

FROM WHERE WE STAND - Be Thankful For Opportunity

Now, as you sit there in your comfortable chair in the rosy-glow aftermath of another peaceful Thanksgiving day try to think, for a few minutes of some other thanksgiving days and the two days that followed.

Let's think back to the first Thanksgiving day in America. Two days after the early settlers had had their plentiful repast (much simpler and less well prepared or nutritious than most of us had this year) they were again faced with the tremendous task of living through a second arduous winter in the wilderness.

Two days after their feast with the Indians, the settlers were faced with the daily problem of keeping a supply of fuel in the house and keeping the stored supplies of food (very meager by our standards) from spoiling before growing time next spring.

Sometimes we despair when we think of the tension between the bomb-wielding nations of the world. We talk of a time of peace and we realize that it is an uneasy peace at best, but perhaps we should realize that our civilization is in no more danger of annihilation than was the civilization of that band of Pilgrims huddled precariously on the brink of eternity on that first thanksgiving day. And yet they found it in their hearts to pause in their struggle for survival and express thanks to a merciful Providence for the blessings of life, liberty and opportunity.

And we can be certain that many in the group praised most heartily for opportunity.

Today, as we relax after our thanksgiving repast, we ought also to be thankful for opportunity. We are indeed fortunate in this great country to have the opportunity to carve out a place in history for ourselves just as did the first celebrants on Thanksgiving day.

Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman said recently on returning from a visit to a dozen countries in Europe, the Middle East and Southeast Asia, "The greatest single source of strength in the struggle to insure that freedom prevails around the world is the success of American agriculture and the American farmer. It is the strongest deterrent to the spread of communism because the contrast between American agriculture and that of the Communists is apparent to the whole world."

And so will the world look to us if we grasp the opportunity we have for making use of this vast potential for food production.

It is not enough that we be thankful for the good things which have come our way if we fail to be thankful for the opportunity to be of service to others less fortunate. The vast food resources we have are a source of satisfaction and a symbol of security to many people, but if our producing ability is to carve a niche for our generation in the halls of history, the size of the niche will be regulated by how we use our abilities to alleviate the

miserable and suffering among peoples less fortunate than we.

Let us be thankful for peace and plenty during this time, but let us be more thankful for opportunity to serve.

After all, that is what prompted the first Thanksgiving observance. It ought to prompt us to be thankful all year long.

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

Changing Agriculture

Pennsylvania's livestock producers have come a long way since the first Livestock Exposition in 1957 when a Keystone exhibitor turned up only rarely in the winners' columns.

At this year's show, Pennsylvania showmen captured 99 of the major awards offered for prize beef cattle, hogs and sheep.

Sweeping changes are taking place in Pennsylvania Agriculture. Among the most startling ones are the increased emphasis on livestock farming.

There are many who will say that our land is too expensive for livestock production, but we do not believe this.

Our nearness to centers of population, some say, does not lend itself to the production of livestock.

However, vast changes are taking place in population as well as agriculture.

Much of the beef and lamb which once came to Eastern cities from the vast reaches of the range states is now channeled to the mushrooming metropolitan areas of the West and Southwest.

In a recent speech at the annual convention of the American Meat Institute of Chicago Carroll Bottum of Purdue University listed eight changes he expects within the livestock industry in the next decade.

He said, the industry will and should grow 20 per cent to meet the needs of a growing populace. Seasonal and cyclical fluctuations will be reduced or eliminated, these variations have been declining for several years.

Bottum said, capital will be substituted for labor in more and more phases of livestock production, and the movement toward more and more mechanization will make greater reduction of the feed conversion ratio.

The beauty judging contests for livestock will give way to production testing, and advanced techniques will make meat more tender and desirable in the living animal, Bottum believes.

In conclusion Bottum said, the wants of the consumer, such as less fats on their meat, tenderer cuts and so on, will have to become a part of the producer's goal. "We will have to continue decreasing the distance animals are transported from farm to slaughter."

All these changes point to more opportunity for success for conscientious cattle feeders in the Keystone State.

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

We Are Seven

With this issue LANCASTER FARMING begins its seventh year of publication. We wish to thank our readers and our advertisers for making it possible for us to continue to grow with each of those years.

As we pause to count our blessings at this Thanksgiving time we would like to say a special thanks to you, our friends and neighbors, for your continued support and cooperation.

● Food Cost

(From page 1)

of its Agricultural Marketing Service

The survey shows the total cost of an average Thanksgiving dinner for a family of four in 1961 to be about \$5.42. The cost in 1960 was \$6.22. When the survey was

first made in 1951, cost of the dinner was figured at \$8.63 and has declined rather steadily ever since.

The figures are based on retail prices in several Chicago grocery stores.

Obtaining prices from the same stores and on the same foods each year, USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service has calculated the Thanksgiving dinner for a family of four as follows:

1951, \$8.63; 1952, \$8.14; 1953, \$8.22; 1954, \$7.73; 1955, 7.68; 1956, \$6.20; 1957, \$6.32; 1958, \$6.04; 1959, \$6.27; 1960, 6.22 and in 1961 it is estimated to be \$5.42. This is nearly 13 per cent less than last year and 37 per cent below 1951, the first year of the survey.

