

FROM WHERE WE STAND - Good Beds Won't Cure Insomnia

A friend of the family spent a night in our home recently. Small, modern houses being what they are, he was bunked on a fold-away bed in the living room.

When we inquired the next morning how he had slept on the not-too-soft sofa he said, "Oh, I slept just fine. Listen, I can sleep anywhere. I grew up sleeping on straw mattresses, but I guess you never did that, did you?"

Straw mattresses — but we called them straw ticks — were the arms of morpheus for the whole family. In fact when one of us would visit a friend overnight and be assigned a bed with a cotton mattress, we would have to battle a long time to get comfortable enough to go to sleep.

Fresh, clean straw in the summertime with nothing to hinder the air circulation provided a cool bed, and the addition of the feather tick in the winter assured us of a snug night even though there was no heat in the house.

Children in this day of high speed travel and a superabundance of hotels and motels do not realize what it is to have to share a bed with visiting relatives, or to have to give up the bed altogether so the visiting old folks would have a place to sleep.

"Company" in the days of our childhood, meant, more often than not, we would have "sleepers" at our house overnight.

When there was company in the house, the lucky ones had the straw mattress, and the extra lucky ones had to share the bed with only one other person.

Of course the boys, and presumably the girls in their room, would have a "ball" before all were settled for the night. And let it be said right now, it takes some settling when a bunch of boys in one room are trying to get to sleep with as many as three at the head of the bed and two more at the foot. The confusion, of course, was compounded if there happened to be a few more bedded down on a pile of feather ticks and quilts on the floor.

Dear reader, you have never lived if you haven't slept four or five in a bed with brothers, cousins and other assorted relatives. In the winter time, three brothers in a bed can be a cozy arrangement, and we were thankful for two more warm bodies on long cold nights, but take it from one who knows, there is little comfort in being one of these at the foot of the bed.

But with all the lumps in the mattress, the fighting for cover, the scratchy toenails in the middle of the back, we never spent one night with insomnia.

There must be a lesson here somewhere if we can find it.

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

Of Spilled Milk And Broken Eggs

There is no use crying over spilt milk.

Perhaps there is no use crying over a broken egg either, but when that egg is shaped like a bowling pin, it deserves some mention at least.

The editor recently received a letter from Mrs. Paul H. Neidermyer of Bareville R1, describing an odd shaped egg her husband had found in the henhouse.

Mr. Neidermyer, an avid amateur bowler, came in for quite a bit of good natured ribbing from his family and friends. He planned to preserve the egg to show to skeptics who doubted

such a thing as a bowling pin egg.

Seeing a human interest story, we armed with camera, drove out to the Neidermyer home to record the peculiar hen fruit for posterity.

You can guess the rest. The egg was just as fragile as eggs are wont to be, and the albumin ran out of the shell just as albumin is wont to do when the egg is dropped.

The film in the camera went unexposed, and the apologies tendered by the photographer fell far short of expressing his disappointment at not getting the picture and his compassion for the family which lost such a conversation piece.



THIS WEEK —In Washington With Clinton Davidson

Fiscal Brinksmanship

Maurice H. Stans, former President Eisenhower's Director of the Bureau of the Budget, is an internationally known and respected expert on Federal government spending.

What he had to say about it before a farm group a few weeks before he resigned should be read by everyone who is concerned about how much Washington spends it for.

"The pressures on Washington to spend more and more" he said, "are almost unbenevolent. Compared with

the demand for spending, the demand for economy is almost nonexistent.

"Spending comes easily, as the public demands more and more from government. In the past 30 years we have paid our bills only 6 times and have borrowed to cover our expenses 24 times," Stans said.

Government spending, Stans pointed out, has increased by more than 3,000 percent in the past 30 years. Spending amounted to \$3 billion in 1930, \$9 billion in 1940, \$40 billion in 1950, and \$80 billion in 1960, he said.

"There is nothing to assure us that this increase will not continue," Stans said. "Higher ranges of future spending are already built into our

present Federal programs."

The government has an "official" debt of \$285 billion but, Stans said it has IOU's that amount to almost \$500 billion additional in promises for future payments. These include \$60 billion in unfinanced pensions to military and civil retirees, \$300 billion in veterans' compensation benefits, and \$100 billion in unfinished construction and undelivered purchases.

If we are to pay off those IOU's as they come due, and continue present government services, the government must collect increasingly higher taxes, Stans warned.

Inflation Ahead

"We can," he said, "soon destroy the nation's vitality if we allow government to continue to purchase a policy of cancerous taxation which undermines individual initiative, diverts earnings away from capital investment and savings, and thereby limits the capacity of the economy to grow and expand."

