

## FROM WHERE WE STAND

### What Is A Happy Man?

When a man has all he needs, and all he needs is all he wants, he is a happy man.

This sentiment, expressed in a Sunday School class several years ago and accredited to an old-time hobo, has been a spring board for a lot of good discussions since.

We can't help agreeing that the sentiment as expressed is a good one and undoubtedly true.

But we wonder just how you know what you need.

Grandad "went to farming" with one Shanghai rooster and one hoe. Grandma brought a fireplace oven (the kind that she buried in the ashes on the fireplace hearth) to set up house-keeping.

They set up housekeeping and set out to make a living with one rooster, one hoe, one oven—and good neighbors.

Of course the good name they carried with them didn't detract from their chances of making a success.

Through hard work and the good fortune of favorable weather their first corn crop, planted on rented land with a neighbor's team was marketed by the young couple for enough hard cash to set them up in a regular way for farming.

In past generations, the farmer depended heavily on his neighbors, his church, his school, and his country store keeper to help him over the rough spots and to supply those things he needed but could not pay for in cash.

No young man in his right mind today would attempt to go into the high-

ly complex business of farming with one rooster and a hoe, nor would he be likely to find a girl willing to cook over an open fire and put up with a few pieces of home made furniture.

But times have changed. Americans have the highest standard of living the world has ever known. Rural and urban families alike have grown to need comforts which were considered pure luxuries just a few years in the past. These are not just imagined necessities; many people could not live for very long if they had no more of the implements of civilization than the American pioneers possessed.

Today the farmer's markets are broader; his contacts are wider; he is aware of many things in many parts of the world, but he may know little about his neighbor across the road. He has become surrounded by people, but in many ways he has had to become more independent than ever before.

Farmers have to be more self sufficient because of competition for the consumer's dollar even though farm communities are still the most neighborly places in the land.

Of course if every person since the first man had been completely satisfied with things just as they were, we might still be living in trees, but then not all men in the world are happy men.

We think it bears repeating at this approaching Christmas season, "When a man has all he needs, and all he needs is all he wants, he is a happy man."

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

### Baby Sitting Tractor Drivers

"Don't Be a Baby-Sitting Tractor Driver!"

That's the startling — and vitally important—title of an article by Dick Pfister, a farm safety specialist, which appeared in the July 16 issue of the Michigan Farmer.

Since 1950, he writes, more than 2 dozen pre-kindergarten age children in the single state of Michigan have died in tractor accidents—and so the total for the country as a whole must be of horrifying size. Of extreme significance, 3 times as many Michigan children under 5 years of age have been killed in farm tractor accidents as have men in such age groups as 20 to 24, 30 to 34, and 40 to 44. Many of the accidents involving young children oc-

cur when the child is riding in towed equipment.

Teen-age youth also have had a bad tractor record, with a mounting toll of injury and death. The overly-young tractor driver is definitely accident-prone.

As Mr. Pfister see it, "This farm accident problem calls for a family approach" Every member of the family should understand and recognize hazards, and help in finding ways to reduce or eliminate them.

The farm equipment people have given every effort to making their products safe. And they are safe, if properly used and maintained. But the makers can't control the users—and it's on the users that the ultimate responsibility falls.



### THIS WEEK

—In Washington

With Clinton Davidson

### Our Secret Weapon

In a few days the U. S. Department of Agriculture will announce that American farmers have again set a new all-time production record in 1960.

The announcement won't result in newspaper headlines; it has become rather commonplace in recent years.

New production records have been set in six of the past ten and four of the past five years. From behind the Iron Curtain there are reports of a "disappointing harvest" in both Russia and China. They are concerned about not enough food, while we worry about too much. China's per capita food production is only about half that of the United States.

Premier Krushchev talks a great deal about Russia's "superiority" over the U. S. in H-bomb rockets, and he brags about gaining on us in industrial production. He never mentions our superiority in food production. We Lead 5 to 1

In no other phase of the cold war does the United States have so wide a lead over Russia as in farm production. In Russia 50 per cent of the population is en-

gaged in farming; in the United States 10 per cent.

Russia can never catch up with the United States in industrial production so long as half of her population is engaged in food production, while in the United States 90 per cent of our population is available for non-farm occupations.

So little, has been said, or generally understood, about our superior farm production that it might almost be regarded as our most powerful "secret weapon" in the cold war.

Hunger still is the biggest problem in many nations around the world. American farmers not only provide this country with more food per capita than any other nation, but with enough left

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### Rural Rhythms

#### UNUSED ADVICE

By Carol Dean Huber

In spite of all the good advice

That I attempt to give, In all the daily problems in this

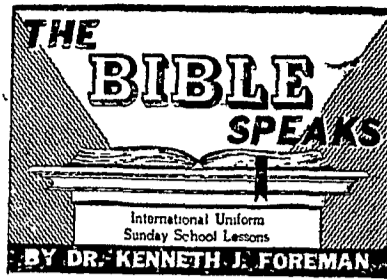
World in which we live;

Though he does the things I talk against

And I predict a fall;

Father goes ahead and earns

A good living for us all



Bible Material: Isaiah 9, Matthew 4 12-17, 23-25, Galatians 4 4-7.  
Devotional Reading: Isaiah 11:1-9.

