

FROM WHERE WE STAND - Knowledge 'Put To Use' Is Power

"Knowledge is Power."

One of the sayings we learned in school during the days of yesterday maintained that one had strength in direct relationship with the facts one could store away in his memory.

It is no less true in these days that one can not hope to cope with the problems of a complex society without a sufficient store of facts. In fact, as our civilization becomes more complex and competition for positions becomes more fierce knowledge gains in importance.

However, we do not believe that knowledge in itself is power. Only as one uses the knowledge he possesses does he become strong.

We are thinking particularly now of those farmers who know how much of what kind of feed their livestock need and why those animals need it, but because it just happens to be different from what they have handy, they by-pass all their knowledge and do the quickest thing.

We are thinking too of the farmers who will readily admit that the last crop in a certain field was just not what it should have been and they wish they knew why. They know soil tests are available at very reasonable costs, and they know they should have a soil sample analyzed. But because they do not take the trouble to do what they know should be done, they struggle along with poor, or at best average, yields from the field year after year.

This kind of knowledge is not power. Health education in the schools of America is better today than it has ever been before. Children learn in the lower grades some of the basic requirements of a good diet, and by the time the child reaches high school he could probably plan a balanced menu for a family for a week. This is, we think, excellent training, but when a high school student says, as one said to us recently, "I have had a hot dog and a coke for lunch every day for the last four months", the knowledge he has is not power.

We know, and most of the school children in America know, a hearty, substantial breakfast is one of the most important contributions one can make toward good health, but too often many of us let the youngsters neglect this important item.

The National Youthpower Congress is a step in the right direction, there should be many more similar "congresses" all over the country.

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

LET'S EAT RIGHT

Under the sponsorship of agricultural and food industry organizations a National Youth-power Congress is to be held in Chicago Feb. 11-13. Purpose of the congress is to stimulate better eating habits by the nation's youth. It will be attended by high school students from all over the country. Highlights of the program will include—Health and Nutrition for Youth in the Space Age, Food Comes First—for Youthpower, and the Story of Food.

One of the surprising anomalies of these days of high wages, high employment, high living standards, excess agricultural production, unparalleled output of every conceivable luxury and necessity, is that many people do not eat properly. This is especially true of teenagers.

A University of California study showed that "50 per cent of teen-age girls receive inadequate amounts of protein and iron." A study by the University of New Hampshire indicates that "While teen-age boys are not so badly off as girls, diets of 20 per cent of boys are low in calcium; 10 per cent are low in iron and vitamin A; 20 per cent in thiamine; and 40 per cent in vitamin C."

These are startling revelations in the best fed nation in the world. As a result, major segments of the food industry are taking a new look at farm surpluses. Homer R. Davidson, president of the American Meat Institute, noting the many attempts of Congress to handle farm surpluses by legislation believes it is now clear that the "so-called farm problem can no longer be solved on the farm. While individual efficiency is the farmer's personal management problem, his business is so integrated and so influenced by . . . outside factors that progress in agriculture becomes . . . an integrated responsibility."

In other words, there must be close cooperation between all elements of the food industry from the producer to the consumer, to encourage better eating habits on the part of the public, and to encourage farmers to produce only that which can be sold, and for the most part, sold only as food.

This concerted effort of the food industry in a new approach to the farm problem and improvement in American eating habits deserves hearty support.

wages for labor and gives manufacturers tariff protection on prices.

Republican leaders contend that price supports which encourage excessive farm production and result in huge surpluses are both costly and, in the long run, damaging to farmers because they prevent "necessary adjustments in production."

There is doubt as to whether price supports have been the only, or even a major, cause of the tremendous increase in production. (Turn to page 5)

Rural Rhythms

By C. D. H.

THOUGHTS ON A WINTER DAY

I look from my window and see the snow,

It's deep and white and cold

It covers the fields and hides

the ground,

It's worth much more than

gold

I see a blanket so soft and

clean

That warms the winter land

It melts and moisture seeps

down deep;

This is Nature's plan

So when I'm stuck or shovel

ing paths,

I'll never swear at the snow,

But I'll think of it as a

blanket of white

That helps my food to grow.



Davidson

THIS WEEK

—In Washington

With Clinton Davidson

More Than Enough

It is apparent that this session of Congress, after a month of argument, will not pass farm legislation which would be acceptable to President Eisenhower and Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Benson.

Both the Democratic lead-

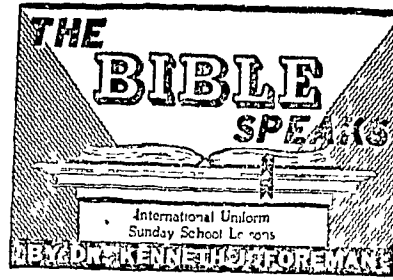
ership in Congress and the President agree on the problem, and on the necessity for action, but they are as far apart as ever on legislation. The problem is caused by too much production.

President Eisenhower and Secretary Benson contend that the problem can be solved by removing production restrictions and permitting farmers to make their production decisions on the basis of free market prices.