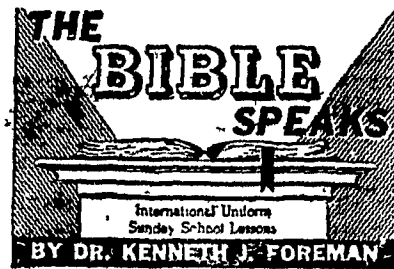
We have predicted many times in these columns and in talks to business and civic groups that growing inflation will be continued. We have

RURAL RHYTHMS

JUST LIKE A BOY By: Carol Dean Huber

He wished that he might never see another ripe tomato, Or ever have to stoop again to pick up a potato, Or cut another cauliflower or a cabbage head, But could spend each morning fast asleep in bed.

He said he hated every cow and every little pig; He hoped every ear of corn would not be very big All this he said to Mother — but to a neighbor lad He boasted of the work he did when he was HELPING Dad



Bible Material: John 18, 19.
Devotional Reading: Psalm 22 1-3, 19.

How He Died

Lesson for March 26, 1961

IF YOU WILL take time to count the pages of the four Gospels, and then count the pages of the chapters telling of the trial, death and resurrection of Jesus, you can see for yourself that the events of those last days and hours are given space far beyond what is given to any other part of Jesus' life. It can even be said, as a paradox, that nothing stands out in the life of Christ as it was first written, as does his death.



Dr. Foreman

Not only in the Gospels but in the thinking of the church, the death of Christ looms large. Look at the pictures or statues of Christ in Protestant or Roman Catholic homes; how often he appears as a dead man!

"I Thirst!"

At first this seems strange. Do not all men die? All men do, to be sure, but not always in the way, nor ever with the purpose, which the church has always seen in the death of Jesus. If on Good Friday in many a church three full hours will be set apart for meditation on the memory and the meaning of the Cross, all we can do here is barely to suggest some of the thoughts which that tragic and glorious story suggest to a sympathetic reader. One is that Jesus died by violence, died under torture, died in disgrace, for the penalty of crucifixion was inflicted only on slaves and savages. Jesus himself, looking forward to this event, had used the pain words "die," "be killed." He did not use any of the pretty words that have been thought of, like a blanket of flowers over a corpse, to conceal the face of death. It was real death that afternoon, death in the midst of youth, death with much to say that could not be said, death without friends. Like a red under-

scoring of the mental distress, spiritual agonies, was the agony of being crucified slowly for hours beneath the sun, the sufferer's whole body cried out for water. The one of personal physical distress was wrung from Jesus during those six terrible hours, how was just that desperate "I thirst."

So we have to say of Jesus he died in torture. But the word from the cross which records is not a word of pain or power: "It is finished." does not mean "All is over," an admission of defeat. It is shout of the victorious after the battle, it is the cry up by the mountain climber after many perils sets his foot on the topmost pinnacle never scaled, it is the outburst of an engineer who after months of planning and years of work sees the span over the great chasm complete at last. He had something very like this thought before (John 17:4), —so that must not think of the Cross as one and only achievement of Jesus. The cross was the crowning accomplishment of Jesus and death were all of one with his death was "in character" his life. Every man leaves his life unfinished in some respect, leave behind us friends, only a new generation, plans to be led, words unspoken, work done. Even Jesus knew what he wished to say things that could not be said. And even his people has not had its full without other lives welded together into his living presence. Nevertheless there was a full quality about Jesus' death had finished what no one else have done.

For Us

This is true, because, as a Christian church soon come to Jesus' death was much more every-man's death. Alone and uniquely it was on behalf of men. This in turn would not mean so if Jesus had lived a long life; and it could not have been, even if our Lord had lived so long, unless his life was more than that of any man in history. For the death makes two great affirmations about Jesus Christ: first, he is not only a particular man, but he is Man, he sums himself all the human race in the Man. The other affirmation is the Divine Son of God.

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Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



TO PRUNE GRAPE VINES — The month of March is the best time to prune grape vines; there will be less "bleeding" of juice coming from the cut, and less danger of knocking off the tender buds as they begin to swell. Attempt to leave 40 to 50 good buds on four or five good canes. The first 10 buds on last year's growth will usually produce the best.

MAX SMITH TO BE CAREFUL ABOUT WEED SEEDS — The weed population on many farms is increased through the use of uncertified seeds. Many home grown seeds contain undesirable grass and other weed seeds. Local growers who are seeding spring crops are urged to plant clean, certified seeds in order to get the crop desired and not add to the weed problem.

TO PUT MANURE ON ROW CROPS—Numerous questions recently indicate that some local alfalfa and clover producers intend to apply barnyard manure to their alfalfa and clover fields yet this spring. In the first place these legume plants should not need any extra nitrogen because they have the ability to fix nitrogen from the air. Second, manure applied at this time of the year might cause trouble in raking at hay-making time. Run-down pastures or normal row crops will utilize the manure crop much better.

TO PRUNE ROSE BUSHES—It's pruning time for roses when the new buds appear (Exceptions are climbing and rambler roses that should be pruned after they have bloomed). Hybrid teas, floribundas, grandifloras, shrub roses should all be pruned in early spring. Roses should be pruned to cut away dead wood control the shape of the bush, and remove surplus growth for better rose development.

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