

From Where We Stand . . .

Be Sure You Come Back Upright

Another hunting season is upon the land.

Millions of Americans will take to the woods and fields this fall in quest of every form of game from cottontail rabbits to Canadian moose. All will go with high hopes of success and of returning proudly home with filled bags.

But, the American Medical Association tells us that at least 200 of these hunters will not return under their own power. They will be brought back dead — the victims of hunting accidents involving guns.

The rules for gun safety would fill many books, but they are fairly simple, founded on the hard rock of down-to-earth common sense. In fact, it is the very simplicity of the rules that encourage some gun handlers to ignore or bypass them.

In the heat of the hunt, many shooters forget that their weapons will shoot just as accurately and as deadly when pointed away from the line of sight as they will when aimed at game.

Before you go into the fields this year, think over these simple rules; see how common-sense they are, and see how very little time and effort is involved in observing them.

Know what you are firing at before you pull the trigger. Everyone knows this rule, yet every year several hunters are killed by companions who thought the rustle in the bushes was made by a deer.

Never climb over or through a fence without first unloading the gun. We know you might miss a shot at a rabbit, but that is better than shooting yourself or a companion.

Never shoot at hard flat surfaces; ricochets can wound and kill. This rule includes being sure of your background as well as your target. Shooting towards buildings or highways can be as dangerous as taking direct aim at people or property.

Keep guns and ammunition away from children. This does not mean just babies. The pre-teen youngster who has seen his father handling the gun in the house but never in the field has no way of knowing the terrible force enclosed in those shiny shells. Teenagers often handle guns safely, but they should never be trusted to handle a gun alone unless they have demonstrated that they know and use safe practices.

Be absolutely sure guns carried into camp or home are unloaded. Keep them cased until your hunting area is reached.

Never look down a gun barrel to see if it's loaded. This rule sounds ridiculous, but breaking it is the cause of deaths every year. Treat every gun as if it were loaded.

Never point the gun at anything you don't want to shoot, and always keep the safety on until you are ready to shoot.

Remember that alcohol and ammunition can make a deadly mixture.

In sum, treat a gun with the respect it deserves. Work on the principle that it is always loaded and ready to

fire, even though you know it isn't.

We know it is too much to expect — or to even hope for — but if everyone followed these rules, all the armies of hunters — yourself included — will come home under their own power.

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

It's Still Dry

Most of Pennsylvania is still suffering through the second season of severe drought.

Many areas of the state and most of Lancaster County will be short of forage for cattle this winter.

In addition to the dry weather, late frosts last spring and early frosts this fall made 1963 one of the shortest growing seasons on record.

But not all the farm picture is totally bleak. Several farmers this week have reported corn yields in excess of 100 bushels. The local wheat crop was above average in yield and much of it excellent in quality. The barley harvest was near average, and the crop reporting service of the state Department of Agriculture said the oat crop was one of the best on record.

Many Lancaster County farmers reported near record tomato yields with higher prices than have been seen in several years. Some tobacco farmers were caught with part of their crop in the field when frost came, but several have told us they disced down the frozen leaf, hoping the sound tobacco might be a little higher in price this winter.

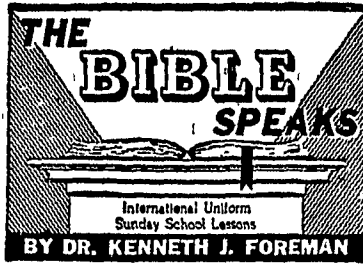
We do not mean to belittle the seriousness of the drought, but we believe one county farmer summed it up pretty well this week when he said, "We sure could use some rain, but we ought not complain — we have so many other things to be thankful for."

And we are thankful there are still farmers with this attitude.

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

Fallout Overplayed—"There is no reason whatsoever for the public to reduce consumption of milk or other dairy products due to fear of radioactive contamination," says the assistant surgeon general. He says the public has shown greater concern over fallout in milk than the facts warrant. Fallout levels in foods including milk are now and never have been at a dangerous level.

Countryside Brighteners — The countryside is scheduled for an inundation of bright, eye-catching posters. Joint Agriculture and Interior Department plans are to plaster them over camp and picnic grounds. The poster — yellow and black on white, showing a "despicable little creature throwing trash in all directions" — will assure instant attention and readability. Purpose: to discourage litterbugs.



For My Neighbor

Lesson for October 20, 1963

Bible Material: Matthew 4:1-11; I Corinthians 8 through 11:1.
Devotional Reading: I Corinthians 8:7-13.

AS A Christian, I have acknowledged my responsibility in two directions. I am responsible TO God and FOR my neighbor. No matter how high in the scale of human society a man may live, he never can climb so high that he is no longer answerable to God. No matter how high a wall a man builds around himself, though he may shut himself away from mankind, or from the needy part of mankind, every man is still responsible to God for his neighbor. This is true of all men whether they know it and believe it and live by it, or not. The Christian is not the only man who has this double responsibility, but he is the only man who is clearly aware of this. If he is not aware of it, or denies it, we have a right to ask, Is he actually Christian?

