

## FROM WHERE WE STAND - Time For A Reappraisal

Fast growing metropolitan areas are creating tax problems for farmers whose lands lie in the ever-widening path of these developments.

This is hardly a news item to those farmers in Lancaster County who have felt the encroachment of the city into their back pastures and then into their back yards.

Although still used for farming, many of the farm lands in areas of industrial or residential developments are taxed at the same rate as the highly concentrated areas of population. Many acres used for the production of grass are assessed at the same rate per square foot as those used for housing developments or shopping centers.

In addition to higher assessed values higher tax rates have gone up on fringe farm lands as local governments seek to provide increased services and facilities for suburban communities.

As a result of all this, many farmers have been forced to sell off part of their acreages to help meet the rising costs, but this serves only to bring more population or industry into the farm with more possibility of changing the farm into a completely urbanized area.

Unfortunately too many farmers feel the squeeze of mounting tax bills and are forced to sell to speculators years before the area is ready for complete development and the land will not bring a price commensurate with its potential value.

With the expansion of suburbia into our farmlands, lack of public services such as schools, libraries, auditoriums, water and sewage systems, fire and police protection and others, may very well be expected. Facilities provided by local governments for a fairly stable population may suddenly be totally inadequate for the suddenly mushrooming population.

In past decades when agriculture was the main source of employment and income, there was a close relationship between land ownership and ability to pay. Land taxes supported quite well the limited demand for public services.

Today many large personal incomes are associated with salaries, fees, and dividends rather than with direct income from land. Furthermore, urban-oriented people on the land today expect many more public services than did their forebears on the same land.

While Lancaster County has some of the most productive farm land in the world and possibly some of the most valuable land in the nation, it is not practical to expect that land to both feed and supply all the services of a population dedicated to covering it over with houses and "blacktop". Much revenue is needed to provide facilities and services and in many instances the landbase simply can not be productive enough to bear the burden of additional taxes.

We believe tax policies must be re-examined in line with the expectations

of the people.

Some states have considered legislation seeking a solution to the problem. A publication outlining some of these legislative actions and samples of instructions to local tax assessors issued by several states to handle the problem without special legislation is available from the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

This booklet "State Action Relating to Taxation of Farmland on the Rural-Urban Fringe ERS 13" would be worthwhile reading for any farmer who sees suburbia creeping up on his farm.

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

### For Dogs Only

Despite the discouraging behavior of the human race in various quarters of the globe of late, Man-Bites Dog may still qualify as news. But more startling, and certainly more gratifying, is the story: "Flea Bites Dog — Drops Dead."

And that is just what is happening — thanks to what any dog-lover will agree is the most exciting development of science since the first canine recognized a human as his master and licked a man's hand.

Announced recently, a new oral insecticide, now available on veterinarian's prescription, finally emancipates man's best friend from the age-old plague of fleas, ticks and lice! And it should be noted that in addition to the infections, irritation and general distraction these ectoparasites cause Rover, they also carry disease organisms that infect his master — typhus fever, tularemia, bubonic plague and Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever.

The new drug, called Ectoral, is an organic phosphorus compound and its dosage as well as purchase must be prescribed by a veterinarian. It is in sugar-coated tablet form so that the patient takes his medicine as eagerly as candy. For continuous protection, the tablet must be given regularly on a schedule worked out by the vet for the individual dog. Despite the fact that Ectoral is powerful enough to bring sudden death to any flea, tick or louse that samples the pet's blood it is harmless to the animal—as evidenced by two years of clinical testing on thousands of dogs by the Pitman-Moore Company, which developed the drug.

At present, Ectoral is for dogs only. But who knows when the cat-fancier's day may come?

Certainly the day will come when patients will stop quoting to small boys that previously unanswerable axiom set forth by John Florio in 1578: "Who sleepeth with dogs shall rise with fleas."

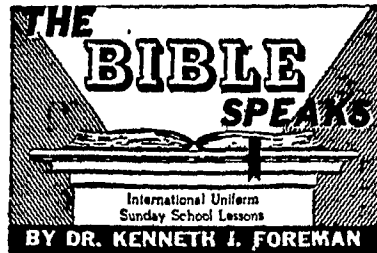
—Cleveland Times, N. C.

sects or disease damage affects the corn crop.

The late sweet corn crop has been held back because of adverse weather conditions. However, last week's rains should aid in more rapid growth and maturity. Peaches are ripening slowly and causing delay in harvest. (Turn to page 6)

### Lancaster Farming

Lancaster County's Own Farm Weekly  
P O Box 1524  
Lancaster, Penna.  
Offices:  
53 North Duke St  
Lancaster Penna  
Phone - Lancaster  
EXpress 4-3047  
Jack Owen, Editor  
Robert G Campbell, Advertising Director & Business Manager  
Established November 4 1935  
Published every Saturday by Lancaster Farming, Lancaster, Pa  
Entered as 2nd class matter at Lancaster Pa under Act of Mar 8, 1879 additional entry at Mount Joy Pa  
Subscription Rates \$2 per year three years \$5 Single copy Price 5 cents  
Members Pa Newspaper Publishers Assoc'n National Editorial Association



Bible Material: Acts 16 1-5; 17:14-15; Philippians 2 19-23; 1 Timothy 1 1-5; 1 Timothy 1 1-5; 2 1-5 22  
Devotional Reading: 2 Timothy 2 15-26.

