

From Where We Stand . . .

The American Family Farm

The Minister of Agriculture of the U S S R and four other ranking Soviet agricultural experts will come to the United States early this month for a four week tour of American farmland in the west and midwest

Announcement came last week from the U S Department of Agriculture that Konstantin Georgiyevich Pysin and his Soviet colleagues will make their visit within the framework of the Agreement on Exchanges in the Scientific, technical, Educational, Cultural, and other Fields for 1962-63 between the governments of the United States and U S S R.

Before starting out across a northern tier of states, the Soviet group will visit the Agricultural Research Center at Beltsville, Md During their stay in the United States, they will confer with officials of the U S Department of Agriculture and cooperating land grant institutions on education and information methods and techniques in the field of agriculture

In addition to studying such methods and techniques, the Soviet experts will have an opportunity to observe how scientific agricultural methods are used by the family farmers of America to produce an unmatched volume of agricultural products

We believe American farmers have one of the best weapons of the so-called cold war in their hands. We should make the point—and make it strong—that it is the American family farm which forms the basis of our outstanding productivity

We believe we should do everything we can do to drive home the point that the backbone of American agriculture is the American family farm. If we make this point strongly enough, perhaps the Soviet Minister of Agriculture will recommend returning some of the farm land to the farm families in Russia When this happens—when the family is once again the important unit in the society—Communism will have lost one of its most powerful weapons.

We sincerely hope that the American farmers who are visited by this delegation will not miss this opportunity for education

Mark Twain is credited with saying, "Soap and education are not as sudden as a massacre, but they are much more deadly in the long run"

We believe the race for control of the peoples of the world by a group committed to a certain political ideology can not be accomplished permanently by force We believe it can only be brought about through education and freedom of choice

This is not a new thought, nor is it particularly startling, but we hope such a deadly weapon as we have at our disposal will not be used in the wrong way There is such a potential for good in this visit, it would be a shame if we missed the opportunity to use it

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

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A Rich Minority

One of the weaknesses of Americans is our tendency to think of ourselves as being the majority, of our race,

our country, and our religion as being the dominant ones.

Did it ever occur to you that the white, Christian, Americans are very much in the minority in this world?

Someone has figured out just how we rate in a way that makes it easier to understand than if you consider the dry figures.

Suppose all of the people in the world were reduced to 1,000 That's just about the population of Calhoun and Rumsey put together. And suppose these people were in the same proportion as to race, religion, and economics as all of the people of the world today. Suppose you lived in this town of 1,000.

In that group of 1,000, there would be only 60 Americans There would be 330 Christians (fewer than 100 of these would be Protestants) Non-Christians would outnumber Christians more than two-to-one, there would be 670 who would not be Christians

Only about two hundred would be white, the other 800 would be some other "color"

Half of the population would never have heard of Jesus, but more than half would be hearing plenty about Karl Marx. Eighty would be card-carrying Communists. 370 would be under Communist domination

The 60 lonesome Americans would be dominant in one thing. They would own half the wealth of the town, while the other half would be divided among the other 940 people. You can imagine how dissatisfied that 940 might be And they could certainly out-vote the 60 with the other half of the wealth Provided, of course, the town were operated under a democratic system.

Does this give you a better idea of where you, as an American, stand in this world?

Does it make you a little more humble?

MeLean County (Ky) News
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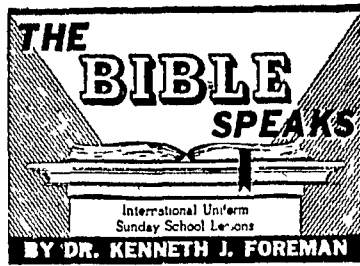
Is Food High?

What's happened to food costs in the postwar era? Think a minute before answering that question. For the facts may come as quite a surprise.

Before World War II, says the Department of Agriculture, food accounted for 23 per cent of consumer income. But to buy exactly the same items today, an official of a food chain points out, would take only 14-1/2 per cent of income

But we aren't just buying the same items Consumers have consistently upgraded their food purchases in recent years They are buying substantially larger quantities of meat, for instance. And they also want, and are willing to pay for, the extra convenience that comes with the prepared and semi-prepared foods.

The result is that consumers today are spending some 40 per cent more for food than they would spend if the pre-war food standard of living were still in effect Even so, only 20 per cent of consumers' income currently goes into food — three per cent less than the pre-war rate. And it is buying a 40 per cent improved living standard.



