

FROM WHERE WE STAND - Justice - From Whose Point Of View

Grandpa used to tell the story of the farmer who said to the lawyer, "My bull has gored thy ox."

The lawyer immediately said, "Well then, you owe me the price of the ox."

"Oh, I'm sorry," said the farmer, "I meant to say thy bull has gored my ox."

"Well now, we will have to look into this matter," said the lawyer.

"If you were as anxious to see justice done as to receive it," said the farmer, "This matter could have been settled without a second look."

In recent weeks a group of mid-western farmers, calling themselves The National Farmers Organization, has banded together to try to get fairer prices for their livestock.

In an effort to bring prices for finished livestock into line with costs of production, the midwest producers have held cattle, hogs and sheep off the large markets hoping that the law of supply and demand would force processors of meat products to pay higher prices for live animals.

At last report, the plan seemed to be having very limited success, if any at all. But the point of this piece is not with the merits of the plan. Whether it is a good plan or not we leave to you. We simply mean to applaud this group for trying to do something for themselves, and to defend their right to such a course of action.

In a release this week, the Industrial News Review, an organization which attempts to have editorials favorable to its contributors published free of charge in newspapers, questioned the legality of the action of the National Farmers Organization.

The opening statement of their proposed editorial said, in part, "Some farmers, it seems, are emulating labor unions with a strange and highly dubious form of collective bargaining."

After several very questionable statements as to the possible consequences of the action of the NFO, the Industrial News Review says, "Moreover, livestock can't just be stored away until prices improve." Thinking to add the clincher to their argument, the writers quote the Wall Street Journal which said, "Even if farmers manage to push prices significantly higher, they'll have to market animals

eventually—"

There is the crux of the matter. It is difficult to hold perishable commodities, such as many agricultural products, and processors know this. In many instances, the farmers are at the mercy of the purchasers. Producers either take the offered price or end up with supplies of produce they can't use or even give away.

Manufacturers of storable items can hold production indefinitely until a favorable ratio exists between cost of production and selling price. Unlike agricultural production, manufacturing output can be controlled almost immediately to conform to the consumption of the product.

Producers of manufactured products know the cost of production and set selling prices high enough to cover all costs. Why should not farmers be entitled to the same right to set the selling price for their production?

Why should any group, especially a manufacturers' group where storage of production for higher prices is standard procedure, question the legality of the temporary storage of agricultural products.

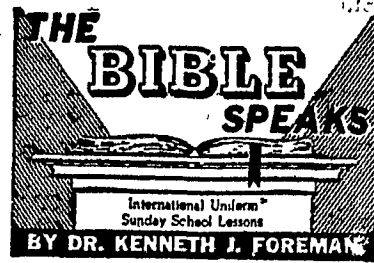
Some local purchasers of livestock have expressed the belief that the move by the farmers group will tend to produce many over-finished animals and eventually depress the price still more. General consensus of livestock handlers (not farmers) we contacted was that the move is ill advised.

Some commentators have labeled the action a "strike", with the implied connotation that anything called a strike is bad for the country.

We have long felt that farmers needed some sort of bargaining agency in the world of business. The action may well be a strike, but that label neither improves or impoverishes the merits of the plan.

Ill advised, the action may well be; a strike it may well be, and it just might not accomplish a bit of good for those who have pinned their hopes upon it. We do not recommend nor talk against the action as such. We do defend the right of the farmers to market their products as their collective and cooperative conscience dictates.

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



Bible Material: 1 Kings 5:1-7; Proverbs 4:1-4, 10:1; 13:24; 20:11; 22:6; 29:19; Ephesians 6:1-4
Devotional Reading Colossians 3:17-25

Parent's Duty

Lesson for May 14, 1961

IN AMERICA the second Sunday in May is called Mother's Day, and a few weeks after that, the windows of stores advertise various stuff for "Father's Day" presents. Maybe there would be more enthusiasm if Mother's and Father's Day were combined.



Dr. Foreman mental about mothers, let us think about fathers and mothers together. Let's think about what parents must do for their children if they have any serious intention of bringing the children up right. And let's not talk as if it were easy and pleasant. Let us talk about something so difficult, so unpleasant, that thousands of parents put it off and neglect it, with results that bring disaster personal and national.

Discipline

This is the duty of discipline. Children will not ask for it, they are disposed to resent it. It has to be done by the parents, both parents. The children must not get the idea that father can be played off against mother. Each must support the other. Any arguments about discipline had better be carried on either before the couple marry, or (after the children come) while the children are asleep. Now there are two things the parents must know, or their "discipline" will not work. 1. They must know what their children are doing. With very little children this means,—what they are doing every waking minute. The other thing to be sure about is how you want them to grow up, what sort of ideal you have for their character and life.

Discipline Is An Art

Discipline is not the same as punishment, though it involves punishment sometimes. It is not the same as being "possessive" wanting to manage every detail of the children's lives. It is treating some and daughters as perpetual children, picking on their wives and husbands, the colleges or their future careers. It means bringing them up so that when it comes time for them to make choices they will choose wisely and well.


