

FROM WHERE WE STAND -

Why Don't YOU Write An Editorial?

Twice during the past week the editor has been asked, "Why don't you write an editorial on . . . ?"

His answer in both cases was, "Why don't you write a letter to the editor?"

There are many good subjects for editorials. Some people doubt this when they read some of the editorials written about a point which seems minor to the reader, but that is just the point of the whole bit.

We were serious in asking the person with the ideas to write letters to the editor.

The first reason we didn't write an editorial about . . . , was that we did not have all the facts pertinent to the topic. In fact we were not even aware that the problem existed until the reader brought it to our attention.

In the second place, we were not nearly so aroused about the problem as was the reader who brought it to our attention.

Of course it is the duty of an editor to keep himself informed and to become properly indignant when he sees injustices of any kind in the community, but editors are only human too (we keep telling ourselves), and can not be aware of all the intricacies of our modern society.

Thirdly, if an editor does take your prize hobby horse or your pet peeve and lavish upon it his tenderest care or vent his bitterest spleen, you might not recognize the end product, as your idea at all. As the saying goes, "If you want a thing done well, you have to do it yourself."

This is not to say that an editor does not want to hear what his readers think of the material in his column. Brickbats and bouquets are both welcomed by the conscientious writer (bouquets are preferred, of course) and suggestions for editorials are always welcome, but many times, the thinking of a neighbor can do more to convince than the opinions of a dozen professionals.

Rural people are notoriously shy about writing. Some letters are received unsigned, and these must be assigned to the wastebasket immediately, no matter how important they might be, but most editors will withhold the writer's name if requested to do so.

So if you have a hobby horse or a pet peeve, a bouquet or a brickbat, a compliment or a criticism, or just the urge to let off steam, why don't you write a letter to the editor? It might do a lot of good for you, your neighbors and your community.

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

Farm-City Week

When the city housewife takes the top off a bottle of milk and pours the life-giving liquid into a glass for her child, she probably has a very hazy notion of where the milk comes from, but most housewives have no notion how it gets from point of origin to the city doorstep.

One of the goals set by the planners of the 1960 Farm-City week celebration this year is to make the city consumer more aware of all the things that must happen to his food before it reaches the kitchen.

Farm-City week speakers this year are being asked to remind city folks that the food on their dining tables is the end product of research, production, marketing, transportation, processing and packaging.

Farm-City week, being celebrated this year from November 18 through Thanksgiving Day, November 24, is a fitting time for all of us, both rural and urban, to try to understand the problems of each other. We should be doubly thankful since we as producers have a market, and city people have a supplier of their necessities.

It behooves us each to get to know each other better.

and programs will include all of North America, from the Gulf of Mexico to the Arctic Circle, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans.

Farmers will attend chambers of commerce and other civic club meetings in town, and merchants, doctors, dentists, lawyers and other townspeople will be guests of the Grange, Farm Bureau, Farmers Union and other farm groups at dinners and meetings.

Kiwans International is the official "coordinator" of Farm-City Week, but more than 150 other rural and city organizations will be participating in arranging programs for the sixth annual observance.

In officially designating the first Farm-City Week in 1955, President Eisenhower said,

"Whereas it is desirable that those who work on the farms and those who work in the cities develop greater understanding of their mutual problems, and interdependence in a closely knit economy, I ask the people throughout the country to participate fully in the observance of Farm-City Week."

That will be at least as important next week as it was six years ago.

Rural Rhythms

SEQUEL

By: Carol Dean Huber

We've given all the pups away,

Lightfoot, Lady, King, Adventure, Tiny, Tubby, White Collar, also Ring.

The children were so sorry

To see the puppies go,

But I was glad, for very soon

We'll have some more I know.

THIS WEEK

—In Washington

With Clinton Davidson

Farm-City Week



Davidson

You will find the election news in other newspapers so let's skip it here, instead, talk about our neighbors.

Up until Tuesday each of us may have been thinking of ourselves as a Republican, or a Democrat. That's all over now and we can all think of ourselves as Americans.

The next President, all the governors and all the congressmen have big jobs to do. They will need our help and our support. The party label they wore before the election is less important than the "American" label they now wear.

There is no time for bitterness, for regret or for rejoicing that the candidates we voted for may have lost or won. There is time on your

side to build the United States and the Free World's strength to meet as grave a challenge as democracy has ever faced.

To meet and defeat that challenge we must build our strength not alone by military power, but through economic and moral leadership of the people in all lands who do not want to surrender their freedom to communist dictators.

Meet Your Neighbor

Being a good neighbor, like charity, should begin at home, in our hometown and in the community in which we live and work. How long has it been since you went out of your way to make a new friend?

Have you noticed recently that pretty much the same kinds of folks live on both sides of that imaginary line called the "city limits?" Or that we've quit calling the people on the other side of that line "country hicks," or "city dudes?"

Next week could be called "Friendship Week," except that Congress already has officially proclaimed it "Farm-City Week." It starts Nov. 18 and ends Nov. 24, Thanksgiving Day.

