is not a special kind of philosophy, it is not ideas, it produces all these, but it does not begin with any of them. It begins with good news. We have a first-class case in the story before us in Acts 8.

At the turning point in that story, we are told that Philip "opened his mouth and . . . told him the good news of Jesus."

It is not said that Philip opened his mouth and gave the stranger good advice, or condemned his sins, or urged him to turn over a new leaf, or offered him a book to read, or urged him to join a church. He just told the good news about Jesus.

Evangelism Is Good-News-ism

The church today has a technical-sounding big word which many Christians do not understand. It is "Evangelism." When we hear the word, we think of sawdust trails, of mass meetings, of Billy Graham and the Salvation Army and special services at the church on the corner. We think of trained choirs and TV and teams. Like typical Americans, we want our "evangelism" as we want everything else, on a grand scale and organized to the last inch. Actually, evangelism (as Billy Graham or any good minister can tell you) is a simple thing. As a famous Christian leader from Ceylon, D. T. Niles, has said, "Evangelism is one beggar telling another beggar where he can find bread."

Some Christian people say they do not believe in evangelism. Push the question with them, and you may find one or the other of two things to be true: either they don't

understand what evangelism is, or else they don't really believe in Christ after all—they have no news to tell. There is a bad way to run a newspaper. A critic may not like the particular paper is run, but it doesn't mean that newspaper is bad business.

Philip told his good news, so much so that he "evangelized" so that he made him so good at it? He probably never took a "course in evangelism" all his life. For he was a man sensitive and responsive to the leading of the Spirit. We first hear of Philip at the church at Jerusalem for men to appoint on a committee (Acts 6). Qualifications were that the men should be of good-repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom. It seems that being full of the Spirit and of wisdom were not of as being the very same. At any rate, by the time he said to Philip, "Go join a church," Philip knew the Spirit. It is not necessary to suppose the Holy Spirit always spoke to Philip then, in a way he could catch on a tape recorder. The point is that the Spirit's message was known in Philip's heart. Philip knew the difference between God's direction and of his own. How did this come so sensitive to the Spirit? No doubt because he had been obedient before.

He Knew His Bible

Another reason for Philip's success is his knowledge of the Bible. It was a "rash" thing to be, for this dusty pedagogue to speak to this Very Important personage in his chariot. But he felt he had the right word. When he heard that officious Greek word in verse 28 of his dull treasurer's report that sublime passage from Acts 5:3, Philip could not hold his tongue. He understood what you are, he cried. The distinguished gentleman was too much astonished and offended. Here he was, a man of wealth, distinction, power, a poor hiker had something he did not have: he knew what the Bible said. He knew what God used this man, who had one thing needful, to do what God had everything he needed. God can always find those who know and love the Bible.

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THIS WEEK
—In Washington
With Clinton Davidson
T V Quiz Shows

Mr. Robert Lishman, counsel for the committee which investigates activities of Government agencies, answered his telephone and then turned to me and said, "We are getting the New York Grand Jury records regarding the TV quiz shows." He obviously was pleased and excited.

Thus began an investigation which has shocked the nation.

TV's difficulties were not foreseen, but were predicted. They resulted from the unwillingness of leaders in the industry to punish adequately those who violate criminal laws in the program which they bring into the living room of millions of Americans.

I speak from first-hand experience. Shortly after the close of World War II I called on a top NBC official and urged the appointment

of a so called "czar" with authority to protect the good reputation of TV.

I suggested appointment of someone with the authority that Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis had in baseball or Will Hayes has in the movie industry, and warned that unless this was done TV could destroy itself.

Hollywood Morals

I mentioned that as more and more shows were produced in Hollywood and as a larger number of Hollywood personalities were used on TV programs, the moral tone of the programs would be affected by Hollywood morals.

This official, who was greatly impressed with the power, progress and prosperity of his industry, dismissed my suggestion with the statement that the movie industry needed such a "czar" but that television did not.

Shortly after that conversation a woman featured on an hour-long program beamed to the home, used some shocking profanity on the air. I called officials of the company and asked what they were going to do about it. I was told that the announcer had apologized and that they had no intention of doing anything more.

The Roman Catholic Holy Name Society complained to the Federal Communications Commission, and I called on an FCC official who admitted that this profanity was a definite violation of a Federal Statute and therefore a Federal Crime.

The FCC, however, declined to do anything about the

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