

From Where We Stand . . .

Don't Wait Till The Crop Dies

One of the oldest of old sayings goes, "You never miss the water till the well runs dry."

Another old saying goes, "Don't holler till you're hurt."

We asked a dairyman the other day, "What is going to happen to the dairy situation with all the added cows farmers are putting on?"

His answer was, "Maybe the Good Lord will take care of that for us, if we don't get some rain pretty soon."

Drought is a constant topic of conversation this spring since the dry spell Lancaster County experienced last summer, and while conditions can not yet be called a drought, soil moisture is well below normal for this time of year, and farmers are beginning to feel the constant, gnawing thought that 1963 may bring another dry season.

Pastures are not growing as they should at this time of year. Spring planted crops are slow in germinating and not making good growth where they have come up.

While we have not heard any widespread reports of dry wells, many farmers are beginning to wonder what will happen to their water supplies when the normally dry season comes.

All too often we do not fully appreciate what a bountiful supply of water we have in this part of the country until a season like 1962 comes along. In very few years do we see our crops wither and dry for lack of moisture — a condition that is a normal occurrence in many areas.

We know the situation could change very rapidly, and we do not mean to "holler before we are hurt", but the time to remedy a bad situation is before it gets desperate. When a crop is dead, it is too late to irrigate. Most agriculture engineers tell us that it is too late to irrigate when serious drought. The time to irrigate is before the crop stops growing.

We believe many pastures in the county could benefit from an application of water now. If you have an irrigation system, don't wait until the grass begins to turn brown before you begin to water it. Good growth now will make the grass more able to stand the dry, hot months later in the summer.

Don't holler before you're hurt, is good advice, but there is no use in getting hurt if you don't have to.

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

★ ★ ★ ★ Her Special Day

Sometimes we think of her as a field hand. Sometimes she is the extra hand in the milking barn, and sometimes she is the only one who does the milking.

She is the cook, homemaker, washerwoman, scrub lady, upstairs maid, counselor and taxi driver for the children. She is the one who lends a hand when the extra tractor ought to be in the corn field, and she is the one who lends a word of encouragement when the note is due and crops don't look too good.

She is dietician and meal planner, veterinarian to sick calves, gardner and horticulturist, and general handywoman around the farm.

But farm children put it all into one word and call her, "mother."

It seems a shame that we have to have a special day set aside to remind us to appreciate someone as important as mothers. Every day of the year should be "Mothers Day".

But we suppose, on most farms, every day is Mothers Day. At least many of us would find the day's beginning pretty hectic without a mother there to organize the day's activities and get the whole family started on the many activities that families find themselves in today.

So, even though we appreciate mother every day of the year, it is fitting and proper that we set aside this one day to pay special tribute to her for her help and guidance.

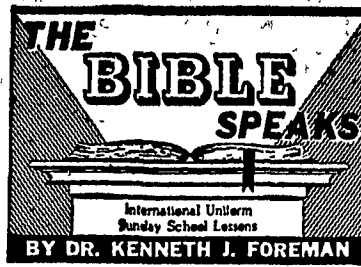
By whatever name you call her — mother, mama, mommy, or just plain "Mom," she deserves the best this Sunday. Why not give her a day off. Let her do just what she pleases for the whole day.

And do you know what that will be?

It will be just the same things she has been doing every Sunday for most of her life. She will be doing it because it is what she wants to do.

And that is why children put all their love, hopes, dreams, aspirations, and pleasant memories in that one word, Mother.

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



Worship At Home
Lesson for May 12, 1963

Bible Material: Psalms 78: 128.
Devotional Reading: Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18, 30-34.

A MAN sat down some years ago to write a book about the Kingdom of God. Where is it? was his question. He believed that the Kingdom comes wherever God's will is done, so that we cannot say it is all here or all there. God's will may never be fully done on earth, but it is done more in some places and by some people than in other places and by other people. In all the institutions of society, where is the will of God best done? To put it another way, what institution of society is most like heaven?



Dr. Foreman of God best done? To put it another way, what institution of society is most like heaven?

Where religion begins

It is no surprise to be told that this author argued that the place most like heaven on this earth is the home. Not the church, but the home. (International relations, he thought, are the area farthest from the will of God. This is no surprise either; but that is another story.) The home, in fact, is where religion begins. If you wanted to get rid of religion, as the communists do, the place to attack is not the church but the home. Keep people from having a normal home life and religion will dry out at the roots. The home is where we first hear the name of God; it is where we first learn to pray; there we hear the Bible read, there we are taught what forgiveness means, there we learn Christian habits and feel the first stirrings of Christian ambition and ideals. Modern Christian teachers of young people do not think of the home, as maybe our parents did, as a force for good which is a great help to school and church; it is the other way around. School and church—including church school—are aids to the home.