The general idea is for farmers and city people to meet and get to know each other better. Get-together programs have been planned in some 10,000 cities, towns and communities. Coast-to-Coast Farm-City weeks meetings

BIBLE SPEAKS
International Uniform Sunday School Lessons
BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN
God In My Life
Lesson for November 13, 1960

long run all good things come from the Father who created heaven and earth. Whatever good life brings, it is God who sends gift-laden day upon its way.

The 117th Psalm is the shortest chapter in the entire Bible (100 verses). Short though it is, it says much in its five verses. The Psalmist scarcely begins his psalm before he comes to the end of it. But even in those few verses we can see that the life with God is a life of testimony. The Psalmist lets every one know he worships God, the God of all He does not hide his happiness, he does not think of religion as a strictly private affair. He gives testimony of his faith. Let it always be understood that testimony by word is worth little if there is no testimony in life. But the true religious is not a silent one. The person who has discovered God as the Companion cannot be silent about it. This Psalmist sings of a God who is not his own private deity but the Lord of nations, the God of the whole earth. The true God is not a tribal god, tied to one nation or church or race. He is God of all.

DOES anything happen when God comes into a human life? —"Comes in"—not intending to say he is never there. God is in all places and at all times, there is no escaping him. But as we were thinking last week, there is a difference in the way he is present. Some men never are aware of God, just as a blind man is unaware of light. Others are painfully aware, as a man may write under fear of the wrath of God. But what God wants of every man is to be his Father and his Friend. This



Dr. Foreman

comes (as we know) only after sin has been confessed and forgiven. But when this comes to pass, whether we say "God in my life" or "my life in God" or "my life with God," such life has a treasure, the "pearl of great price."

From the many things that can be said about living in the joyful presence of God, let us select three. One is: it is a life of thankfulness. The man of faith does not simply take what comes, as a dull matter of course. He is aware of God's gifts and is grateful. The Psalms numbered 115, 117 and 118 are like musical compositions with interwoven themes; one of these is in the words "I love the Lord because . . ." Because he has heard my voice . . . because he inclined his ear to me . . . the Lord has dealt bountifully . . . Thou hast delivered my soul from death . . . We may well be grateful to other people, our parents, our friends, the uncounted persons who make life livable for us. We may well be thankful to church and state and school, to inventors and artists and poets; what would life be without them? But when we push our thinking still farther, we realize that in the

In Psalm 118 the bright of life and the dark strand of are intertwined. (This like 117 were among the hymns sung at Jesus' Last Supper.) But at the end, Life is the stronger! Life is God is Power and Joy, "The is my strength and my song." Psalmist is not an unre-

dreamer. Life even for those who live in God and with God, is dark times. Look at the words in this Psalm: "distress," "those who hate me," "they rounded me," "I was pushed so that I was falling . . ." Victory is still to be won, joy is not complete, as we can see from the "Give us success!" The life with God is not a life without struggle, seldom a life without distress, troubles, temptations, tasks, and tears there will be struggle in the worldly sense may come. But success against the same forces that fight against us we may expect in the end. Christian is not like a ship on a calm summer voyage; rather, a ship battered by winter's storm making port at last.

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Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



FROM THE PA. LIVESTOCK EXPOSITION connections from the warm southland to this Livestock exposition were made the nick of time and with the notice of a decided change in climate. The adjustment from a balmy 90 degrees in Florida to sharp 30 degrees in Pennsylvania makes one scamper for an extra sweater and coat.

IN FLORIDA there is much to see in the agricultural enterprises, however, much of the area is swampy and leaves a poor impression of progressive agriculture. A trip to a sugar mill in the everglade section of the state brings forth the black muck soil, "black gold" which is very productive. Vegetables as well as sugar cane thrive in this area. We need some of this black muck on many of our Pennsylvania soils in order to increase the organic matter content. Soil testing reveals that these muck soils run from 50 to 80 percent organic matter. Due to conditions in Cuba, sugar cane may become a more important crop in Florida in the future.

The holdings of one sugar plantation in southern Florida included 100,000 acres of land; of this amount 35,000 was in the production of sugar cane, 20,000 acres in a cattle ranch, and the remaining 45,000 yet to be reclaimed and put into a productive condition. This land was very level and the water table very high. The sugar mill was new experience and revealed the source of some of our blackstrap feeding molasses. One acre of sugar cane yielded 60 tons of cane and about six tons of raw sugar. This is a specialized crop and mostly done by corporate farms.

The Brahma cross-breeding work being done in Florida is very progressive and a number of herds include over 1,000 head; the research work reveals a more rapid gain and more weight for the age with these cattle. However, it is noted that nearly all cross-bred beef animals include some blood of our popular beef strains.

IN CONCLUSION . . . It was very interesting and educational to tour the southern states for the first time. It was also professional training to talk with other Extension Agents from the other states. However, people of Lancaster County and neighboring counties should consider themselves fortunate to live in southeastern Pennsylvania where agriculture enjoys its rightful place in the community. WE ARE GLAD TO CALL IT HOME!!

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