

FROM WHERE WE STAND - Which One Will You Choose?

There is a little verse that goes, The Lord gave you two ends to use; one to sit with, the other to think with. It all depends on which you choose Heads you win. Tails you loose.

We thought of this little verse the other day as we talked with a part time farmer who depends, for the necessities of life, on a job with a construction company. His farming activities help supply the family with a few of the finer things of life which could not be afforded on the man's salary alone.

Because of the snow storm and lack of new construction jobs under contract, the man had been temporarily laid off by his company.

We expected to find his rather despondent since we knew his family depended on his work to keep bread on the table.

Surprising though it may seem, he was in good spirits and seemed entirely contented as he worked away in his tobacco cellar.

"I was wondering when I would have time to get this tobacco stripped" he said. "This layoff will give me time to get it finished and maybe by that time things will open up enough so I will be called back".

We don't know what this proves other than the spirit of Pollyanna is not completely dead, but we were inspired by the cheerful attitude of a man who could not have been censured if he had been despondent.

Perhaps it is a commentary on the times when an incident of this nature is rare enough to be pointed out as an example, or perhaps it is an indication that the editor travels in the wrong circles.

In any event, we would like to go on record as endorsing the use of the end given to think with rather than the end to sit with. But when you get

to thinking, you might as well make it the optimistic kind. It doesn't cost any more and it is much less wearing on the nervous system.

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

* * *

Everywhere we go these past few weeks we hear people talking about the current winter weather.

Most often heard comment is, "I guess this is what they mean by 'a real old-fashioned' winter".

The cold temperatures and depth of snow are not news to any of us and the weather records tell us that very few of the so called old-fashioned winters were anywhere near as bad as this.

But not all is bad about any situation, and the snow is no exception. We were very surprised to find just the other day that the ground under some patches of snow is not frozen to more than an inch or so.

Unless some extreme weather occurs after the snows are off the field, the winter grains should emerge in fine shape with plenty of moisture for early spring growth.

The kids have had a wonderful time sledding and skating, and some of the older folks have had their share of the fun too.

One of the most popular pastimes for the old folks has been the telling of their snow storm exploits to the youngsters. Many of these stories gain a lot of polish in telling and remind us of a cartoon we saw several years ago.

Two old codgers were sitting beside a window looking out at the snow piled white and deep outside. The caption under the cartoon was, "No, and it's not as white as it was when I was a kid, either."

life or death of important companies and corporation. This is similar to a jury trial in which all of the jurors are not present.

The Landis Report

Mr Landis, in a special report prepared for the President prior to his appointment as Overseer, roundly criticized procedures of the regulatory agencies. The so-called regulatory agencies are the Federal Trade Commission, the Interstate Commerce Commission, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Federal Communications Commission, the Civil Aeronautics Board, and the Federal Power Commission.

In his report Mr Landis emphasized that the regulatory agencies have become so bogged down in bureaucratic red tape that decisions often are delayed for months, and sometimes for years. The delays alone, he said, have cost consumers and the regulated industries millions of dollars.

Another confirmation of our criticisms was made in a report by the House Legislative Oversight Subcommittee of which Rep. Oren Harris of Arkansas is chairman in which it charged the agency with "using horse-and-buggy approaches to space age problems." That is one of the most apt descriptions we have seen as applied to some agency operations.

Rural Rhythms WINTER LEISURE

By: Carol Dean Huber

Now's the time for doing
Every single thing
That you've been postponing
Ever since the spring
Visit with an old friend;
Cook a special dish;
Read a book or simply do
Nothing if you wish



THIS WEEK

—In Washington

With Clinton Davidson

Regulatory Agencies

The appointment of a White House "Overseer" for the several government regulatory agencies is an important and significant move toward correcting what has become an indefensible and intolerable situation in Washington.

James M Landis, appointed by President Kennedy to head the newly created Office for the Oversight of Regulatory Agencies, is well qualified for the tough job he faces. He formerly served as Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Civil Aeronautics Board and as dean of the Harvard Law School.

But the really important thing is that for the first time in several years there will be an authority with power to review, and if necessary overrule, arbitrary decisions by the semi-autonomous regulatory agencies.

Unrestrained Power

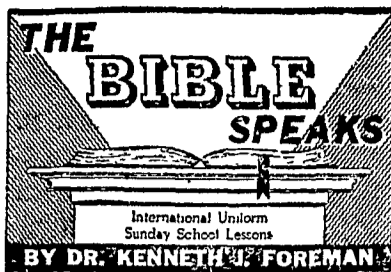
Over the past several years we have repeatedly called attention in this column to the urgent need for closer supervision of the regulatory agencies which almost daily make decisions affecting every user of transportation, radio and TV, electricity, airplanes and other public utilities and services.

Since Presidential Assistant Sherman Adams was forced to resign because of a gift from industrialist Bernard Goldfine there has been no one either at the White House or in Congress who dared tell the agencies what they could and could not do.

Anyone who thought they were dealt with unfairly by any of the agencies had no one they could appeal to in the White House, and congressmen dared not intervene for fear of being charged with "lobbying for special interests".

