

## FROM WHERE WE STAND -

# The High Cost Of High Living

It's not the high cost of living, but the cost of high living that hurts.

That's the way a friend put it several weeks ago and we have had occasion to use it several times since then. It comes in real handy when you hear people complaining about how much the cost of food has gone up.

In one such discussion last week a rural non-farm resident was telling the group just how much it was costing to feed his family of four. He went into a long discussion of how much more expensive food is now than it was a few years ago.

We listened to his harangue for quite a while until he began to tell us about the new automobile he had ordered and what a shrewd deal he was making. But even with all his cunning, he was paying almost a thousand dollars more than a comparable car would have cost him twenty years ago.

He said, "We will probably be eating TV dinners for a year to pay for it, (the new car) but I guess it will be worth it."

You can't argue with a person in such a mood, but we couldn't let the opportunity pass by. We asked for just five minutes to tell him a story and he agreed to listen.

The story begins in 1939 when the editor raised a flock of 300 broilers for a Future Farmer project. We sold the broilers at 12 weeks for 28 cents a pound and made a pretty nice little profit. The dealer was happy because the birds were good quality and he could sell them at a profit, and some housewife would be happy because she could have a Sunday dinner at a reasonable price if she bought the chicken dressed and stuffed or cut it up in her own kitchen.

Last week at the Lancaster Poultry Center broilers averaged under 12 cents per pound. The growers were going broke. Buyers were not happy because they had too small a price to begin with to do much moving. The housewife didn't appreciate the break she was getting because the week before, the supermarket gave a whole chicken away with every five dollars of groceries she bought and this week they asked her to pay as much for pan-ready meat as live broilers brought back in 1939.

That same Future Farmer was a proud boy when his first egg check came from the cooperative in 1940. For the first case of eggs he shipped he received \$15.00, a fabulous amount for a high school farm boy in those days. It does not take too much higher mathematics to figure out that those eggs returned to the producer a very nice 50 cents per dozen, wholesale. (Feed cost about \$40.00 per ton at that time).

Last week in New York, the highest price paid for Extra Fancy Heavy-weight White eggs was 43 cents per dozen. (Feed last week cost over \$90.00 per ton).

We concluded our story by asking,

## Housewives Like Weighed Eggs

Louisiana Experiment Station researchers are running a sales test in grocery stores. Consumers in these stores have the opportunity to compare the cost of eggs to the cost of meats and other commodities. Eggs are selling for 34c per pound in a control experiment alongside egg priced by the dozen. Those priced by the pound average out to be the same as eggs priced by the dozen.

Each individual carton of eggs is weighed and priced on a net weight basis. Large gummed labels indicate the price per pound, and net weight and the total price. **Three More Weeks**

The experiment will run six weeks and is now only half completed. It is apparent from preliminary calculations that eggs priced by the pound are out-selling cartons priced in the usual manner. In some instances eggs by the

pound were preferred two to one.

Dr. E. P. Roy of the Agricultural Experiment Station, in co-operation with the Agricultural Extension Service, is conducting the research. A final report will be available in September. Vito Tramoto, president of Home-own Grocery Chain, Lake Charles, Louisiana, made his stores available for the experiment. A co-operating in the test is the Sweet Lake Land & Oil Company, which packs eggs for IG cham.

### Fact or Fancy

Can plant roots seek out and grow towards soil moisture? Plant roots have no sense of direction except to grow downward, according to A.H. Hibbard, horticulturist at the University of Missouri. Even this sense is lost after the plants become established. Then roots usually grow in all directions. Most rapid growth and branching occurs where conditions of moisture, plant

"Now you tell us what else besides food you can buy at less than 1940 prices and we will agree what foods are too high priced."

Of course many housewives do believe that food is too high priced. They overlook many items in the basket at the supermarket which bear no resemblance to food. Items such as paper goods, soaps and other cleaning supplies, drugs, tobaccos, and sundry items are carried home with the groceries and all too often considered in with the price of food.

But this aside, the average housewife fails to consider the enormous amount of built-in-maid-service in the food she carries home each week. Even the TV dinners our friend was dreading so much would cost only a fraction of the listed price, if the housewife bought the ingredients and prepared them in her own kitchen.

In this speeded up existence in which we find ourselves, Mrs. America is demanding more and more in the way of this built-in-maid-service.

And Mrs. America gets whatever she demands, but somebody has to pay for it. It is not the high cost of living, but the cost of high living that hurts.

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

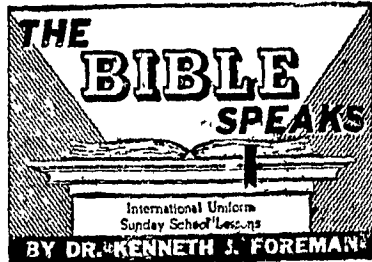
## The White Goddess

When any of us poor, uninformed private citizens cries out against the expending government and the unbalanced budget, he is quickly hushed with the reply that the cause of it all is our tremendous defense budget. Defense spending, of course, is the white goddess on the pedestal and if one dares question any part of it, the spenders say something like: "Sir, would you sell freedom down the river?" Of course, they can say it in a more menacing tone.

Even a white goddess can have a spot of mud on her skirt here and there, however, it seems, Comptroller General Joseph Campbell, head of the General Accounting Office, sometimes called the "watchdog on spending," reports that the Defense Department cost the taxpayers \$30 million by buying to ask for competitive bids on spare aircraft parts; that much of the purchase of some \$106 million worth of the parts through negotiated contracts was unjustified.

