

FROM WHERE WE STAND - The Not-So-Wide Open Spaces

The big Ringneck Cock strutting along the roadside Monday morning seemed to know he had nothing to fear of man for several days yet.

He, and several thousand of his brothers will be roast pheasant by this time tomorrow. That is they will be if they find cover enough to protect them from natural predators and not enough to protect them from the human hunter.

In some cases that "if" is a pretty big question mark.

With almost ideal harvest weather during the past three or four weeks, much of the corn crop is in the crib and the stalks are, or will be disced down or shredded and baled.

This fall is the first time in many years that such a large portion of the corn crop was off the fields by the first week of hunting season. Many of the ringnecks have been flushed out of their natural cover and have been forced to find food and lodging in fence rows, woodlots and thickets.

But several other factors enter into the hunting picture in Lancaster County. For several years the hazards of civilization have been surrounding game animals and enclosing their ranges with fences of highway traffic. The open fields and woodlots have been becoming smaller and cleaner cultivated.

Hunters have been increasing in number as the areas of hunting have decreased, and the farmer has been expected to provide food and shelter for the game with no help from anyone.

This is an old story, but perhaps a new chapter is about to be written.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture will begin next year a program to encourage the nation's farmers to develop conservation practices which are of primary benefit to wildlife.

Under new language included in the 1962 Appropriations Act at the re-cultural Conservation program will be enlarged to include practices which enhance wildlife protection while also providing soil and water conservation benefits.

Under this authority, financial and technical assistance will be given to farmers for development or restoration of shallow water areas for wildlife, for the construction of ponds and dams for wildlife, for establishing food and cover plots, and for other practices that will benefit wildlife in a particular county or state.

Prior to the 1962 program, the cost sharing assistance to the farmer was made only for the agricultural benefits of the conservation practice. While a large number of these practices contributed to wildlife betterment by es-

ablishing water storage facilities and food and cover areas, no payment could be made unless the practice was primarily a soil or water conservation measure.

This broadened concept of conservation is a significant and important effort on the part of the USDA and farmers—many of whom carry out small wildlife conservation programs now—to further contribute to the protection of natural resources.

It has been understood for many years by conservation minded farmers that hunting will soon be a matter of "put and take" with the natural reproduction of game being supplemented by artificially reared animals and birds.

We applaud this auction of the USDA as one step toward delaying the day when hunting will be just another crop that is seeded every year and duly harvested.

We can't bring back the wide open spaces to Lancaster County, but we can make the closed in spaces a little more attractive to wildlife.

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

The Well-Filled Stomach

Let's assume you have taken your wife to a good restaurant for an evening meal. Hang the price, you've ordered the best, eaten it, and are just now finishing the rich dessert. Your stomach is well-filled; you are content. Then the waitress returns to your table and offers you a second meal for the same price. Would you buy it? No? How about half price? Well, then, how much would you pay for the second meal?

This may sound like ridiculous "supposin'" but it illustrates very accurately the farm problem which has been with us for the past 10 years and 1920's and the 1930's. For 40 years, except for wartime periods, the "second helping" or surplus has vainly sought a profitable home. Not finding it, prices plummeted and, with it, the entire price structure of American agriculture. For, as night follows day, the surplus sets the market price.

Economists call this phenomenon the inelasticity of demand. In other words, once our appetite is satisfied, we won't consume very much more even though there is a large drop in price.

In this simple economic truth we find the true cause of widely fluctuating prices from wartime to peacetime. Only through understanding it can a logical and defensible solution evolve.

—Hoards Dairyman

Woods Are Dry Hunters Warned About Open Fire

Harrisburg — Forests and Waters Secretary Maurice K. Goddard today cautioned the army of small game hunters who will take to Pennsylvania fields and forest lands today to be extremely careful with their camp fires and

smoking. "Because of the prolonged dry spell since Labor Day, the danger of forest fires has been increasing every day, that there is no rain," Goddard stated, "and the woodlands across most of the state will be dangerously susceptible to burning."

Secretary Goddard explained that 1961 promises to be one of the best in history in the prevention of forest fires in Pennsylvania, but cautioned that the extreme deficiency of rainfall over the past few months requires special caution on the part of those who will visit Pennsylvania woodlands this autumn. "Although we cannot control the weather, we can control, to a certain extent, the causes of forest fires," he said.

"Our experience in the past has shown that at least half of all forest fires between October and December 31st will be caused by the hunters," stated Goddard who suggested the following rules for hunters:

Smoking should be avoided except in areas free of inflammable fuel.

Camp fires should not be

set in wooded areas, and such fires should be built only in spots cleared of all brush and potential fuel.

All fires and smoking materials should be thoroughly extinguished before leaving the area.

To avoid disease troubles, winter quarters for livestock should be dry, clean and well bedded.

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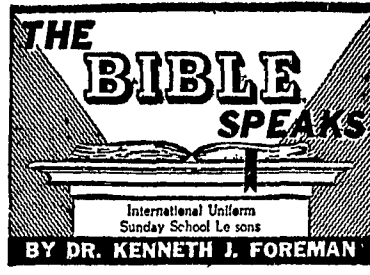
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Do I Belong?

