

FROM WHERE WE STAND -

Would You Use A Wooden Plow?

It is difficult for us to imagine in these days of agricultural mechanization that much of the world's farming population still turns the soil with wooden plows.

Still more difficult to believe is that they do it not of necessity but by preference.

Primitive farmers who plow and plant by the phase of the moon, or some other sign or symbol, firmly believe steel plows will poison the soil. Many farm communities throughout the world would not use our steel plows if steel plows were as readily available as wooden ones.

There isn't a farmer in America (at least none we've heard of) who wouldn't use a steel plow, but would it surprise you to know that many farmers will not use chemical fertilizers because they believe the chemicals will do great harm to their soils?

In these days of an enlightened farm population, it is difficult to follow the thinking of these people. It would be soon impossible to feed our exploding population without the use of chemical fertilizers, and those who try to farm without them will soon be out of farming, we believe.

But these people are no farther from the truth than those who would outlaw all insecticide sprays. Properly used, insecticides make possible the high quality foods we tend to take for granted in this great country.

Technology develops new materials and better methods, but it is the duty of the farmer to learn to use the materials and methods as they were meant to be used.

Dr. William L. Henning, Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture, said recently, a farmer should know the ingredients of every agricultural chemical used on the farm. He says that such knowledge is invaluable if some of the material is taken internally by accident. A physician can then prescribe the proper antidote quickly.

Dr. Henning lists nine check points in using farm chemicals, but at no time does he even suggest not using the chemicals. His check points are

Read the label before using sprays and dusts and FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS

Store sprays and dusts in the original, labeled containers.

Keep pesticides out of the reach of the children, pets and irresponsible persons.

Avoid smoking while spraying or dusting when so directed on the label.

Avoid spilling materials on the skin and wash immediately when they are spilled accidentally.

Wash hands thoroughly after spraying or dusting and before eating or smoking.

Cover food and water containers when treating around livestock and pet areas.

Dispose of empty containers so they pose no hazards to humans, animals or valuable plants.

Always observe label directions to keep residues on edible portions of plants within limits permitted by Pennsylvania law.

If we as farmers are guilty of causing public mistrust of any food substance by the improper use of chemicals, we have not only wronged ourselves but we have wronged all phases of farming as well as the consuming public.

But we, as farmers have still another responsibility. Not only must we educate ourselves and others to preserve the wholesomeness of our food supply, we must protect our wholesome food supply from unfounded attacks by food faddists and others with a personal axe to grind.

Organizations such as the American Meat Institute, the American Dairy Association and the Poultry and Egg National Board are doing a fine job of combatting the mistaken idea that animal fats are a causative factor in heart disease and other illnesses.

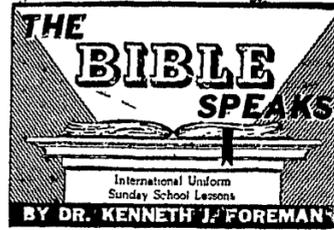
Poultry and Egg National Board (PENEB) is going right into the offices of the doctors throughout the country through ads in the publication of the American Medical Association, with the story that eggs are a nutritious, healthful food which should not be excluded from the diet of any healthy person and very few sick persons.

The American Dairy Association is waging a continuing campaign through all sorts of advertising media to help make milk and dairy products more desirable to the consumer.

A far-flung editorial campaign as well as advertising on the part of the American Meat Institute has gone a long way in establishing meat as a basic food in the American diet.

There are many other agencies doing the same kind of work, but we can not depend on agencies to do the whole job. We as individuals have the responsibility of combating food faddism and food misrepresentation whenever and wherever we hear or see it. We produce the best food the world has ever known. We should not let it fall into disrepute because of the scare tactics of a few cranks and faddists.

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



Bible Material: John 2.
Devotional Reading: Luke 7 19-23.

Joy Is The Sign

Lesson for January 8, 1961

CERTAIN shining words appear over and over again in the Gospel by John, like gleaming threads woven into a beautiful fabric. These words are hard to define. They suggest rather than describe. They are poetic, in that they convey or induce moods rather than call up sharp clear pictures. They may perplex the mind but they fascinate the heart. One of these words is "Glory." It is hard to say precisely what the means, but we can see that in



the Fourth Gospel it is always associated with God. It refers to the whole wonderful, indescribable, awe-compelling, overwhelming presence of the living God. Now the message of the Fourth Gospel can be summed up this way: "The whole life of Jesus of Nazareth brought the glory of God wherever he was and whatever he did. Jesus is quoted as looking back on his life (as he was praying in the upper room), putting it all into these words: 'I glorified thee on earth, having accomplished the work which thou gavest me to do... the glory which thou hast given me I have given them.'" (John 17)