To be better than one's father and mother is an ambition most people would say is impossible. Some one has suggested that we

cannot be more devoted to God, more fully given up to His will and service, than were the best Christians of centuries ago; in short, that there are no persons in our present world who are more saintly than some of our forebears. What can be true of this generation, however, is that there can be, and in places is, a clearer knowledge of what devotion to God's will demands. To put it another way: in our hearts' devotion we cannot hope to measure up to our forefathers; but in the ways in which that devotion may be turned to practical purposes, we may go beyond them.

Now the writer of Psalm 78 certainly believed that it is in the home that we learn to be better (more obedient to God) than those who went before us. How can this be? It can be, because in each home there is something greater and better even than the parents: the law of God, or as we would say, the Bible. All the advice of father and mother is subject to error and sin; but God's word can be taught by parents to children, and there is no advice better than is given by the Holy Spirit.

The home is a school

Each God-fearing home is a link in a long chain, a part of a great School of Goodness. The Psalmist of old thought of the parents as teachers, and he is still right. How does the home teach? In three ways. First by the Word of God, as was just now said. The habit of using the Bible, of studying it, if not learned at home will not be learned elsewhere. But the good home teaches not by words alone, but by example. Many of us define a Christian by describing the sort of people our parents were. Religion on two feet is religion we can understand. You can argue about theology and theories; but a genuine Christian is his own argument. If we are Christians because our fathers were, that is the way God planned it. But the teaching of the home is more than Bible study and good example. The home is a place where we learn to do by doing. The many situations that test our tempers, the many occasions to get into a quarrel or to settle things peacefully, the many opportunities to be generous, the disappointments and sorrows, as well as the joys and accomplishments, which we experience in a good home, are all part of the training God offers us in the use and meaning of life.

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Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



MAX M. SMITH

To Plow Corn Stalks Down

The European Corn Borer decreases the yield of many fields of corn but as yet we do not have a practical spray to eliminate this insect. One method of keeping down the infestation is for all corn growers to get their old corn stalks plowed down by the middle of May. All growers are urged to do this without further delay.

To Make Grass Silage From Small Grains

Any type of small grain may be made into silage to harvest maximum feed nutrients and help provide needed forage during dry weather. Rye should be ensiled just after heading out while the other small grains such as wheat, barley, or oats, make the best silage when cut in the flowering to milk stage. No wilting is necessary and some cereal grain chop should be added as a preservative and to increase the feed value.

To Plan For Supplemental Pasture

Livestock and dairymen are urged to consider some extra forage crops this summer to make more summer pasture. If the dry weather continues, crops such as sudan grass will come in very handy later this summer. The recommended variety of sudan grass is Piper and it may be seeded during late May and early June at the rate of 30 to 35 pounds per acre. This forage will provide excellent grazing during the summer months.

To Be Careful With Fertilizer

With the greater use of higher strength fertilizer it is very important to keep the fertilizer separate from seeds or from the plant roots. With the corn planter the best place to put the fertilizer is 2 inches to the side and 2 inches deeper than the kernels. With seeding of special crops such as soybeans or sudan grass, the fertilizer prior to the actual seeding of should be drilled into the soil the grain; both nitrogen and potash fertilizers will decrease germination and burn the young sprout.

Letters To The Editor

Farmer Favors Wheat Program

Dear Sir;

In some recent letters to the editor I have observed a good deal of fiction, which I believe to be politically inspired, concerning the impending wheat referendum May 21. To set the record straight I submit this letter based on factual, documentary information.

Fact . . . The agricultural adj. act of 1938 was a good approach to the wheat problem of that time. It increased farm income through a critical period at a reasonable cost. However, it became inadequate, it did not provide for increased yields over the years, it was not flexible. The only limit on production was the 55 million acre maximum allotment. It had no provision to avoid the shifting of acres taken out of wheat into feed grains, etc. With no substantial modifications until 1962 wheat costs rose greatly with much of the total wheat returns going to warehouse operators.

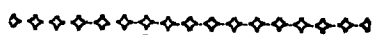
Counting export costs the

program in 1953 totaled \$194 million or 8% of the value of wheat produced that year. By 1961 the cost was up to 1.4 billion dollars or 61% of farmers gross income for wheat. To meet demand we need 600 million bu. for home use. We export 600 million bu. which is heavily subsidized. Thus we had the 1962 emergency wheat program. While it was of necessity more restrictive (production reduced 10% per year) than the old program, it was a big step in the right direction. Farm returns were increased, storage costs reduced and congressional support gained for all farm programs. These are factual results of a sound wheat program.

This 1962 wheat program provided several long overdue basic changes in the wheat law. A very important one was that on a yearly basis, the Secretary of Agriculture would call all interested farm groups and cooperatives together, they were provided an opportunity to compromise their differences and write the yearly program.

The 1964 proposed program was evolved in this way and all interested national farm

groups participated except Farm Bureau Federation. To me this lack of a constructive approach by F. B. F. and its affiliate Penna Farmers Ass'n, is proof of a very low regard for the economic interest of farmers. This means politics at (Continued on Page 5)



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