### The Great Promise

Lesson for December 11, 1960

NOTHING that happens is a surprise to God. Human beings are sometimes surprised when they need not be. The birth of Jesus was surely no surprise to God, for it was he that planned it. It need not have astonished any one, for it had been promised.

The trouble was, nobody had

looked for just this kind of answer to their long prayers—long in the sense that for centuries the Jewish people had been praying for a Deliverer (that is what "Savior" means in the Bible). Dr. Foreman

Furthermore, this Deliverer had been promised, for many of the prophets had pointed forward to the coming of One to whom they gave various names—Son of David, God's Anointed, God's Servant, Shepherd, and so on. One of the names was not a name, it simply expressed the great hope in a word: He that is coming (all one word in Greek or Hebrew).

#### Peace and Justice

The problem at this point may turn the mind to thinking about what Jesus really means to Christians now and eventually to the world. The problem, to make it short, is this: Why was it that the Jews, the very people who had cherished the Great Promise, the Hope of "One who is to come," the people in whose sacred books alone this Promise was preserved, the people whose prophets had pointed down the future to that great Coming—why was it that these very people of the Promise failed to see the fulfillment of that Promise when it came to pass?

One reason was that they expected everything to happen all at once. For example: in Isaiah 9, one of the famous prophecies about the Coming One, any reader

can see the hope and expectation of justice, righteousness, peace. The coming Savior will set up a kingdom of peace and justice. But when Jesus came he was born in a stable because of a justice on the part of the government; and he died as a criminal again because of probably the most unjust death sentence in the history of the world. Looking at the world today, peace and justice still seem far off. What has happened to the Great Promise?

#### Short Perspective, Long History

Travelers in very dry flat country have noticed that distance is deceptive. You see a water tower or a hill apparently a mile or so down the road, but the just seems to back away from you the mile or two may turn in miles before you reach it. The prophets did not say maybe did not see) was the perspective; they had no time of things to come. So when justice and peace did not descend on the world all at once when Jesus came, many thought then, many nowadays think, that couldn't be the One that was intended.

#### The Mighty God?

Another reason why people found it hard to see that the Great Promise of a Savior was fulfilled in Jesus of Nazareth, is the promise in some of the prophecies. Isaiah 9 notable among them, starting language more than saying that this Coming One was going to be far more than man; he would be no less than God. The "son" of Isaiah 9:6 is presently named "Mighty God, Everlasting Father." How can this be? Can we believe such high things of the Carpenter of Nazareth? We can believe it, we do believe it. But what the Christian has come to see (not to understand it passes human understanding) is something that most people's life-time did not see: that God does not always make himself known in awesome, terrible ways, but in gentle, even humble ways. The wonder of truth which the Christian accepts is that this very Carpenter of Nazareth, not only on the occasion of great miracles but every day in all the things he did, said, was God himself upon earth. We believe that Christ was the truth when he said, "He who has seen me, has seen the Father."

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### Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



MAX SMITH

TO GET THAT CHICKWEED — Warm open weather during the past month has given chickweed a good start in many alfalfa and clover fields. This weed can become a serious problem on many farms unless sprayed by Christmas time. The Nitro sprays for warm weather and the legume stands, and the Chloro IPC sprays for straight alfalfa stands and older weather are recommended. The important thing is to spray this fall.

TO PROVIDE MINERALS—All animals require sufficient minerals for maximum growth and production. In the case of growing calves it is quite important that they be given plenty of calcium and phosphorus; these are necessary for proper growth and bone development. The chewing of fences, posts and other wooden objects is a symptom of phosphorus deficiency. The feeding of 1½ ounces of dicalcium phosphate per head per day, or the free-choice feeding of steamed bonemeal will provide sufficient calcium and phosphorus.

TO SPRAY CATTLE FOR LICE—Before cold weather arrives and before the cattle get their heavy winter coats, it is suggested that producers treat their animals for lice. In many cases lice are sundered during the winter months because of heavy infestations of body lice. With steers feed this is a so an item that will reduce gains and feed efficiency. In warmer weather the animals may be sprayed and in colder times dusting with residual insecticides containing lindane or rotenone will kill the lice.

TO USE CHEMICAL BRUSH CONTROL—Now is the time to use dormant brush killers on hard-to-kill trees and bushes. By spraying or soaking during November, December or January chemicals will give more effective root kill than at any other time of the year. Also, when spraying is done during the winter little danger of drifting to susceptible crops and vegetation is experienced. Chemicals such as 4-D and 2,4, 5T Ester form, or 2,4-D and 2,4, 5T Amide form in a 2 per cent solution at the rate of one pound of the chemical to 8 gallons of fuel oil; the bottom 18 inches of standing trees or tree stumps should be soaked with the solution.

**Lancaster Farming**  
Lancaster County's Own Farm Weekly  
P. O. Box 1524  
Lancaster, Penna.  
Offices:  
53 North Duke St.  
Lancaster, Penna.  
Phone - Lancaster  
Express 4-3047  
Jack Owen, Editor  
Robert G. Campbell, Advertising Director & Business Manager  
Established November 4, 1955  
Published every Saturday by Lancaster Farming, Lancaster, Pa.  
Entered as 2nd class matter at Lancaster, Pa. under Act of Mar. 3, 1879 additional entry at Mount Joy, Pa.  
Subscription Rates \$2 per year three years \$5, Single copy Price 5 cents.  
Members Pa. Newspaper Publishers' Association National Editorial Association