

FROM WHERE WE STAND - Any Defense Is Better Than No Defense

Diplomats on both sides of the oceans hurl charges and counter charges. Trouble spots develop in first one corner of the world and then another. The space race gains momentum and the arms race plunges headlong and pell-mell toward the brink of disaster.

There are pacifists who say we should totally disarm and rely on the goodness of mankind to prevent any group from attacking an unarmed nation.

There are alarmists who say we should immediately declare war on a nation who oppose our way of life but they are not quite sure just who opposes our way of life, or else they can not agree with other alarmists as to what constitutes our way of life.

There are those frightened souls who say war is inevitable and in this day of nuclear weapons there is no defense and with no hope there is no reason to concern ourselves with planning any defense. There are those who say they would not want to survive a nuclear bombing.

There are those who say we must build our defense and our deterrent and retaliatory forces to the highest possible point to be ready in the event of attack by an aggressor nation but they are opposed by those who claim preparation for war makes war more eminent.

In the United States all these people are guaranteed the right to hold these beliefs and to express their beliefs without fear of reprisal and that is, we believe, as it should be.

But let us look at the record. Since recorded history began, there have been nations with desires which they could not satiate by peaceful means and no amount of pacificity has ever deterred such nations from their course of conquest.

Again since earliest times there have been wars fought because nations or persons acted too hastily and without proper preparation. We feel it can be truly said there is not a nation on earth that desires war and nations will go to great length to avoid open conflicts.

There were probably people living in the day of the first spear who bewailed the fate of mankind because they believed that there could be no safe defense against such a horrible weapon, but when it comes right down to the time, not many people want to die—no matter how hard life is.

The controversy rages and we do not presume to take sides in the argument over disarmament, but we do not and will not subscribe to the theory that there is no defense in modern war.

A small item in the Nova Scotia Civil Defense magazine has an interesting story to tell. Here it is for your consideration.

A neighbor of ours is a peculiar guy. He's building a fallout shelter in his basement. As a carpenter he'd be a

good minister, the workmanship is the worst.

He says he's preparing against nuclear war. Nobody seems to be able to convince him that nuclear war is insanity that the balance of terror is such that neither side is going to start a war.

But he still keeps building. "He says if the fireball doesn't hit where he is, then he'll at least be safe from radioactive fallout. He smiles a little and hints that he's going to be one who has a good chance to survive."

"Got everything lined up. His water supply and his food, got his family all primed so they'll get into that shelter fast—his wife and all his children."

"Odd guy. Odd name too. Named Noah."

At present we know of no sure defense against the nuclear bomb if a person happens to be right in the midst of the blast but there is a good chance for survival if the person at the fringes of the shock area is properly prepared and properly educated.

There are many things rural residents can do to give their families and their livestock every chance for survival in the event of a nuclear attack. Local and national Civil Defense offices have building and other plans free for the asking.

We believe it is the duty of every farmer to find out what can be done and then do it.

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

The Time Is Ripe

There are areas of real need that the scientists have ignored. We think something ought to be done about them.

Why, for instance, is it possible to tell which mountain has uranium and what part of the ocean floor will yield oil but impossible to tell whether a melon is ripe without cutting it? If we have to go around holding our ear to a melon and thumping it with our knuckles, have we really progressed very far?

Is there anything any more disappointing than selecting a melon with an air of wisdom, and carrying it proudly home only to learn that it is not ready for the sacrifice? Let the scientists consider the embarrassment of a man who yields a knife with a flourish, cuts deep and true, then stands there a failure. Would it not be noble to keep a man from falling on his face before his family?

Look, you fellows with the test tubes, the white coats and the slide rules, lets get with it. Put aside the work on those other projects. What if it does take a week longer to develop the neutron bomb? We can always blow up the world later. Lets solve the real problem. The time is ripe—and suffering mankind would like to know whether the melons are—

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without warning many things can be done to remedy the situation. Food in jars or thick paper and plastic packings as well as fodder in covered storage places or silos, can be used immediately. (Turn to page 7)

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Bible Material Acts 12:12-25:13, 4:5-13, 15:36-9, Colossians 4:10-11, 2 Timothy 4:11b-1, 1 Peter 5:13
Devotional Reading 2 Timothy 2:1-13

Second Chance

Lesson for August 13, 1961

WOULD you give a second chance to a man who has shown himself to be unreliable? That was the question that Paul and Barnabas answered differently. Indeed they were so far from agreeing that they actually



Dr. Foreman

split up a long-time partnership. Barnabas went off into obscurity (for we never hear of him any more) rather than go without Mark. It was a strange choice, going with young and flighty Mark rather than with the brilliant and successful Paul, but it was Barnabas' choice and he had his reasons.