Bible Material Nehemiah 2 4 6 15
Devotional Reading Psalm 126

Leadership

Lesson for September 16, 1962

A MAN who succeeds in doing what no man has ever done before is a great man, provided what he does is worth doing A man who succeeds where others



Dr. Foreman

have failed, is even greater — again supposing that what he does is a good thing to do Nehemiah was such a man. He would be a success anywhere, and not only at the time and place where he lived. The first we hear of him, he is a member of the royal court in what is now Iran, the ancient Persia. He was evidently a man the king trusted, one to whom the king gave much power. Yet he was one of the down-trodden Jews, as they were at that time. Nehemiah himself is a fine example of what happened to the Jews who were taken into captivity. They were not put into dungeons, only some of the more prominent ones suffered that fate. Most were left to sink or swim, and being Jews they generally swam. Nehemiah showed how far they could rise if they had the chance.

The Time and the Man

A glance at the calendar helps us to understand the genius of this man It was now about 140 years after Jerusalem had been destroyed, or 90 years after the Temple had been started But in all that time no one had ever succeeded in getting a stable government in Jerusalem or to build practical protection against their numerous enemies. In those days every going city had to have a wall around it; but in 140 years the city wall had been lying in ruins exactly as Nebuchadnezzar's primitive bull-dozers had left it This was all news to Nehemiah when he first heard of it, it was a shock, too That this should be so, goes to show that prosperous Jews like Nehemiah had no notion of the poverty stricken, danger-filled lives the Jerusalem Jews

had been living.

When Nehemiah, with government backing, went to see what he could do in Jerusalem, by building the wall as his Number One project he became the man of the hour Five generations had passed; Nehemiah had been needed long before now; but at last he arrived and took charge.

Knowledge and Leadership

What are the qualities that make a man a hero? What are the characteristics of a "man of the hour"? Nehemiah is a very good example He was a successful leader partly because of what today we would call "know-how," a penetrating understanding of a situation, an accurate aim at the heart of his problem, and above all an art in getting people to do what they ought to do. Sometimes a leader learns on the job, so to speak, as Abraham Lincoln did. Sometimes he comes to his great task already knowing what to do and how to do it. But if he neither knows nor can learn, he is no leader. Nehemiah's genius lay chiefly in this: he was able to make handicaps work with him, not against him. The people had always been a quarrelsome lot, as the Old Testament shows us. There were many cross-currents of jealousy in the dusty rubble-filled insignificant village that wanted to be a city again. These had defeated other men, no doubt. But Nehemiah put these jealousies to work He had the goldsmiths working at one section of that wall, and the priests somewhere else He pitted them against one another, and so induced them to do their best work.

Leadership and Faith

Readers may be interested in studying the story of Nehemiah to see what were the various ways in which he showed his power of leadership. But one of his qualities was vital, and must not be overlooked: Faith. The book called by his name, though filled with action, begins and ends with prayer. This man had faith in himself, self-respect was a notable quality in his make-up. He had faith in people if rightly led. But first and last his faith was in God. He could undertake the impossible because he believed God would do it, and what God wills, can be done. Nehemiah makes it quite clear that while he worked and planned, his energy would have faded, his undertakings miscarried, if he had not been sustained by the God in whom he constantly trusted.

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Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



MAX M. SMITH

WELD COUNTY, COLORADO — ap-

pears to really be one of the great areas in the United States. Census figures reveal that Weld County is one of the few counties in the nation ranking higher than Lancaster. The level land and many acres of grain, sugar beets and corn, and the many cattle and hog feeding operations at the mile-high altitude makes one feel at home — except irrigation is essential every year.

SAND HILLS OF NEBRASKA — are a big part of the "Great Plains" of our country. These rolling sand hills are covered with rank range grasses this year; the cattle are carrying good flesh and the ranchers are not in any hurry to sell. This is open cattle country and very sparsely settled with ranches. Normal rainfall is 20 inches per year and the 1962 season is far ahead of this figure. The thousands of small haystacks reflect lush growth and future feed supplies.

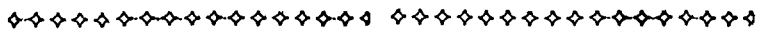
MID-WESTERN STATES — as we travel across our great country Without it the areas are having a good crop season. corn and soybean fields are barren, desolate and worthless. With the great amount of lush growth and pasture lands are covered with lush growth. Farmers are making alfalfa hay and filling silos with corn. Feedlots for steers and hogs are many with signs of expansion quite evident in all states.

THE IMPORTANCE OF WATER — to all agriculture and to all civilization comes to us as an important realization

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Potatoes In New Forms

Constant advances in processing and packaging are bringing high-quality potatoes in new forms to family meals, point out Penn State extension home economic specialists. Frozen items and improved instant potatoes offer good flavor, texture and food value.



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