

From Where We Stand . . . Grandfather Had It Rough

More capital from city investors is going to farmers every year, according to R. B. Tootell, Governor of the Farm Credit Administration.

Last year, he said recently, Farm Credit System banks sold most of the \$4.3 billion of their securities to city investors, which was the main source of funds for loans totaling \$5.3 billion to farmers and their cooperatives.

Governor Tootell said agriculture, as represented by securities of Federal Land banks, Federal intermediate credit banks, and banks for cooperatives, is a good investment for city people. "Agriculture is our largest, most efficient, and most encompassing industry, representing a net worth of \$185 billion."

Grandfather may boast to his grandsons about the tough time he had getting started in farming, but the farm youth of today has it even worse.

Not only is the initial investment to start farming growing each year, but land is becoming scarcer each year; farms are harder to buy, and more and more are being consolidated into larger units with higher price tags. There simply is not enough farms to go around to all the youth growing up on farms today. In grandfather's day, new lands were constantly being opened to cultivation, and while money was scarce, a man could start farming with a minimum of equipment if he were willing to work hard at it. Today, hard manual labor can not equal the advantage of high priced equipment.

As of July 1 of this year, the index of average value per acre of farm real estate was 127, based on the 1957-59 base, up six per cent from a year earlier and three per cent above March 1 of this year.

Add to all these facts, the situation of farm youth leaving the farms for jobs in cities where competition is already keen, and the plight of today's rural youth becomes a real problem.

This problem will be the subject of a national conference on problems of rural youth in a changing environment to be held at Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, on September 22 to 25.

In speaking about the conference, Secretary of Agriculture, Orville Freeman said, "No resource is as important as our youth. Within this rural segment are many future leaders of our Nation. Naturally, we in the Department of Agriculture welcome the opportunity to support the conference and subsequent efforts and program for the benefit of our rural young people. Both public and private agencies and citizens in general must sharpen and increase their awareness and interest and apply all available resources to help augment opportunities for this vital segment of the Nation's population."

Mr. Freeman pointed out that "this is a continuing effort growing out of the 1960 White House Conference for Children and Youth and the 1961 Conference on Unemployed Out-of-School Youth in Urban Areas. It answers appeals from many youth leaders and others for similar consideration of rural youth problems."

During National Farm Safety Week July 21 to 27, it was announced that U.S. farm fire losses for 1962 reached an all-time high property loss of \$175 million. This was 7 percent above 1961 and a million dollars more than the previous high in 1959. In the last two years, Japan has been the leading world customer for U.S. farm products. In the 1961-62 fiscal year, agricultural exports to Japan totaled \$485 million.

All farmers and other rural people have a vital interest in the outcome of the conference.

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

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A Needed Step

The Red Rose Dairy Herd Improvement Association took a big step in the right direction this week.

We believe purebred breeders have long needed a record of the total solid in the milk of their dairy cows, but up to this time, there was very little chance that they could get such information without great expense.

We believe the time will come when all milk will be sold on total solids rather than on butterfat content, and we congratulate the directors of DHIA for taking this step.

Breeders of purebred dairy cows can now begin to build cow family records which will be invaluable when the time comes that total solids are considered as a basis for buying milk.

Furthermore, the information gained from the Lancaster County herds should prove a great boon to statisticians who have long been trying to find the exact correlation between butterfat and the other milk solids.

We doubt that very many dairymen could visualize that DHIA testing would ever become the valuable tool it is today. We predict that SNF testing will become an even greater tool for dairymen, and that it will come into full use at a much more rapid rate.

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

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Dairying Ranks First

Dairying is important in every state. In 10 states dairy products ranked first in value of farm marketings in 1961, the latest available figures. This does not include marketings of dairy cattle. The top states were Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont and Wisconsin.

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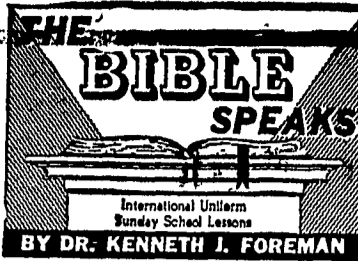
Good taste and good nutrition are two reasons why the American consumer likes dairy foods. Increased public knowledge of nutrition and its importance in human health account for remarkable recent gains in the per capita consumption of cheese, ice cream, fluid non-fat and low fat milk, and strong acceptance of other dairy products.

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Over 46 percent of the nation's milk supply is used as fluid milk and cream. Almost all of the remainder is prepared as butter, cheese, ice cream and other frozen dairy foods, evaporated, condensed, and non-fat dry milk, and many other dairy products.

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Dairy foods represent one of the most economical sources of food nutrients. During 1962, American families spent only 19 cents of each food dollar for dairy foods. No other single group of foods can provide an equal variety and quantity of essential food nutrients at the same cost.