Democratic farm leaders in Congress insist that this would result in more production and increased surpluses, as well as lower prices and reduced income for farmers. It would, they contend, "bankrupt American agriculture."

A Question of Supports

Differences are mainly over the question of how much, if any, responsibility the government has to protect farm prices and income. Democrats who favor high supports point out that the government sets minimum



Bible Material: Acts 18:22 through 20:12.
Devotional Reading: Psalm 35:19-23.

Our Fight

Lesson for February 14, 1930

THE CHRISTIAN church is a fighting church. Long, long ago, when everybody spoke Latin, somebody nicknamed the church on earth "Ecclesia Militans," the church at War. Only the church in heaven is called the Church Triumphant. If the church wins victories on earth, it cannot suppose the war is over. It only breaks out in a new place.



Dr. Forchman

What does the church fight? Sin, of course, for one thing. But sin is not the only form of evil. There is also suffering, and the church wages war against that, as every church hospital testifies. There is ignorance too, and so the number of church schools and colleges grows year by year. (Ugliness is another form of evil, but the church has been very slow to recognize this, and indeed many churches have actually added to the sum of ugliness in the world. But that is another story.)

When Evil is Organized

A great part of the evil in the world is spontaneous. Nobody seems to push it, it just starts by itself. It is occasional, not regular, unpredictable, not certain, individual, not organized.

But another great part of the world's evil is regular, certain and far from spontaneous. It is organized. It knows the church is its enemy and it takes steps, often all too effective, to muzzle the church or by any means to beat down its opposition.

In the story of Saint Paul at Ephesus, there is a typical case of organized evil. The silversmiths there did a big business making little shrines of the local goddess and selling these. When Christianity came to Ephesus in the persons

of Paul and others, these shrines were not heard from some time. But as more and more persons were converted, fewer believed in the local goddess or bought her little shrines more. So then the silversmiths together, worked up a mass meeting, raised so much trouble that for a bad few minutes it looked as if Paul might not get out of mob's clutches alive.

As with that incident, so always: The motive for organized evil, determined, planned opposition to the church and what it is doing—the motive is nearly always money. Whenever it becomes clear that if the church's conversion about a better world actually came true, the income of a large number of people will be cut down, off, then you see evil getting organized fast.

Big Business

In a commercial civilization, evils, when evils of any sort are organized—that is, when they are organized—resent investments of money on a wide scale, when their stock is sold in the market like other stocks, such evils become more deadly. However, for then otherwise good and intelligent people will support evils on the ground that to interfere with them interferes with the right of private property, the right of investors, the profit motive in the liquor business as an outstanding example. It is enormously profitable to its operators. Liquor is made available to American troops abroad, in some areas at a cost; this reduces the "stated" price by as much as three-fourths. In other words, 75% of what a bottle pays at a local store for a "whiskey" is somebody's profit for good many somebodies.

Human Values or Property Values

When efforts have been made in Congress for example, to regulate liquor advertising in magazines, otherwise, these attempts have generally failed. The "lobby" fails to point out that to curtail the right of any business to advertise is to interfere with the system of free enterprise, and to attack the profit motive. It never occurs to them that the very same argument would permit the advertisement of drugs like heroin and cocaine. People make money from the sale of such things, why not encourage them? The Christian question ought to be, not "Does this make money?" but "What does it do to the people's lives and happiness of the community?"

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Literature, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Religious Community Press Service.)

Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



MAX SMITH

TO MACHINE STRIP COWS—Close attention to the milking machine when the udder is nearly milked out is very important. On many cows the teat cups will crawl up on the udder as the udder is milked out and in some cases the opening in the end of the teat may be blocked and thus create too much suction on the udder tissues. To prevent this the milk attendant should be handy and bear down on the teat cups to draw out the remaining milk quickly. Also, the gentle massaging of the lower part of the udder will hasten

the milking process. Dairymen should make every effort to prevent the injury and irritation of the teat and udder tissues.

TO TAG THE EWE FLOCK—Successful shepherds will cut some of the wool from around the udder of the pregnant ewe prior to lambing; this will prevent the newborn lamb from sucking these dirty locks of wool instead of the teat and perhaps from swallowing the wool which may later cause the blocking of the digestive system. Also, clip some of the dirty wool away from under the tail of the ewes in order to have more sanitary and a cleaner wool clip next spring. Both of these practices are known as "tagging" the ewe flock and will pay dividends.

TO KEEP THAT FERTILIZER DRY—A very good practice is to order and take delivery of spring fertilizer needs as soon as possible, however, it is quite important that the fertilizer be kept dry, it should not be piled directly on ground or concrete floors because it may draw moisture and by all means keep it away from any chance of rain or snow.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT NITROGEN—On many crops the amount of available nitrogen regulates the growth of the plant tissues; this is especially true with corn and the grass crops. Growers are urged to apply nitrogen for corn before plowing in amounts according to fertility and plant population. Grasses respond quickly to nitrogen applications, and extra applications can be used to increase carrying capacity per acre. A special circular on Nitrogen is available.

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