Lesson for October 29, 1961

THIS column this week is intended for church members, dotted-line members by baptism and personal profession of faith. It makes no difference what kind of church, what name it has, or organization of special variety of Christian doctrine. People may ask you the question, Are you a Christian? and get a little double-talk — well, maybe I am, maybe not. But if they ask you, Are you a member of a church? that calls for a black-and-white answer. It isn't a question at this moment, How good a member are you? but, Are you a member at all? If your name is on any congregation's list even if there's a note after it that reads "Gone, left no address," even if there's * after your name that means "inactive"—we haven't seen him around in a blue moon—even so, you're some kind of member and maybe the one that most needs some friendly advice.



Dr. Foreman

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Ink-members

Anybody is counted a "full" or "regular" member in most Christian churches, who has deliberately and publicly confessed his faith in the Savior and promised allegiance to him and his church. But these members are not always full, not always regular. We can see three levels of "members" in the church; any church at all has these three levels. The point to be made is first that sometimes, at the lowest level, "belonging" does not mean much, but that (in the second level) belonging is connected to grow as church members all the while as we grow in our personal lives as Christians. The lowest level of belonging is merely to have your name on some church-roll, or cardindex—in their file somewhere. It's hard to see why anybody should call this "belonging" at all. If such a "member" disappeared from the church en-

tirely, swallowed up in a crack in the earth like Dathan and Abiram (Num. 16:31), no one in the church would miss them.

Present or Accounted For

On the level next above these do-nothing, be-nothing "members," are the bench-warmers. They keep a small section of the same pew warm for an hour every Sunday . . . well, every Sunday when it doesn't rain or when Cousin Becky doesn't bring her children over to spend the day. These members now are the kind that would be missed if they weren't there. Maybe they even sing. But that's as far as they will go. They are strong believers in sitting for the Lord, but working for the Lord is something they never got up the nerve to try. If they leave for another town, they are dismissed as "in good and regular standing"; it might better read, "in good and regular sitting."

Usefully Active Members

The top level of church membership is made of usefully active members. We put in "usefully" because an active member may be busy as a housefly, buzzing hither and yon but doing nothing that needs to be done and getting in the way of real workers. A usefully active worker is one of those who really are "the church" when we say good words about it. Do we call a church friendly? These are the members who make it so. Does a church stand up for the underdog in the community? These are the members who stand up. Is a church's influence felt around the world? These are the members whose prayers, gifts,—yes and children—have been devoted to the service of God and man in what we call "mission work." Is the church evangelistic? It is not alone the pastor who wins new Christians. The other day a member of a church was talking about a man who was husband of one active member of that church and father of several children in the Bible school. "He'd be a good man for the new preacher to go after," he said. But why wouldn't he be a good man for the members of that congregation to go after? They know him a lot better than any new preacher would.

The reader can think of other church membership. But one point needs to be remembered: It is possible to change your level. In being a church member; as in being a Christian, if you are alive, you can grow!

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Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



MAX SMITH

TO CHECK CATTLE FOR INTERNAL PARASITES — Many dairymen and steer feeders are not recognizing the amount of stomach worms that may be present in their cattle. With this internal parasite problem the animals are not able to make good use of their feed and cost figures will increase. Young stock in the dairy herd and all new shipments of beef cattle should be checked for stomach worms. Local veterinarians can make the test and recommend the suitable treatment. This may mean the difference between profit or loss on a string of steers.

TO USE SILAGE FEEDING FOR BROOD SOW HERD — The hog producer should take advantage of quality roughages for cheaper feed costs the same as in other livestock enterprises. Corn silage is preferred but good grass silage may also be fed to the sows; additional hog supplement should be fed daily in addition to the silage. Many good swine producers are getting fine results with silage feeding.

TO KEEP BEDDING UNDER DAIRY COWS—The housing of the milking herd is started with many good dairymen, it is very important that the cows have plenty of straw, or other bedding, under their udders at all times. The tissues of a milking udder are very tender and sensitive and easy to bruise or get chilled. Less udder trouble will be experienced if bedding is kept on the platform at all times. It does not pay to spare the bedding in the dairy barn with stanchions.

TO PRACTICE OPEN LOOSE HOUSING—Dairymen that are managing their herds under the loose housing system should make every effort to have good ventilation in the loafing barn; the barn should either be open to the east or south, or a lot of the windows kept open in these directions. Loose-housing will not succeed in a barn that is tight and poorly ventilated. Also, it is important to have little or no traffic of the cows through the loafing area; this will not only conserve bedding but provide better area where the cows can lie down and loaf between milking and feeding periods.

4-H Wildlife Club Plans Hike

Members of the Litz 4-H Wildlife club will hold one of its fall outings in the form of a hike tomorrow, October 29, reporter of the club, Linda Mae Stauffer, of Litz R3, said this week.

The program was set up at the last meeting of the club at the home of Marvin and Joyce Shenk of Litz R1. Jay Foreman, president of the club was in charge of the meeting.

Marvin Shenk showed films of wildlife in the Western United States.