

From Where We Stand . . .

Why Don't YOU Write An Editorial?

Twice in the past week the editor has been asked, "Why don't you write an editorial on . . . ?"

His answer in both cases was, "Why don't you write a letter to the editor?"

There are many good subjects for editorials. Some people doubt this when they read an editorial about a point they consider to be of minor importance, but that is just the point of the whole bit.

We were serious about asking the persons with the ideas to write letters to the editor.

The first reason we didn't write an editorial about . . . was that we did not have all the facts pertinent to the topic. In fact, we were not even aware that the problem existed until the reader brought it to our attention.

In the second place, we were not nearly so aroused about the problem as the reader who brought it to our attention.

Of course it is the duty of an editor to keep himself informed and become properly indignant when he sees injustices of any kind in the community, but editors are only human too (we keep telling ourself) and can not be aware of all the intricacies of our modern society.

Thirdly, if an editor does ride your hobby horse, or polish your pet peeve with his most lavish and tenderest care, or vent his bitterest spleen, you might not recognize the end product as your idea at all. As the saying goes, "If you want a thing done well, do it yourself."

This is not to say that an editor does not want to hear what his readers think of the material in his column. Brickbats and bouquets are both welcomed by the conscientious writer (bouquets are preferred, of course) and suggestions for editorials are always welcome, but many times the thinking of a neighbor can do more to convince than the opinion of a dozen professionals.

Rural people are notoriously shy about writing. Some letters are received unsigned and these must be consigned to the "ultimate file" immediately, no matter how important they might be, but most editors will withhold the writer's name if requested to do so.

So if you have a hobby horse, a pet peeve, bouquet or brickbat, compliment or criticism, or just an urge to let off steam, why not write a letter to the editor? It might do a lot of good for you, your neighbors and your community.

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



Most Important Crop

We once asked an uncle, "What's the most important crop on your farm?"

He answered in one word, "Boys"

He was a good farmer, but he realized that things like oats and corn

are only temporary when measured alongside the value of young people.

Last week, Lancaster County farmers had reason to be proud of their most important crop. The Garden Spot still ranks first in the state in corn and wheat and barley and potatoes and milk and eggs, but last week Lancaster County showed the state that quality in our most important crop is not neglected.

We would like to add our congratulations to the many that undoubtedly have been heaped on the five young Future Farmers who were elected to state office last week. We feel that it is a fine tribute to the farmers of the county, and to the teachers of vocational agriculture as well, to have such a large proportion of the state officers, come from one county.

We believe it is testimony to the fact that agriculture is not passing out of the picture in Lancaster County. And further we believe it points up the fact that good agriculture draws good teachers of vocational agriculture.

Congratulations are in order to the young men, their parents, and their teachers of vocational agriculture.

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



Never laugh at a person's efforts to speak or write English correctly. Of the four major languages, it is the most difficult to learn. Here's why:

We'll begin with the box, the plural of which is boxes; but the plural of ox is oxen, not oxes.

You may find a lone mouse, or a whole nest of mice; but the plural of houses is houses, not hices.

If the plural of man is men, why shouldn't the plural of pan be pen?

If I speak of a foot and you show me two feet, or give you a boot, would a pair be called beet?

If one is a tooth and whole set is teeth, why shouldn't the plural of booth be beeth?

Then the masculine pronouns are, he, his and him; but imagine the feminine as she, shis, and shim!

The Fillmore (Calif.) Herald



Russia Has Its Farm Problems

Between 40 and 69 percent of Russia's farm workers are out of jobs in the winter, posing somewhat of a dilemma to Soviet communist czars. Sounding off on agricultural woes of the country, Soviet economist I. Borodin, reported in a recent publication that of Russia's 31 million collectivized farm workers employed in July, only 18 million still had farm jobs the following January. Attempted cures, mostly ineffective include expanded livestock production and the shipping of field labor — especially youths — to far flung farm labor deficient areas.

USDA's Forest Service show that a total of 115,345 forest fires burned 4,078,894 acres during 1962, an increase over 1961 when 98,517 fires burned 3,036,219 acres. Almost 90 percent of the forest fires in 1962 were man-caused as compared to 84 percent on 1961.

This report is based on figures from Forest Service field

offices, the States land management agencies in the Department of the Interior, and the Tennessee Valley Authority.

In spite of the increase in 1962, the general trend in forest fires has been downward. In 1942, for instance, there were 208,218 forest fires, of which 96 percent were reported as man-caused.

Letters To The Editor

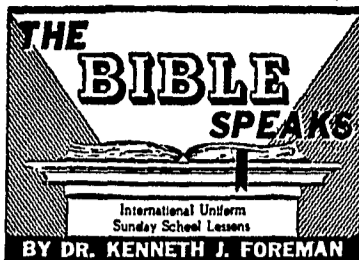
Editor, Lancaster Farming
Dear Sir

Will you please renew my Lancaster Farming. I am enclosing the address label. We enjoy your paper, especially the editorials

Aaron O. Brubaker
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God In His World

Lesson for June 23, 1963

Bible Material: Psalms 19; 95; 148.
Devotional Reading: Psalm 97.

