

FROM WHERE WE STAND - Spring Is Coming -- Groundhog Or Not

A survey shows that 98 per cent of all Americans are superstitious.

We claim to be part of the two per cent, but just the same we know there are some things that are called superstition when they are fact

Take this thing about February second, for instance

There are still a lot of people who say this is superstition, but if that old whistle pig (that name is a carryover from our southern ancestors who won't call anything a hog if it doesn't produce pork) sees his shadow on the second day of February we just are not in too much of a hurry to put the red flannels back into the mothballs

We just don't see how anybody can argue with logic like that

Now the woolly-bear, on the other hand (and personally we wouldn't want him on either hand) has a long way to go in his fight to become a successful weather prophet. Of course, he might not even be interested in becoming a weather prophet when life sees the trouble some other forecasters have gotten themselves into in recent months.

But groundhogs, woolly-bears, and scoffers notwithstanding, if some trigger-happy H-bomb jockey doesn't blow us all off the face of good old mother earth before then, we are going to be in the midst of spring planting season within a matter of a month and a half—and though that may be a lifetime to woolly-bears and time for another morning nap for old woodchuck it is a pretty short time in the life of a farmer

The weatherman has already promised that Lancaster County is more than half way through the coldest part of our winter, and with all the frigid weather we need to be thankful that another seed time is on the way without any help in the temperature department from the cold war warming up. For this we say "knock on wood" and don't forget to carry your lucky rabbit's foot.

Our unions are predicting nice weather for tomorrow, and for this we are thankful because with such reliable information at hand, we do not have to rely on superstition.

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

Dairymen And The 20-Hour Week

Negotiations between the Electrical Workers Local 3 and New York City electrical contractors has caused repercussions and agitated comment throughout the business world.

The Electricians' Union demanded and got a 20-hour week with pay equivalent to the previous 30-hour week. In addition, they have a guarantee of overtime, at time-and-one-half.

It doesn't take much arithmetic to figure that twenty hours is only about one in every five during the week if we take out the prescribed eight hours every day for sleep.

Even with another eight hours off each day for other activities, the electrical workers will be off the job more than half the time. At the normal work week standard for most American workers, the electricians will put in only 2½ days out of every seven.

We firmly believe that every freedom carries with it a responsibility. We believe that without restrictions, self imposed or imposed from without, any power tends to become dictatorial.

We have no quarrel with labor unions. We believe they have in the past, performed a valuable service to the country, and in most cases still do. But we also believe that many labor leaders, along with many rank-and-file union members have failed to recognize and accept the responsibilities which go along with the tremendous power they have won.

We believe they have repudiated the dignity of honest work. We believe they have substituted a philosophy of "anything the traffic will bear" without thought of the possible consequences.

To a boy who grew up on a dairy farm, the thought of working only 2½ days out of each week without even going near the job for the rest of the week, is almost too much to believe. In our opinion it will soon begin to be too much for employers to believe and the labor unions will be in danger of losing the rewards they have won for themselves in dignified, honest negotiations in the past.

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

Priming The Cooperative Pump

The "Coatesville Egg Auction", like many other businesses, has fallen upon hard times

At a recent meeting of the Producers Cooperative Exchange, members were asked to approve a bid to merge with another, larger cooperative in an effort to overcome some of its financial difficulties.

The membership in attendance voted to continue as an independent organization, and for this we have no words of censure. However, we do think the voters should recognize two significant facts.

Out of a membership of over 4,000 shareholders, ballots were cast by only 205. This is, we believe a significant figure, but with the widely dispersed membership, perhaps the vote was representative and as heavy as could be expected.

More significant, we believe is the

fact that only slightly over 200 producers marketed eggs through the cooperative at the average sale last year, and less than 1,000 of the 4,000 members marketed any kind of poultry products, or otherwise used the facilities of the cooperative during 1961.

Cooperatives should be formed when no other existing organization can perform the function properly and efficiently, and the cooperative should cease to exist when it no longer performs the service for which it was formed.

We believe no amount of pump-priming can revive a cooperative unless members are willing to support it with their patronage.

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

THINK

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due to increased production, Johnstone said. Unless the warnings to reduce pullet hatch, the poultrymen are in for real trouble he said. A somewhat brighter picture was painted for poultry meat production, but no real hope for lasting high prices was held out

Victor Plastow, associate County agent was in charge of the meeting in the meeting room of the Production Credit building.

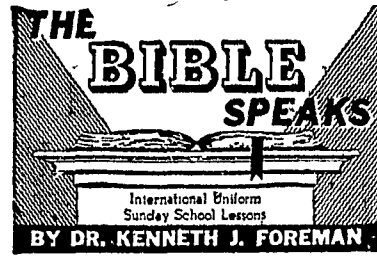
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● Outlook

(From page 12)

Heistand looks for grain prices to be "pretty stable" with perhaps a little improvement, dependent upon production and government action within the next few months

Even with some 4 percent fewer laying hens in the laying houses of the nation at the end of 1961, economists look for a slight increase in egg production during the current year. However storage holdings are down and this will soften any damage



Bible Material: Exodus 20 8-11; Mark 2:23 through 3:6; Luke 4:16-20, 31-40; Nehemiah 13:15-22
Devotional Reading: Hebrews 4:1-10

Rest and Gladness

Lesson for February 4, 1962

A BUS schedule has been put out in four sections: Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Week-days. In American cities most people do not have longer than a five-day work week. The "Day of Rest" has become one of the days of rest. Nevertheless, people come to Sunday about as tired as they used to be when everybody worked right up to Saturday night, only for different reasons. Some people pay no attention at all to Sunday, and work or play on that day just as on any other. Some find Sunday a burden, others find it a problem. Yet it ought to be a golden day, "Day of all of the week the best."



