

From Where We Stand . . . You Must Register To Vote

Two pieces of literature came to our attention this week about the same subject, but it almost appeared that they might have been talking about two entirely different things.

They were both talking about the wheat referendum which comes up later this month, but the writers must certainly have been looking at different sides of the coin.

The first one said, "Eastern farmers have but one course to follow in this referendum vote, that is, to get out and vote no."

The second one said, "The 1964 Wheat Program can certainly be said to be a tremendously important program with numerous advantages."

As in most cases that deal with farm legislation, we believe that the picture is not all black or all white. We believe it is a very complicated picture with whites, blacks, and a large number of all shades of gray.

We would not presume to try to tell any farmer how to vote on such an important program, but we would encourage every eligible farmer to vote.

But a vote without knowledge is almost as bad as no vote at all. We would encourage every farmer to learn as much about the program as he can learn, and then **BECOME ELIGIBLE** and vote.

It appears that many farmers in the county do not realize they must return their wheat allotment cards (form number MQ-24) signed on the reverse side, in order to be able to vote. Every wheat farmer must do this whether he plans to vote yes or no.

The county ASCS committee in the county has scheduled a series of meetings to explain the provisions of the program, and information can be had for the asking at the Lancaster office.

On other pages in this paper are several articles dealing with the program. Information is being distributed by several farm organizations and many commercial firms. With all the information available, it is not necessary that any farmer should be ignorant of the provisions of the referendum.

Again, we would remind you that you will not be able to vote on May 21 unless the wheat allotment notice is returned to the county ASCS office, signed, before May 13.

The procedure for farmers should be — become eligible to vote; find out as many of the pros and cons as possible; vote your conscience on May 21.

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

County Tourists

A brochure crossed our desk this week introducing a new tourist attraction in Lancaster County.

A dairyman plans to take tourists on a wagon tour around his farm. The visitors will ride in a Conestoga wagon pulled by a team of Belgian horses and will be able to see, on the half hour tour, seven beautiful Lancaster County farmsteads with wide pastures, streams and farm ponds, as well as a historic spot in the county.

The tours will be conducted on

Saturdays and holidays throughout the summer with week-day tours available by appointment.

The dairyman plans no curtailment of his dairy program, but he does have a married son who has assumed much of the responsibility of running the farm.

Here is a farmer who has siezed on an opportunity to supplement his income without taking on more land or investing in a lot of expensive equipment.

Living in the hurly-burly of modern day urban centers are many people willing and eager to pay for the privilege of relaxing for a few minutes in the quiet serenity of the country side.

In fact, a resident of the suburban area of Maryland just outside Washington, D.C. told us recently that many people who live in Washington are willing to pay farmers to let them and their sons come out to the farm and help with the haying and chores.

It hasn't come to that in Lancaster County yet, but there are hundreds of tourists coming through the county each year who are willing to pay for the privilege of observing farming first hand.

A newspaperman from North Carolina said recently at a convention in Washington, "Down Home we figure a Yankee tourist is worth more than a bale of cotton, and a whole lot easier to pick."

We believe there is room in Lancaster County for more attractions of this kind. We do not have to turn the county into a raucous midway or side show to make it attractive to city people. We have here what can be found in very few other places in the world — beautiful, well kept farmsteads, a prosperous farming economy, and the peaceful countryside, all within a short distance from large cities.

Lancaster County farmers would do well to show off some of these beauties to our city neighbors.

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

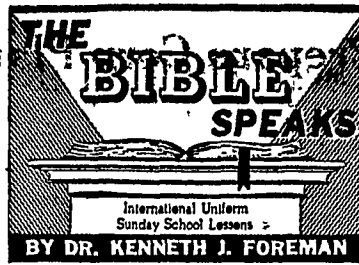
★ ★ ★ ★
Pig Hatcheries Growing — The Wall Street Journal says 15 percent of the nation's hogs now start life on one farm, end up on another. Pig hatcheries are growing rapidly.

★ ★ ★ ★
How Much is \$5 Billion? — That's what farmers and their cooperatives borrowed from the public through their farm credit cooperatives last year.

★ ★ ★ ★
Make Mine Music — The American Dairy Association has turned to music but their still promoting milk and dairy products. The idea is to offer an album of records at reduced prices to purchasers of butter.

★ ★ ★ ★
Big Expenditures — According to Chain Store Age, housewives spend 10.45 percent of their food dollars on butter, eggs, and milk. This works out to an annual total of \$2.769 billion in the nation's 30,632 chain stores.

★ ★ ★ ★
What A Compulsion! — "Under a socialistic system, men work not for profit, or the hope of profit, they work from compulsion," so says Senator Curtis of Nebraska.



To Be Forgiven Lesson for May 5, 1963

Bible Material: Psalms 32; 51; 103:8-14.
Devotional Reading: Psalm 130.