The Power and the Glory

The plan of John's Gospel, for the first twelve chapters, is simple: the author presents seven stories about Jesus. Each one tells about something Jesus did, and the author calls each of these acts a sign, a sign of glory. The first of these is the story of Jesus at a wedding in a little country town called Cana. (Not to be confused with Canaan.) One feature of these stories, a peculiarity the modern reader might call it, is that each of them presents a kind of miracle. In other words, these were acts of power. Jesus does not appear to be under the same limitations which

hamper the rest of us. He does not tell us of miracles, or power. We are more ready to believe in the miracle announced by the National Aeronautics Program, than we are in the miracles of the Bible. As it may, the least you about these Gospel miracles: The impression was left on those who knew such that he could not be in ordinary routine language the language of mystery beyond ordinary man's understanding, can describe what he did. On the other hand, that can be said is this: Christ was really not a man, but the eternal Word became a man, if (as the translation puts it) the Word of God became a human then he himself, by himself, was doing a thing, was more glorious than anything he

Glory, Power, Service

Yet there is something strange about this after we were making this story your head, and began (does) with a man whose ally radiated the glory what would you invent points, the climatic moment that glory? You would certainly not think of the truth. It would seem a simple. Here is the Sign, the first opportunity had to make use of his tremendous powers. What with it? Of all things, to keep a country whole from being a failure.

Joy is the Sign

God is never snobbish, that to foolish people snobs try to make God themselves. They picture a kind of perpetually do just because he had to live among sinful and people. They associate pain, gloom. "Acts of earthquakes, tidal waves, tropes. What one-sided. The first "sign" of the that John describes is with joy. To come into the presence of God it is not to wipe all smiles off your face. If God is true, God may be in the Valley of the Shadow, but he is also to be found on the mountains of delight.

(Based on outlines of the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the United Methodist Church, U. S. A. Community Press Service.)

Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



MAX SMITH

TO WINTERIZE YOUR GARDEN TOR—Some attention to the engine will give you better performance spring and summer. The main idea is to clean the engine thoroughly, change the oil, and drain the gasoline. Change the oil now because the old oil may contain water or acids that will do harm to the motor; the new oil will protect these parts. Extra attention each winter will do the life of the tractor. Get in the habit of performing the three-way treatment: all motors not being used during the winter months; clean them, change the oil, and drain the fuel line.

TO TEST HOME-GROWN SEEDS—Local growers are reminded of the need of having all seeds tested by the State Department of Agriculture before they may be offered for sale. This includes local grown red clover and any other type of field or garden seed. Application should be made to the Bureau of Seed Inspection so that samples may be submitted for weed inspection, purity, and germination.

TO ADD SUPER-PHOSPHATE TO MANURE — A highly recommended practice is to re-enforce all kinds of manure with super-phosphate. Dairymen may use the granular form of phosphate on the barn litter alley and gutter every day at the rate of two pounds per cow. Steer feed may spread the phosphate over the manure pack a week before the cattle are bedded at the rate of 6 to 8 pounds per head per week. This fertilizer element makes the manure more balanced and help meet the phosphorus deficiency in most of our soils.

TO FEED CATTLE COARSELY GROUND GRAINS—Some feeders are urged to give some attention to the coarseness of the ration rather than to be feeding grain that is too fine. Research work has shown that cattle will eat more of coarser feeds and also the utilization of the feed nutrients from the grain will be better. Cracked or crimped barley, wheat, or corn is preferred over the ground grain. In the case of corn and cob chop the three-quarter screen should be used in the hammer mill, or set so that some whole kernels get through and the chunks of corn may be as large as the end of a thumb. Coarser feeds present less danger from stalling or the cattle going off their feed.



THIS WEEK
—In Washington
With Clinton Davidson
Agriculture Secretary

The man named by President-elect John F. Kennedy as his Secretary of Agriculture is a city boy who won a Phi Beta Kappa key and a

football letter at Minnesota University just over 20 years ago.

Orville Lothrop Freeman rose from a babysitter for the children of Sen. Hubert Humphrey in Minneapolis, Minn., to three times governor of his state, and then to nomination as a member of the President's Cabinet.

In a state where political office seekers are either regarded as "liberal" or unsuccessful politicians, Mr. Freeman has been a remarkably successful young man. He is bright, energetic and ambitious.

He fits in nicely with the Kennedy program for surrounding the Presidency with youthful intellectuals, with just a seasoning of older, more experienced men to give the Administration balance.

Younger Than Average
Mr. Freeman at 42 is five

years younger than the average age of Cabinet members. He was elected governor of Minnesota at the age of 36, to become one of the youngest chief executives in the history of the state.

Although trained as an attorney, Mr. Freeman has been more active in politics. At the age of 30 when most attorneys are just getting started in practice, he made his first bid for state office in an unsuccessful race for Attorney General.

Not in the least discouraged by his first political defeat, he ran for governor two years later, in 1952, and again was defeated. Still a political optimist, he ran again in 1954 and was elected.

He was re-elected in 1956 and 1958, but campaigned so (Turn to page 14)

Rural Rhythms

THE DEER

By: Carol Dean Huber

Now that January's here Often we can see the deer Coming from the woods to feed

On a bit of corn or weed. As the hunter with his gun May not kill a single one, All the ones he did not harm Come to feed on my small farm.

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