Well, now, we're glad to find that we do have a watchdog. We hadn't realized it and we're still not convinced that he's on the job all the time. Or, if he is, he doesn't bark very loudly. There must be a few other little, paltry items spent for defense that might be looked into, we imagine. Of course, \$30 million more or less doesn't mean much in a modern governmental budget, but, a few millions here, a few millions there — they do add up!

Livestock Reporter, East St. Louis



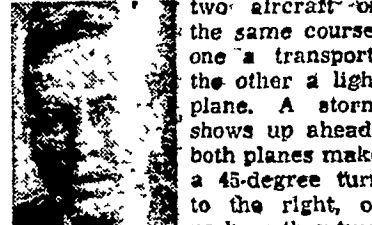
International Uniform Sunday School Lessons  
BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

Bible Material: John 11:5-16; 14:3-6; 20:24-29, Acts 1:13  
Devotional Reading: 1 John 1:1-7.

## The Realist

Lesson for July 30, 1961.

THOSE who are converted to faith in Christ bring their temperaments with them. Some people are temperamentally optimistic others are by nature pessimists and they stay that way after conversion. It is like



two aircraft on the same course, one a transport, the other a light plane. A storm shows up ahead; both planes make a 45-degree turn to the right, or perhaps they turn clear around with a 180-degree turn. After the turn they are still transport and light plane, not two of either, not something else like helicopters. That's what "conversion" means, just turning around.

### In Presence Of Danger

Thomas, one of the "Twelve," was a man set apart from the other eleven by his dark mind. Not that he was stupid; on the contrary he was pretty bright. He had a very logical mind, but it was easier for him to believe unpleasant facts than to believe what would have suited him better. Some call him a pessimist. Perhaps he was; but we may think of him as a realist. The optimist has lovely stained glass windows in his house of life, and so the world always looks gay and bright to him. The pessimist paints over his windows, can scarcely see at all, and says, "What a dismal world this is!" The realist has clear plate glass windows and keeps them polished. When it's raining outside the realist says so. The optimist says, "Go on, you're a pessimist! See how lovely the world looks from my window! I never see it rain at all. But the man is not a pessimist, really." Thomas, like others of his sort, sometimes slips over into pes-

simism, but (again Christian realists) even takes the darkest view he does not lose his faith. On occasion when Jesus was at Bethany just after Lazarus died it was a known fact that he wanted to have him. Thomas thought it would be worse than arrest. "Let's go, too, that we may die with him," he said. He did not think he was riding the road to

### In Bewilderment

At the Last Supper the voice of Thomas said, "Lord, we do not know you are going, how can we follow the way?" He was completely bewildered and did not leave the table. He did, to go out into the world at a low point. He admits he does not know Jesus at all. "We do not know where you are headed," he said. "I will follow you if you call a vote of no-confidence." Thomas stayed on when Jesus headed? He did not. But he was sure Jesus had that's faith.

### No Second-hand Faith

Thomas is best known for refusing to believe that the resurrection of Jesus was a fact. To be more exact, he refused to believe on the word of his friends. Thomas said, "The things are impossible, I will not believe it." What he meant, of course, was, "It may be true but I can't take it at my word. I must see for myself. I believe, it will be only when I see myself proves the story." Now the Eleven (or Twelve, exact) may have been a bit slow when one of your friends says he doesn't believe you, you believe the lot of you. Peter the skin But they did not throw Thomas out, and he did not throw himself out. The next time he was there too.

Thomas is called the "Doubter" is this fair to him? Should he be called a doubter who is slow to die with Jesus? Should he be called a doubter when he doubts but ignorance the aim? Should a man be called a doubter when he seeks to know the truth? Many of these who believe are skeptics who do not believe. But those who want to believe, and are honest within the community, are faithful.

(Based on outlines from the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches in the U. S. A. Religious Community Press service)

## Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



**TO PRACTICE FLY CONTROL**—Moisture and temperature conditions have favored the increase in fly population. Livestock producers are urged to start the very best sanitary practices at this time to remove the fly breeding places. Follow this with a regular insecticide program. The use of Diazinon and Dieldrin as a residual spray (alternate methods) should give good results.

**TO SPRAY TOMATOES**—All farm and urban gardens will benefit from a number of tomato plants. Diseases such as blight and anthracnose reduce yields and quality. Mancozeb is the pesticide recommended at the rate of 2 pounds per 100 gallons of water (one tablespoonful per gallon) every week. The spray is especially needed during rainy weather.

**TO PLANT FOR AUGUST SEEDING**—One of the best times to make a summer seeding of alfalfa is from the 15th to the 20th of August; seedings later than this period result in a greater percentage of poor stands or failure. The ground should be prepared and worked several weeks in advance to weed-free and firm; all lime and fertilizer requirements (complete soil test) should be applied and worked into the soil before seeding. The band-seeder is the best method of application followed by a rolled or cultiva-

**TO SPRAY FOR PEACH TREE BORER**—Fruit trees such as peaches, plums, and apricots are attacked by the peach tree borer, even the ornamentals of the family. This insect is found in the trunk of the tree at or about ground level and injury causes a gum-like mass to appear on the trunk, of the tree. The borer is especially common in 1 gallon of water around the base of the tree, especially at the base of the tree, making a hole in July and repeat in mid-August. Material on the fruit of bearing trees

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