Personnel Board

The story really began several years before the great quarrel. Paul and Barnabas, a natural team if ever there was one, first picked up John Mark on their visit to Jerusalem carrying famine relief funds. He went back with them to Antioch, and was probably in church work there for some time. When Barnabas and Paul were sent out by the Antioch church as their first missionaries, they took John as an assistant. But at a place called Perga John Mark suddenly took a notion to go back to his mother (a lady of wealth) at Jerusalem. We don't know why Mark went back, no excuse is recorded. Anyhow, Perga was no place to resign; he was very much needed. Perga was in a malaria-infested district, and there is some indication elsewhere that Paul came down with it. The next leg of the journey extended across some high mountain ranges, and bandits were everywhere. It just looked as if John Mark couldn't take it.

Old Friends Part

At any rate, when the personnel board for the second mission party (Paul and Barnabas) met, the two older men could agree whether to take John or leave him behind. Luke tells us only that there was a "contention" between the two. The pagan missionaries about the younger colleague, but we can imagine how the arguments went. Paul would remind Barnabas that Mark had been a part of the first mission. Paul felt that taking him this time was probably a mistake. Taking him the second time could be a mistake for a second chance.

Barnabas, however, was for Mark, either as uncle or as a friend. He knew the boy much better. Paul did, he felt. Maybe there was some good reason for having come back as a student. He did. Barnabas could not see that John Mark had been a tactical failure. But he felt that John Mark would not fail. Paul, however, was not to take that chance. So—after many harsh words we do know—the great team of Paul and Barnabas split up for good.

Mark Makes Good

It turned out that Paul was right and Paul was right. John Mark made good—of the same kind of job, exactly, one on which he had failed. He won the respect of distinguished leaders of the church, especially Peter, who called him "my son," and Paul himself. Paul, surely? He was not to change his mind easily. It may not have been easy for Paul to change his mind, especially to change it in public (both publicly (to the church) and privately to the church). Paul praised John Mark in language he seldom used to one John Mark never was a brilliant young man, he was no more than an assistant from the last; but the ablest of men's assistants, and Paul paid tribute to the man whom (to use modern slang) he fired.

The split between Barnabas and Mark was painful, but it illustrates the wise providence of God under Paul's suspicious eye. Barnabas believed in him—and succeeded. To be believed in the margin between failure and success.

(Based on outlines copyrighted by 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



MAX SMITH

TO RENOVATE PASTURES — Livestock producers wanting to improve and pasture should bear in mind that late August to early September is a very good time to make a new pasture seeding. It is suggested that the old sod be destroyed by plowing or several discings, and that a complete soil test be made to determine the lime and fertilizer needs. Grasses such as orchard, brome, or reed canary seed by mid-September should make excellent grazing next spring and for several additional years.

TO ALTERNATE FLY SPRAYS—Dairymen are reporting a greater fly population this summer due to the ideal temperature conditions. This means that residual fly sprays should be used every 3 or 4 weeks in order to keep the number at a minimum. When one particular spray is used several times it is possible that the flies build up a resistance to the material, therefore the use of diazinon and ronnel alternately in dairy barns is suggested. Manure piles, barn cleanings and box stalls should also be sprayed with these materials to kill the fly maggots before they develop into flies.

TO MAKE SUDAN GRASS SILAGE—Ideal weather conditions in recent weeks have resulted in rank growth of forage crops, in some cases the summer seeding of grass for pasture has gotten ahead of the livestock. Rather than see this forage go to seed and be mostly wasted, it is suggested that it be made into silage by the time it has just begun to flower. A preservative should be used with it the same as with any other grass silage mixture. Molasses feeds or any of the ground grains will make good preservatives.

TO PREPARE FOR CORN STORAGE—The present outlook is for another good corn crop in southeastern Pennsylvania. Many growers do not have proper storage for much of this extra yield. Additional corn cribs will prevent common spoilage that has happened on many farms in recent years. Plans are available at our Extension Office.

TO MAKE THAT AUGUST ALFALFA SEEDING — From August 10th to the 20th is the best time to make the summer alfalfa seeding. The band-seeding method is hard to beat and has a greater percentage of successes. Be careful to roll or cultipack immediately after planting in the direction as drilled. A complete fertilizer in the direction as three to four hundred pounds per acre of a 5-10-10 will give the young plants a fast start.

Civil Defense

Farmer And 'Fatal Rain'

Ed Note Presented here are some thoughts on the subject of Radioactive fallout. It is the work of Dr. E. Malling Olsen, veterinary inspector in the Danish Veterinary Directorate and has been translated from a Danish publication. He calls fallout 'fatal rain'.

In the event of atomic war the farmer will be confronted with special problems, since his responsibilities are not only concerned with the safety of himself and his household, but also with his cattle and farm products. He will be responsible for the feeding of the population, and his task will consist among other things, of seeing that food which is produced where radioactive fallout has occurred is safe and edible.

When, however, fallout falls on uncovered food or fodder which is later consumed by man or animals, radioactive substances will get into the system and will either be passed out in the urine or milk or retained in the internal organs.

Various types of radioactive substances reach thyroid gland, bones and muscles. A good form of protection for harvested crops or animal food is to cover it with sackings, paper bags or similar things beforehand.

In the event of fallout serving foodstuffs with the aid of gamma rays'.

While gamma rays can cause lasting effects on living organisms, this is not the case with inanimate matter. Experiences have been carried out with a view to con-