Although the regulatory agencies were created by Congress and supposedly are directly responsible to Congress there has been very little actual supervision of their operation, and none whatsoever in several years by the Administrative branch of government.

We have pointed out many times that the boards and commissions frequently made judicial decisions without all of the members being present to hear evidence and arguments in cases involving



Bible Material: John 6.
Devotional Reading: John 6 47-56

Life's Hunger

Lesson for February 5, 1961

IF CHRIST could turn stones into bread, if he could somehow start with a boy's lunch and build it into a meal for five thousand men with their wives and children, why did he not keep on doing it? No doubt he could have turned stones



Dr. Foreman

(as John tells us) they tried to make him king by force. . . . But Jesus steadily refused to repeat the miracle. Jesus loved people, but he was not one to do everything he was asked to do. He was not even going to do all the kind things he was asked to do. For surely it would have been a kindness to make life easier for the poverty-stricken people of Galilee? Surely there must have been really hungry people there. You know there were, because we hear of no one crying for cake, or bread with butter (they would have said, olive oil) on it. Just bread, again, please, again! But there was no encore. Was Jesus heartless? Had his power failed him?

Hunger For Bread

Now hunger for bread is one of the elemental things in life. Quite civilized people, once they become really hungry, act like savages, act like wild dogs. One would think Jesus would not have rebuked the people for wanting what human beings, living creatures, cannot help wanting. We were not there, so we cannot interview any one and find out for certain just why Jesus spoke as he did; but from various hints, we can guess. For one thing, he knew that all the people in Galilee who were sharers in the great "miracle of the loaves

and fishes" had managed somehow to keep alive and going, all these years up to that day. Some of them were lazier than average, of course, but even a lazy man hungry enough, will work. Jesus knew that what they had done to him to do was not simply to

The Starved Soul

Jesus, moreover, took this opportunity to impress an idea on the people of Capernaum, an idea which was true but which they were not quite able to swallow. Not only are endless free meals sure to make a man worthless, but even bought-and-paid-for meals, well balanced diets, can be a drag on the spirit. Life has its hungers. Physical hungers are obvious and crude. But there are other hungers whose voice is never making themselves felt. These are the higher hungers if we may call them so, these are the unmet appetites of mind and spirit. When we refer to a man as having lived a "full life" we do not mean that steak served them for dinner every night. There are appetites that must be cultivated, but if they are not they may die away. The hunger of the mind for understanding, sympathy, for peace; the hunger of the soul for God. There is actually being smothered by an abundance of bread.

The Bread of God

Jesus called himself the bread of life, the bread of God. If he can use such a figure of speech, we may make bold to say that savoring the Bread of Life is an acquired taste. Just as an appreciation of beauty, and of the higher forms of love, are acquired tastes for most people, so the taste for Bread of God has to be awakened. Few persons are born with it. Countless men and women live only without Christ but not without him at all, not feeling lost (they are) without him. They do not know what they are missing. Will he awaken them? An Old Testament poet had it—"O taste and see that the Lord is good!" Those who know Christ and who have shared him, many who have lived starved lives without realizing it, will awaken to know that the true inner hunger, the hunger of the soul, can be satisfied only by him.

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Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



MAX SMITH

TO KEEP DRAFTS FROM CALF PENS—Young calves are quite likely to contract scours and pneumonia in cold weather if drafts are present; the silo chute, hay holes, or manually controlled windows or doors are often to blame for their condition. Dairymen are urged to control drafts in all parts of the barn as well as for the calves.

TO ORDER SPRING OATS SEED—With the past winter conditions and the great amount of cold, snowy weather, spring oat growers should get prepared for early planting. By this we mean the best week in March or the first week in April. To have the seed of the proper variety on hand is quite important at this time. For this part of the state the Clinton 59 or Garry should give good yields. Early planting is very important for top yields.

TO GET FARMER'S TAX GUIDE—The filing of Income Tax Reports will soon be due for all Americans. We urge all farmers to become acquainted with this procedure in order to keep records and be better citizens. The new publication, "Farmer's Tax Guide for 1961" is available at our Extension Office. It is very helpful.

TO PROTECT TREES AND SHRUBS FROM RABBITS—Cottontail rabbits are very popular with the small game hunter in the fall; however, at this time of the year, following the heavy snow cover, it's popularity may decrease on many fruit farms and with some home owners. When all vegetation is covered with a heavy blanket of snow the rabbits are forced to eat any plant, tree, or shrub above the snow level. They will eat the bark from the trees and new spring the plant will die. Mechanical guards such as hard w.a.e cloth, heavy-water proof paper, or aluminum foil may be used; protect the tree with sticks or lath to prevent rubbing. Chemical repellents containing Thiram and a chemical sticker may be used as a spray to prevent heavy damage.

Lancaster Farming
Lancaster County's Own Farm Weekly
P. O. Box 1524
Lancaster, Penna.
Offices:
North Duke St.
Lancaster, Penna.
Phone: Lancaster
Exchange 4-3047
Jack Olson, Editor
Robert G. Campbell, Advertising
Director & Business Manager
Established November 1, 1917
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
in advance. Single copy Price
10c.
Member of the Newspaper Publish-
ers Association, National Editor-
ial Conference.