IS GOD in His world? Certainly, says every Christian. God is everywhere, and so He must be in His world. Go as far as you like in a man-made satellite exploring space; catch the tail of a comet as it sweeps, once in eternity perhaps, into our orbit; take the rocket-fuel of imagination and rush faster than the speed of light, far beyond all visible galaxies,—always God is there. Certainly God is in His world, this



Dr. Foreman world we see and love or hate, this world of stars and suns, angleworms and atoms, sea and sky and earth and all the creatures living in it. But the next questions are harder and tied closely together. HOW is God in His world, and what good does it do us to know or believe He is here? We can't see Him, and answers to questions in astronomy or physics or botany, and so forth, would be just the same if there were no God. The distance to the sun from here is just the same for an atheist as for a Christian saint.

How God is not here

To be very short with a very long question, let us face it: God is not in His world the way some thinkers suppose He is. He is not in His world as your soul is in your body. The universe is not the garment of God, or the body of God. God is not in the universe in the way we are, namely as a part of it. He is neither a part nor the whole of it, and it is neither a part nor the whole of Him. God is also not in the world as a spectator is in a stadium watching a game. He is all there and maybe yelling His head off for the home team; but He can't get out on the field and mix in the plays, and He couldn't even if He wanted to. God is not just here being entertained, and sometimes not knowing just what the score is. More-

over, God is not here as a product of this world. You are a product of it, you would not be what you are if the universe were utterly different from what it is. But God is not owing His existence to the world or to any one in it. If the universe ceased to be, you would cease to be; but God would be God with or without the universe.

How God is here

All the same, God is here in His universe, in two ways. First He is here as Creator. When we use that word, we do not mean merely a deity who created all things a long time ago. He is here today as creator. A pilot in a small plane runs into turbulent weather. His little plane bounces around, and out of the tail of his eye he can see the wings go up and down as they hit the down-drafts and up-drafts. It would scare some people; but the pilot is not afraid. A little instrument on the dashboard shows the plane can stand this much turbulence. It was constructed so as to stand it. The designer of that plane is in it, seeing that the pilot gets through safely. So God is in the laws of the universe, He is in its reliability, in its beauty no less.

The universe points to God

Two wrong ideas come up here. One is that we can learn nothing about God from the universe. It is a waste of time (some people maintain) for a Christian to study the universe, in other words to be a scientist, because no amount of scientific knowledge brings you a step nearer God. The truth is, however, that we can learn much about God through a study of science. "Maker of heaven and earth" takes on tremendous meaning for people who take the trouble to find out what is known about the worlds God made. The opposite and equally mistaken notion is that we learn all we need to learn about God just from observing the world He made. Quite the contrary; some of the most important and urgent questions we can ask are not to be answered by looking into telescopes or microscopes. How can I come to terms with God? Am I no more to God than other animals are? When I have fallen into sin, does God care? What does God want me to do? How can I keep from being lost in this vast universe? These and other questions turn us from the Creator's wonderful works to His wonderful Word. There we may learn how the wonders of His power are more than matched by the wonders of His grace.

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Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



MAX M. SMITH

To Operate Hay Mow Fans

Many farmers have installed air ducts with an electric fan system of blowing air up through the hay in order to cure it in the barn. This is considered one of the most practical methods of barn curing hay for the average livestock or dairy operator. However, it is important to keep the fan running day and night for the first several days after covering the duct. Without the fan and air movement, the tough hay will heat and be lowered in feed value. Usually 5 to 7 days will be required to remove the excess moisture.

To Phosphate Poultry Manure

Poultry manure that is to be stored over the summer months will lose most of the nitrogen content and considerable phosphorus if piled out in the weather. We advise keeping it under root and adding about 200 pounds of 20% superphosphate per ton of manure; even in the laying house add 4 pounds of phosphate per 100 hens daily; do not permit the chickens to eat the superphosphate. Since poultry manure is high in nitrogen, it should not be used on any crops during the growing season. It's greatest use is for stimulating cover crops or sod crops or other land just prior to plowing down.

To Spray Roses

Black Spot is the most damaging disease for rose growers. This shows up as irregular black blotches on the upper surface of the leaf and affected leaves turn yellow and drop off. Weekly spraying of either folpet, maneb, or captan should control the problem. Insecticide such as DDT or malathion should control the rose insects.

To Carry Insect Repellents

Many families will be taking trips and vacations in the coming months. Mosquitoes, flies, chiggers, or ticks are quite common in woods, parks, and other vacation areas. Many commercial insecticides may be purchased in a small can under pressure. For home use or for camp locations Lindane is very effective against most insects.