Dr. Foreman to Saturday night, only for different reasons. Some people pay no attention at all to Sunday, and work or play on that day just as on any other. Some find Sunday a burden, others find it a problem. Yet it ought to be a golden day, "Day of all of the week the best."

Day of rest

The Fourth Commandment says two things clearly. One: By God's intention, one day in seven is a "holy" day. Two: It is to be a day of rest. The Christian church, after long argument, finally came to observe the first, not the seventh day, and we give it a new name, the Lord's Day, in memory of the resurrection of our Lord. (Though it is still called the Sabbath by many Christians.) The day chosen is less important than how the day is used. We believe—"we" meaning the great majority of Christians today—that the Fourth Commandment has not been set aside. We would say that the Fourth Commandment gives us a guide to how we may best use the Lord's Day; and we would also say that the attitude of Jesus to the Sabbath gives us further clues as to the right attitude to the Lord's Day. The first point is that it is holy. It is a different day, a set-apart day, for that is what "holy" originally meant. It is God's day, because that also is what "holy" meant. Further, it is a day of rest. Machines need rest, plants and animals need it,

and human beings most of all.

Day of worship

Now our Lord's use of the Sabbath gives us the Christian line. He knew the Fourth Commandment; but he did not suppose that "rest" meant doing literally nothing. Certainly his Sabbaths were extremely busy; you might say He worked overtime on that day. For one thing it was then as now the day set apart for worship. It was His custom to attend the synagogue on the Sabbath day. He could have preached better sermons than he heard there, but He went all the same. Christians do not always appreciate enough what it means to be able to worship in freedom and peace. We are throwing away one of God's best gifts when we let a Lord's Day drift by without joining other Christians at worship, if we are able to go at all. The first thing communists do when they take over a country, such as China or East Germany, is to make it impossible for Christians there, or extremely difficult, to worship in church. If you can get a whole generation growing up without leisure for religion, you have driven religion underground, and it will take a long time to return. So the Lord's Day is a prime target of communism.

Day for doing good

The Pharisees of Jesus' time were very strict about the Sabbath Day. Jesus set as much store by it as they, but in a different way. Their big question was: What is WRONG to do on the Sabbath? Jesus' question was: What is RIGHT to do? When Jesus saw any one in need of help that He could give, He never looked at the calendar first to make sure what day it was. It is lawful to do good on the Sabbath, He said. Don't most of us have in the back of our minds some one thing, at least, some kind and helpful act, which we could do if we only had time? Well, the Lord's Day is the time. To come to that blessed day, the "Day of rest and gladness," wondering whether we ought to do this or that, worrying about what we are supposed to do or not to do, is frustrating. But to come to the day with the question: What good can I be, what good can I do to others, on this day when the pressure is off? is the first step to a happy day. This day was made for man, as Jesus said. For his body, his mind, his soul. What ever makes ourselves, and others nearest us, better persons, is surely a right thing to do on the day named for one who "went about doing good."

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Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



MAX SMITH

TO ADJUST GRAIN RATIONS — Dairymen are urged to change their grain rations depending upon the quality of the roughages fed. When the herd goes from corn silage to grass silage, in many cases additional corn or barley will be needed in the ration; also, with poor quality grass silage it may be necessary to add more protein feed. In the change from later cuttings of hay to first cuttings, or from good to poor quality hay, additional protein is also needed. One grain ration for the entire winter feeding period is seldom satisfactory when the quality of the roughages is changing. Forage testing with a feeding recommendation is recommended.

TO USE PIG AND LAMB BROODERS—The farrowing and lambing season is at hand and a very important time for the livestock producer to do a real good job of care and management. In cold weather the new-born pigs and lambs will benefit from the heat lamps or brooders for the first week or ten days. The extra heat will get them started quicker, keep their pens dry, and reduce the trouble from colds and scouring. Producers are urged to use brooders at farrowing and lambing time until warm weather arrives.

TO COOPERATE IN SHEEP SCABIES INSPECTION—The Bureau of Animal Industry is now visiting all of the sheep farms in the state; the work is partly done in Lancaster and Lebanon counties. These men have the job of inspecting every flock for the presence of sheep scabies or any other skin disease. This is a mite infection of the skin causing the sheep to rub off the wool and make poor gains. Where the trouble is found the Bureau will arrange to dip the animals for the owner. All sheep producers are urged to cooperate in this eradication program.

TO INSPECT FARM MACHINERY—Field work is only 6 to 8 weeks away for many farmers; it is very important that the machinery be in good shape when you are ready to take it to the field for the first time in 1962. If the equipment was not thoroughly inspected, cleaned and greased last fall, it should be given this attention at once. Some parts may need to be replaced and this often takes time. Advance work on the machinery will save valuable time in the field.