### Guarding Truth

Lesson for September 3, 1961

EVERY once in a while you hear some one talking about "guarding the truth,"—generally a "sacred" truth, that is to say truth which the speaker regards with a kind of reverence. In writing to a younger friend and assistant of years' standing, Paul the Apostle urges him to guard what has been entrusted to him; and when one reads the whole letter, both letters, of Paul to Timothy, we see what is the main thing that has been entrusted to him: namely, the Truth. Thus he is to pass on to others when he dies (and before), men who can in turn pass it to future generations. Truth is a treasure; but when truth vanishes, there is no treasure to pass on.



Dr. Foreman has been entrusted to him: namely, the Truth. Thus he is to pass on to others when he dies (and before), men who can in turn pass it to future generations. Truth is a treasure; but when truth vanishes, there is no treasure to pass on.

### The Weakness of Truth

There is an old story about a king who wanted to find the wisest man in his kingdom. So at a banquet he asked this question: "What one thing is strongest in the world?" One wise man said "Wine." Another said "The King." The third said, "Women—but truth is stronger still." And when each had given the reasons for his choice, all the people shouted for the third man: "Great is truth, and mighty above all things." To this day people speak of the power of truth. Thomas Jefferson's line is famous: "Truth's like a torch, the more it's shook it shines."

Yet there are other proverbs pointing to the weakness of truth. It has been said that truth walks on leaden feet, while every lie has wings. Considering the many successful lies now abroad in the world, people may be pardoned for thinking that truth is weak. It

is often necessary to guard truth, while lies get on all by themselves. One weak any truth is that it can be distorted and rivaled by lies which sound very much like truth. Truth can be distorted and mixed and unconfused truths and untruths that to poison.

### The Danger of Truth

Truth is not dangerous thing that is good. But it can appear as a danger to the profit by lies. It often over people's prejudices, and down the power of tyrants. In the American Civil War, the South wrote a book on the economics of slavery. It was not a masterpiece of literature, but it did show very clearly: Slavery was profitable, in the long run. The book welcomed? The author hailed as an economic thinker? Not at all. In one state that book was forbidden to be sold or read. People argue a long time whether it was sinful or not. But the figures in that book show a simpler thing: slavery did not pay. There was no answer the argument, so the book was simply shut up. In one prominent American newspaper published a long article on the medicine in England. It showed beyond doubt that the British system of medicine costs a lot of money. But there were two factors were kept out of that article: the British people seem to be healthier than they used to be without it. Those two factors challenging; but to some they seem to be dangerous. They were not mentioned.

### How to Guard Truth

You might think that guarding truth, surely, needs no guard. Yet Christian truth also can be distorted, and needs to be protected against half-truths that sound like Christianity but are not. Christian truth also challenges all the forces of evil. Ministers and other Christians stand for truth need not be surprised to be called starbuck idealists at best, or communists at worst. Yet there is a modern Timothy who will tell you what truth they have known the truth! Stand up! Teach it! are the three best of guarding truth, now as

## Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



MAX SMITH

TO CONTROL WEEDS IN ALFALFA SEEDINGS—Seedings of alfalfa made between the 10th and 20th of August now making good growth and if weeds are a problem, the field should be sprayed when the alfalfa plants are small. The use of the DnNitro sprays such as Dowmox or Sinox PE at the rate of 3 to 4 gallons per acre in 20 to 40 gallons of water will take out most of the annual weeds. Spraying should be done when the alfalfa is in the 2 to 4 leaf stage and when temperatures are from 60 to 85 degrees.

TO SEED LAWNS—All home owners are reminded early September is the best time to establish a new lawn or re-seed an old lawn in southeastern Pennsylvania. Lawns that are seeded by September 20th will have time to start before freezing weather arrives. Also, the weather and moisture will reduce the danger of blowing out the new seedlings that often happens in a spring planting. Lime and fertilizer needs by way of a complete test should be applied before the grass is seeded. A good bulletin is available.

TO MAKE CORN SILAGE—Many fields of corn will be in the early dent stage which is one of the best times to make the crop into silage. Research work continues to show this stage of maturity as the one with the greatest total feed nutrients. At this stage the milk in the kernels has disappeared and the kernels are beginning to get hard, also, in most cases the stalk and the leaves are still green and contain added feed value. Finely chopped silage (cut) will pack better and result in more tons of high quality silage.

TO CHECK ALFALFA MANAGEMENT — Many growers will be undecided as to whether or not to remove the alfalfa for fourth cutting of alfalfa in September. A safe practice to go by is that if the crop is not in the blossom stage by the middle of September, do not cut it, if the majority of plants are in blossom, then it may be cut for hay and have time to grow four to six inches before a killing frost. If the crop is not in blossom by the middle of September and additional forage is needed, then it is suggested that the grower wait until after a killing frost and harvest the crop. The food supply in the roots of alfalfa will be better if these practices are followed.

### Crop Summary

#### Weather Spurs Tobacco Harvest

Silo filling occupied the some of the water from the week, but many reported the high-moisture crop good corn crop only in the Last week's hot humid weather slowed curing of milk stage and not ready to early-cut tobacco, but aided be harvested. Reports, from late planted fields, the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service said this week in its heavy crop with good tonnage per acre. weekly crop and weather summary.

The hot, humid weather The early cigar filler tobacco crop was heavy and clean, with the high moisture of the agency of the State Dept. last week tended to push to maturity. Heavy pickings this week were evident in a few late maturing fields. The report adds, however, that the major portion of the crop is free of insect or disease damage.

Corn still is in excellent condition, aided by the rain and hot weather. Good yields are anticipated in most areas of the state. The corn grain has entered the dough stage in most areas, and lowered humidity and light breezes to aid in carrying off No major in-