This means, of course, that discipline is an art, not a science, changes from family to family, from child to child. But one thing is certain: a child who always does exactly as he pleases, is an undisciplined child, a menace to himself, to his parents, and too soon, to society. Juvenile delinquents are simply undisciplined children turned loose. It is easy at first for parents to dodge discipline.

The Bible And Discipline

Old Testament and New Testament the duty of discipline. The fact that discipline has to be carried out as a parent's duty shows the parents were then, as they are now, inclined to skip it. The meaning of the word as we find it in the R.S.V. is interesting. In the Hebrew and the Greek, the word is the same as one translated sometimes "correction" or "punishment." We can combine the two ideas and say, Discipline in the home means correction and punishment. How much correction? How much punishment? That's where the art comes in. But essentially the thing is always the same in principle. When a child shows signs, in character actions or habits, of going away from the ideal person he ought to be, that is the time to correct and straighten him out, just as you would correct a rose or a tomato plant that was dragging in the mud.

And this gives the clue to the meaning of "the discipline of the Lord" of which Paul speaks (Eph 6:4). For in a Christian home, the ideal for every child will be Christ-likeness, nothing less. Few children (there may be a few exceptions, unknown to this writer) will unfold into Christ-likeness without help. As the gardener helps the flowers by not letting them sprawl naturally, so the parent helps the child by keeping him out of whatever soils the soul.

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THIS WEEK
—In Washington
With Clinton Davidson
New Farm Frontier

President Kennedy's "New Frontier" for agriculture calls for sweeping changes designed to give farmers added bargaining powers to increase their income.

He spelled out his program methods and objectives in a 70-page, 4,000-word farm bill now before the House and Senate Agriculture Committees. It is the longest farm bill we can recall ever being put before Congress.

The key provision is "supply management" controls through greater use of acreage allotments, marketing quotas in bushels, bales and pounds, marketing orders to set minimum quality standards, backed up by price supports and compensatory payments when needed.

It would stock the Secretary of Agriculture's "farm medicine kit" with a score or more of other farm problem remedies, such as expansion of industrial plants into "under-developed" rural areas, more credit for farmers, and wider use of surpluses at home and abroad.

The first step in putting a new program into effect, if Congress approves the bill, would be a decision by the Secretary that some particular farm commodity was "sick."

The Secretary next would ask the county ASC committees and the farm organizations to nominate a committee of bona fide farmers to serve on a committee to consult with him before prescribing a treatment for the illness.

And, in addition, the Secretary would himself appoint at least one "consumer representative" to serve on each commodity committee. The job of that representative

would be to "protect consumer interests" in the development of any farm program.

After consulting with his advisory committee the Secretary would send the proposed new program to Congress in the form of a prescription. If, however, Congress disagreed with the diagnosis and prescribed treatment it could send a revised program to the President.

Farmers' Choice

The new program would then be submitted to producers of the commodity in a referendum. It would become law only if approved by at least two-thirds of those voting in the referendum.

President Kennedy came to a conclusion reached earlier by many farmers and farm leaders: That there is no single cure-all remedy (program) that can be applied to all farm problems, but that different commodities require different programs.

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Rural Rhythms

SPRING'S PROMISE
By Carol Dean Huber

The wind plays a song in the Maple trees,
The strings are the branches bare,
And promise of summer days to come
Floats on the morning air.

Slowly the branches begin to bud,
Awakened by wind's sweet tune.
They sway in time to his promise sweet;
Summer will be here soon.

Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



MAX SMITH

TO BE ALERT FOR ALFALFA WEEVIL—Alfalfa growers are urged to inspect their fields daily for the presence of weevil larvae feeding on the top leaves of the plants. These small green worms will riddle the plants if not killed by spraying with methoxychlor. If the plants are in the bud stage when damage is first noted, it might be best to cut and then spray the stubble to kill the worms. New alfalfa fields should be allowed to come into 10 to 20% blossom before cutting.

TO ENROLL IN FIVE-ACRE CORN CONTEST—Local corn growers who are interested in growing a maximum yield of corn per acre should enroll in the Pennsylvania Five-Acre Corn Contest. Entry deadline is August 1st and application banks are available at our Extension Office. Growers entering the contest are urged to apply extra fertilizer and plant their corn at least 20,000 stalks per acre.

TO SPRAY FOR TENT CATERPILLARS—Late April or early May is the best time to kill the tent caterpillars when they are small; the unsightly tents or nests are home for the small worms until they run out of food, then they migrate to other areas and are harder to kill. The best time to kill them is when the tent is about the size of a golf ball. The use of DDT at the rate of 3 pounds of the 50% Wettable Powder per 100 gallons of water (3 Tablespoons per gallon) will do a killing job.

TO RECOGNIZE FORAGE STAGE OF MATURITY—Silage filling and hay-making operations are approaching. The stage of maturity is very important to get the most feeding value. Many growers allow their forage crops to get too mature. The grasses are best when cut at heading time, clover in the early blossom stage, and alfalfa in the bud to early blossom stage. New stands of alfalfa being cut for the first time should be allowed to reach 20% blossom for the good of future cuttings. Rye should be cut in the heading to early blossom stage, and other small grains in the flowering to early milk stage.

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