Three illustrations

Three illustrations will show how this works out in practice. Take first the problem of liquor. Many a man is able to drink in moderation all his life. Such a man may say to himself: "Drinking or not-drinking is a personal problem. Every man must solve it or answer it in his own way according to his own best judgment. Other people have no business caring whether I drink or not, and it's not my business to inquire whether other people can drink and hold their liquor like gentlemen. Every tub must stand on its own bottom."

But this man, just because he himself can "hold his liquor like a gentleman," can be one of the worst influences in his community. You will hear such a man denouncing juvenile delinquency, unaware that he is contributing to the very delinquency of which he complains. For others, seeing how little he is hurt by his temperate drinking, will be encouraged to drink also, only to find, when it is too late, that they haven't the same

powers of restraint.

Attitudes

Another illustration: Some people are so constructed mentally that they can take, or seem to take, some wrong attitude more or less in fun, without really meaning it. They speak of sacred things in a tone of light mockery, or they make all sorts of jokes, some pretty sorry ones, about marriage, or women, or the church. They will say with a laugh, "I'd like to wring his neck" or refer to some absent person as "that dirty buzzard." Now such a person may be one who really doesn't mean any harm by this, and takes no harm himself. It's just a "manner of speaking." He doesn't seem to be affected by the silly or vulgar words that pass his lips. Essentially he remains an honest and honorable man. (This doesn't happen often, but it does happen.) Now here is a parallel to your moderate drinker. This careless talker spreads the dirt or the froth in moderation. He's really sober for all his careless speech. But perhaps just because he is an attractive personality, he (maybe without intending it) induces others to imitate him. And most of these imitators find out, too late, that "he that toucheth pitch shall be defiled." Using vulgar language leaves the user vulgar; use of the language of hate and contempt helps to shape the soul of the man who even-plays at hatred and contempt. "It doesn't hurt me," the first man says. But it hurts others who try it, just to be smart. The first man does harm to others, just because he doesn't think about others. He feels responsible for himself alone, whereas he is actually responsible for all whom he influences.

Justice

Take a third example. Some condition of injustice may be pressing hard on some of your neighbors. Not neighbors you see, perhaps, but the "invisible poor," for example. It may be a bad condition in the public schools; or it may be the denial of an education to those who are eager for it; it may be lack of recreation facilities for young people; it may be an unfair differential in wages because of sex or race. Whatever the injustice may be, if it doesn't hurt me I'm not likely to worry much about it. But this carelessness about injustice from which we benefit is exactly the opposite of the Christian position. The Christian question always should be: "What is this doing to my brother, my neighbor?"

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Released by Community Press)

Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH

To Control Internal Parasites In Cattle

With the increase in cattle population on many farms in the east and the south, a build-up of stomach worms is occurring. Local dairymen are urged to prevent young stock from eating hay or silage from the floor where worm eggs could be, hay racks should be constructed to reduce the fall of leaves and hay to the floor as the animals eat it. Plans are available for these pieces of equipment. Cattle feeders that import feeder cattle should have the animals checked by their veterinarian and treated for stomach worms. These practices will reduce feed costs and increase profits.



MAX SMITH

To Be Alert For Wild Cherry Trees

When wild cherry leaves are damaged by frost, or in a wilting stage, or entirely wilted, they are poisonous and may kill nearly all types of livestock. After severe storms, broken limbs or fallen trees are very dangerous. Producers are urged to cut down all wild cherry trees this fall in their pastures and thus eliminate this problem.

To Harvest Blue Gill Fish

The fall of the year is a good time to fish the farm ponds and reap the meat harvest from this part of the farm. Many farm ponds are over-stocked with blue gills which may interfere with normal bass re-production; also,

too many fish in the pond actually means there is not enough food to make them grow normally. Pond owners are urged to permit the heavy fishing of the blue gills in order to maintain the proper fish balance.

To Topdress Pastures And Hay Fields

The fall of the year is a good time to apply phosphorus and potash fertilizer to grass-legume forage mixtures. After the last cutting of alfalfa or clover, and after the livestock have been taken from the pasture to their winter quarters, the application of 300 to 400 pounds of an 0-20-20 or 0-15-30 will fur-

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● Poultry

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muth, Treasurer of the Lancaster County Poultry Association, and piano selections will be played throughout the evening by Glenn Smith.

Galen McQuate is Banquet Chairman, assisted by the following committee: A. L. Harnish, Carl Harnish, Lester Huist & Russel Mease.

All Poultrymen, wives and associates are welcome. Contact the Lancaster County Poultry Association office for reservations.

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