Turning Point Lesson for September 1, 1963

Bible Material: Genesis 29 through 36
Devotional Reading: Mark 10 13-23.

ONE of the strange stories in Genesis is this one of Jacob at the brook Jabbok. Are we expected to understand this story literally or figuratively? and if it is a literal story, was Jacob wrestling with an angel (Hosea 12:4),



or a man (Genesis 32:24,25), or God Himself (Genesis 32:30)? If you had been there with a camera and a flash bulb, what could you have seen? The best thing to do with stories like that, hard to take hold of and understand, is to ask one question about the story and stick to that. We have no doubt what the incident meant to Jacob. For him it was more than an incident, it was the high moment of all his life. "I have seen God face to face," he said; "and yet my life is preserved."

A man before and after

Last week we thought about the story of Jacob and Beth-el, and raised the question: was Jacob converted there? It does not seem likely, because Jacob was the same sort of sharp dealer afterwards as he was before. He had been working for his uncle Laban for around 20 years between the night at Beth-el and the night at Peniel (you notice Jacob named both places), and in all that time, while Laban was a tricky man to deal with, and cheated his son-in-law in various ways, it is clear that Jacob was taking Laban for a ride at the same time. Each one was trying to get some unfair advantage over the other. Observe also what he did the day before that fateful night at the brook Jabbok. He was about to meet his brother Esau, and though 20 years had passed since Esau swore he would kill his brother Jacob, Jacob feared Esau had not forgotten his bloodthirsty vow. So he sent some enormous presents ahead to make Esau feel better, and then

he sent his family, and then he stayed behind. A cheat and a coward both. But after that night of struggle, Jacob was a changed man. He goes out bravely in front of his family to meet Esau; and from that day on, while there was much sorrow in his later years, we do not hear of any more sins.

Turning point

"By their fruits you shall know them," said Jesus, speaking of human beings as well as fruit trees and shrubs. Only God can see the heart, but neighbors and a man's family can see the life. Conversion affects the way a person talks and works and plays, it makes a difference with what it takes to make him happy. Conversion can no more be concealed, when it is real, than spring-time can be. Spring "bursts out" as we say; and so does conversion. But true conversion, such as we may believe Jacob's to have been, is not merely a change in behavior. It can be imitated by any one who can mimic or imitate the way converted people act; but the genuine can be told apart from the fake by the fact that the genuine conversion "stays put" while the fake breaks down when serious dangers or difficulties arise in the path. What makes a real conversion real? It is the fact that it is rooted in the inmost life, centered in and growing in and from the heart. God does not promise us good habits which will produce good hearts; He promises new hearts that will express themselves in good habits.

God's house or God's face?

So the great turning points of life are those in which something vital and radical occurs in the inner life. Now we may ask. Why did this not happen at Beth-el and why did it happen at Peniel? A clue to this may be found in those two words themselves. Beth-el means House of God and Peniel means Face of God. At the one place Jacob thought he had found (so to speak) God's front door. At the other place he met the God who has no doors, the God who comes to meet men in lonely and terrible places, the God whose goings cannot be scheduled and whose house not even the heaven of heavens can contain. A man may go to the house of God, yes even to church, and not see God there at all. Most people are interested in their friends first and in their friends' houses second. Maybe the reason why there are so many not-quite-converted people around is that so many of them think that just going to the "house of God" is enough. A Beth-el conversion is not enough.

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Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH

To Prepare Silo



More emphasis is being placed on silage as one of the most economical feeds for many types of livestock. Silo filling time is approaching rapidly and one of the essentials of a good silo is that it be air tight from top to bottom. With many silos this means some extra attention before the silo is filled. With the wooden silo it might mean tightening the hoops or painting the inside with linseed oil; with masonry silos it could mean pointing up the joints or re-coating the inside surface. To furnish quality silage we need a silo in good condition.

To Prevent Mastitis In Dairy Herd

To correct the problem of udder trouble in many cows we should pay more attention to better herd management and less attention to chemicals and antibiotics. Dairymen should learn to recognize and eliminate the sources of injury and stress on the cow and udder. The most important source of trouble is the herdsman himself or a poor milking system. Over-crowded barns, poor ventilation, cold wet floors and walls, parasites, and rough handling causes extra stress in the cows.

To Beware Of Silo Gas

Every farmer should become familiar with this poisonous gas and not take chances at silo-filling time. With the heavier use of nitrogen on our corn and forage crops, and with the drouth conditions in many parts of the country, we could have some trouble again this fall. For 2 to 10 days after filling the silo extreme caution should be used; this yellow-

colored gas is heavier than air, will cause a choking and coughing condition, and is dangerous to human beings and all livestock. Don't take chances by feeling that it is not present in your silo.

To Use Caution With Alfalfa Pasture

Some livestock producers are grazing their later cuttings of alfalfa, this is a good practice. (Continued on Page 5)

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