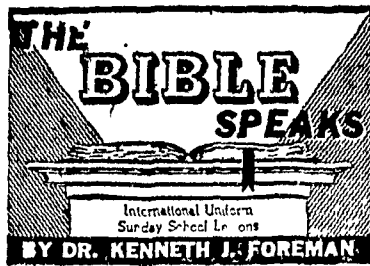
Foods on which prices were obtained in the survey include a 10-pound ready-to-cook turkey, 1 pound of fresh cranberries, 1½ pounds of sweetpotatoes, one No. 2

can of green beans, one bunch of pascal celery, one No. 303 can of pumpkin, 1 pound of apples, 1 pound of table grapes, 1 pound of walnuts in shell and four oranges.

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Bible Material: Romans 12:1-21, 1 Timothy 6:11-19, 2 Timothy 1:3-14
Devotional Reading: Hebrews 5:7-14

Keep Growing

Lesson for November 26, 1961

THE word "grow" is used three times in the New Testament as a command. Each time it is so used, it is written to "grow" people. You do not grow taller and stronger all your life. You do not keep growing more intelligent with advancing years.



But you can grow in knowledge, you can grow in wisdom, and you can grow as a person, as long as you live. And if you take the Bible as God's message to you, you will feel not only that you can, but that you ought to grow. If you are not growing you are neglecting something God wants you to do.

"Stir to Flame the Gift . . ."

The word translated in the 1611 translation "Stir up" the gift, has nothing to do with anything stirred with a spoon. The Greek word means to stir to a flame, to re-ignite, as more recent translation correctly express it. The gift of God (Paul means in general the gift of being a Christian, and specially the gift of being a Christian minister) in Timothy is like a spark, glowing but without a flame. Paul wants to see that gift burning brightly, sending light farther than it was doing.

The spirit God sends to those who ask Him is indeed a gift. It is nothing we can create or imitate. But the Christian is expected to do more than merely receive it. It is possible so to neglect the gift of God that in time we might almost as well never have had it. There is a kind of law of co-operation between men and God; we neglect it at our peril. God sends the spark, we have to stir it to a flame. No one else, not even God, will do that for us. There is nothing automatic, nothing instantaneous, about Christian life and development. We have to stir the flame, to tend the fire. It takes more than wishing!

But what is this fire, this spirit, this gift of God? Some claim have it who have never known. Some pray for it, but would not recognize the answer to the prayer. Let us pass by an argument which commentators always have over Paul's meaning here. When he speaks of the spirit God gave us, does he mean the Holy Spirit or does he mean the spirit as the Psalmist did we cried: Renew a right spirit within me? Is it, in short, the Spirit of God or the spirit of man who is on Paul's mind at this point? Either way, Paul may be speaking of the Holy Spirit or of the "new heart," but the first produces the second, you cannot have the second without the first.

The marks of the genuine Spirit which Paul gives at this point are three. We don't know why he says so strongly that this spirit is NOT one of fear; perhaps Timothy himself was still a timid man. In any rate, the Spirit-gift of God is one of power, and love, and self-control. Are any of these lacking? Then it is not God's spirit-gift. To be sure, all men know something of power, love, and self-control; but at the vine level they go beyond anything human beings can do their own strength.

Model to Grow By

There is another important fact about God's spirit-gift. It is that it will not save us from the necessity of thinking and working. Again and again the New Testament makes it clear that what God intends for each of us is to grow into the likeness of the Master. But again, this is far from automatic. A Christian cannot relax and say to himself, "God will make me what He wants me to be. I will wait and see how I turn out, and then I'll know." By means, Paul gives Timothy something to do. "Rekindle the gift, do not be ashamed of testifying to our Lord . . . God has called to a dedicated life . . . take your share of suffering . . . Follow the pattern . . . Guard the truth."

The Christian life calls for study; this is a world filled with difficult problems, and we cannot solve them just by being sweet. The best of Christians need some pattern, some model, to go by. He needs a human teacher he can look up to and trust. The Christian life is not easy. Twice on the same page Paul has to tell Timothy to take his share of suffering. The way of life is sure, but it is steep and unpaved—there are no detours!

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Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



MAX SMITH

TO COMPLETE FORAGE INSECT SPRAYS — December 1st is the deadline for spraying legume fields with Dieldrin for the control of forage insects next summer, this same deadline is set for the use of any form of Dieldrin for insect control. Custom sprayers and owners of sprayers are urged to complete the spraying by the above time.

TO SPRAY FOR CHICKWEED CONTROL — Sprays applied during November and December have given the best control of chickweed on most farms, for weather above 50 degrees the DnNitro sprays are recommended; under the 50 degree mark the Chloro IPC spray is best. The important thing is to make the application soon before the chickweed plants get mature. If Dieldrin is being applied for insect control then either the DnNitros or the Chloro IPC spray may be applied at the same time.

TO RECOGNIZE THE VALUE OF QUALITY ROUGHAGE — The winter feeding period is at hand and all types of livestock have the ability to utilize many nutrients from quality roughage, if given the chance. This means that all kinds of cattle, sheep, and some hogs should be fed liberal amounts of roughage daily. In many cases such as yearling heifers, sheep, and the wintering of herds of steers, roughages could make up most of the ration if supplemented with amounts of protein supplement daily.

TO PROVIDE SALT AND MINERALS — All livestock should have free access to salt and minerals. With stock feeders this is equally important in order to get cheap gains. Most feeders will provide a salt block but few feeders will have a mineral box before their cattle. The need for minerals will vary between animals and reveal the need for free choice feeding, the mixing of two pounds of minerals in every hundred pounds of grain is a good practice but will not meet the need of all animals.