WHY is it that when a sermon or a Sunday school lesson is to be on the subject of Forgiveness, or anything connected with it, the Bible passage selected is nearly always from the Old Testament and not the New? The answer is obvious: the Old Testament, and especially the book of Psalms, has the clearest and most moving account of God's forgiveness, and especially the experience of being forgiven, that can be found in the Bible.

This fact alone suggests much. It means, for example, that forgiveness is not something peculiar to our own religion. All religions desire a forgiving God; the difference between these and Christianity is not that people in other religions don't care whether they are forgiven or not, but that they do not understand, as followers of Christ know, what kind of God it is who forgives, and why He forgives at all.

Two misunderstandings
The forgiveness of God can be misunderstood in many ways. Let us glance at two of them. One is to suppose that He is a sort of vast forgiving machine. This is the age of automation, when everything works by push-buttons. When the electric power goes off, a switch untouched by human hands will put your house on another power line. When the plane in which you are flying starts to slide down, the automatic pilot will bring it right back up again. Some people think God is like this, forgiving automatically, some would say even before a man repents. Others think of repentance as a sort of automatic switch: the minute a man says "I'm sorry" out comes forgiveness from heaven like candy from a machine. But it isn't like that at all. Another mistake is to suppose that God's

forgiveness is done towards us if God said, after all, that sinner is a pretty good man—above the average, in fact. Such goodness deserves some recognition, so I am going to reward him by forgiving him. It isn't like that either. To be forgiven is a gift of God. "I did not hide"

The poet who wrote Psalm 32 knew from experience something very important. He had tried for a time that old dodge, pretending to himself that he had not sinned at all. Nothing could be more utterly absurd, when you think of it, than trying to hide away from God. Nothing can be more impossible than to pretend it never happened. Nobody can go off and shut a door behind him and fancy that God will get no nearer than that door. Modern psychiatry agrees with the ancient psalmist that unadmitted sin, hidden guilt, is actually a serious menace to health. Psalm 32:3 and 4 describe a sick man. Doctors cannot cure such a case. The patient himself has the key to the cure, and this poet found it. "I acknowledged—" he says, "I did not hide;" "I will confess."

"Love surrounds Him"
Forgiveness is a kind of miracle after all. For we know that forgiveness is no good if the forgiver is determined never to forget. But how can God forget? Further,—and this is something that perhaps even angels may not understand—the question, Why should God forgive at all? has no final answer that leaves us without further questions. Would it not be simpler for God to start all over again with some other race, a race that could not possibly sin? Why does God keep patching up human beings when he does not have to?

The truth is, God does much better than patch people up. He makes them over. The forgiveness of God has a strange quality about it. Ordinary forgiveness leaves offenders about as they were. God's forgiveness does something wonderful to the sinner. Read over this 32nd Psalm again and again. What sort of man is this who speaks with such profound enthusiasm about being forgiven? He does not sound in the least like a man who rejoices that his slate has been wiped clean so that he can start all over again. He is not at all thinking of God as a forgiving-machine. He has penetrated to the secret—not that he understands it, but he knows it: God forgives because He loves. What guarantees against future sins? Nothing in me, only love in Him.

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Dr. Foreman

Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



To Be Careful With Chemicals
Modern agriculture includes various types of chemicals and spray materials; these can greatly contribute to the success of a crop and produce maximum amounts of top quality food and feed. The farmer, or the spray operator, is the person who is responsible for the proper use of these materials. All directions and labels should be closely followed. Store chemicals away from children and livestock.

To Be Careful With 2, 4-D Sprays
The ester forms of 2, 4-D weed-killer are dangerous in the Lancaster County area after the first of May. This herbicide will give off vapors for several days following applica-

tion that may kill near-by susceptible plants, both ester and low-volatile ester release these dangerous vapors. With so many acres of legumes, tomatoes, tobacco, and the flowers and shrubbery plants around homes so handy in many areas, it is risky to use any of the ester forms. Spray operators are urged to use only the amine form of 2, 4-D until after the growing season.

To Test Soil For Corn Contest

This year it is required that all entries in the Pennsylvania five-acre contest have their soil put through a complete soil test before planting time. Growers are reminded of this new ruling so that fertilizer recommendations may be followed. Deadline for entering this contest is August 1st.

To Make Plans To Wilt Grass Silage

Livestock producers who are planning to make part or all of their first cutting of hay into grass silage are urged to use the wilting method rather than the direct-cut system. Wilting down to 50 to 70 per cent will reduce the amount of water to handle and make higher quality forage. No preservative is required with the wilting method.

PRUNE TREES

Suckers should be removed from trees every spring. Suckers sprout at the base of some trees and from the limbs of others. They are dominant in maples and fruit trees. By removing suckers before they form big branches, the tree's canopy is better aerated and its health improved.

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