

From Where We Stand . . .

Cut Any Department But Mine!

There is an old saying that every one is for economy in government as long as someone else's department gets the cuts.

We believe this is true. Everyone believes the cost of government is too high. We are spending too much on services — unessential services, they are sometimes called.

But which are the essential and which are the unessential services.

We believe it depends on where you sit.

For years the meat industry has prided itself on the small amount of "government regulation and interference" in that business. Packers, ranchers and farmers alike have made a great thing of this.

But this week there came across our desk a "news release" from the National Independent Meat Packers Association which claims that the industry is about to be treated unfairly because one expensive government program may be charged to the industry itself.

Part of the news release follows:

"A 'bomb shell which may cause inestimable damage to the meat packing industry and to the entire livestock and food industries' was the way John Killick, executive secretary of the National Independent Meat Packers Association, described President Johnson's proposal to burden the meat packing industry with the cost of meat inspection. Killick referred to a 'submerged passage' in the President's Budget Message, which was delivered to Congress last Tuesday, that is part of the administration's cutback in agricultural appropriations.

"The 1964 budget would reduce federal payments for agriculture and agricultural resources mainly through a reduction in farm commodity programs; a part, however, would be obtained by 'a new proposal providing for fees to cover the costs of meat, poultry, and grain inspection services.'

"Killick said. 'Once before, in 1948, the government imposed the cost of federal meat inspection on meat packers, but before the year was over, Congress had acted to protect and safeguard its long-established policy that meat inspection costs should be borne by the government, and quickly enacted legislation that reinstated meat inspection to its proper status — that of a direct obligation and responsibility of the federal government.'

"At that time,' Killick observed, 'Congress stated that the protection of the health and welfare of the American people is a proper function of the Government and that the inspection of meat and meat products is a proper exercise of that function. In addition, Congress recognized that inspection is obviously for the benefit of the general public, rather than producers and processors, and therefore the cost of such inspection should be paid out of the general funds of the federal government.'

Our purpose here is not to say whether federal grading is good or evil, or

whether the costs should be borne by the industry or the Federal Government:

Our point is simply to state that the public demands a certain number of services. When the services are provided and charged to the public the people complain bitterly. When the government tries to institute economies, the people and politicians raise continual howls of anguish. As a result, government is damned if it tries to economize, and damned if it does not.

We are going to have to decide what is good and what must go. Then we must accept cuts, even if they hurt our individual pocketbooks, and we must be willing to pay for the rest.

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

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WHAT WE MUST NOT DO

In a recent issue of The Reader's Digest, John Strohm and Cliff Ganschow — two top writers on agricultural and related subjects — dealt in considerable detail with "The Great Pesticide Controversy." Their purpose was to separate fact from fallacy — and to determine whether or not the food we all must eat is being poisoned by chemicals, and whether or not they are a menace to wildlife.

To begin with, they point out that "Without pesticides, food would have to be rationed. Housewives would line up to buy inferior foods, blemished tomatoes, scrawny potatoes and sweet corn pocked with wormholes." The price of most food items, according to one authority, would double. Chemical control of these multitudinous pests is essential to an abundant agriculture which can feed the nation at minimum cost.

What of the dangers — a vital question, indeed, in the light of all the controversy this problem has produced?

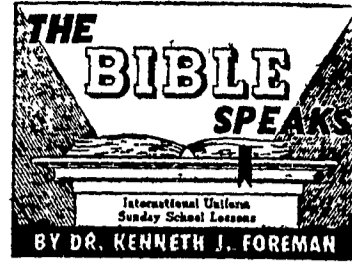
Messrs. Strohm and Ganschow do not minimize them. They have existed and, no doubt, will continue to exist — nothing in life is totally safe, witness automobile driving. But pesticide dangers seem to have been vastly exaggerated, in the view of leading students and scientists. Moreover, some \$40 million a year is now being spent on pesticide research, in a hunt for better and safer compounds, and a number of dramatic steps forward have already been taken.

At the end of their article, the authors touch the big point. They agree that there is a need for stricter control and use of certain chemicals. But then they say this, and it goes to the root of the matter: "Equally important are certain things we should not do in the emotion of the moment:

"We must not sacrifice proven benefits because of unproven fears.

"Red tape and excessive regulation must not tie the hands of research chemists, who are urgently needed to help meet the greatest challenge of the 20th century — producing enough food for a world in which half of the people are hungry."

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Casual Meeting Lesson for February 2, 1964

Background Scripture: John 4:1-42.
Devotional Reading: Psalm 42:1-6.

THE WORD "casual" has various meanings. It makes you think of leisure-time casual clothes or off-hand casual remarks. It is the opposite of formal, planned, carefully prepared. You don't look forward to a casual meeting, you don't even give it a thought till you run across this person unexpectedly. Many meetings in life are planned, more are not. A casual acquaintance is one you meet



Dr. Foreman once and then not again. A casual meeting is the opposite of an important meeting. Most people don't expect much from casual acquaintances or casual occasions of any kind.

No one is unimportant
Jesus, as usual, was different. He met many persons casually, as we would say. He would talk with a stranger a few moments and then they would part never to see each other again. But for Jesus no meeting was merely casual, because no person was unimportant, and every moment was bound up with Eternity.

That woman at the well is a good example. Jesus did not inquire her name. She lived in a village he never had visited and never would visit again so far as we know. As the world counts such things, she was not important. Notorious in her home town, maybe; but not important. In fact, from the viewpoint of the disciples, she was so far beneath the notice of Jesus that when they found him talking with her, they were astonished. And yet Jesus did talk to her with such leisurely seriousness that you might have thought she was the only person in the world. He spoke to her some profound truth.

If Jesus had treated that casual meeting as being

would have happened. If when she talked about the right place to worship God, he had said, "That's a good question—but let's not get into an argument, it's too hot;" or if when she said "I have no husband" he had said nothing but "Oh," it would indeed have been a casual meeting, nothing more. But Jesus turned that meeting into a milestone for the woman's life. Before she met Jesus she was a woman living only for pleasure and not getting much out of it. After she met Jesus she became an enthusiast about him. She is interested in her fellow-citizens—for the first time, we may suppose—no longer in a self-seeking way, but eager to have them know Christ also. She has a new interest in life because for the first time her life has found a new center, a center not in her own trivial self. In short, Jesus knew that while he himself would have more meaningful hours than this, while he knew that this was not a life-changing moment for him, it was for her. And he dealt with the woman in accordance with the importance of the hour and the meeting for her.

No brush-off
One of the most humiliating and disappointing experiences in life is to be the victim of a "brush-off" from someone who stands above us. Those who have some importance recognized by others might remember this; Christians especially. Parents, for example, may make fun of some effort a child has made at playing a small instrument, or high-jumping, or something else that isn't much account in the grown-ups' book but means a lot to the child. A worker who has a suggestion thrown into the wastebasket, a helper in the house or on the farm who does his best on a small task only to have it ignored—these incidents are soon forgotten by parent, employer, or boss; but they are not forgotten by the "little man." The great secret of turning casual meetings, casual occasions, into memorable moments, is putting yourself in the other person's place. A woman was explaining why she didn't like her preacher. "He always acts like he doesn't have time for me." Isn't that the trouble with most of us? We don't have time for people—especially if they are littler than ourselves. Perhaps if we took more time with people we could begin to see more in them!

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Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



MAX SMITH

To Plan For Early Legume Seeding

(Many acres of new clover and alfalfa will be seeded by the broadcast method this spring in winter grain. If this method is to be used, it is important to make the broadcast during late February or the first 10 days in March. Research experiments have proved these early seedings to be more successful than late March, April, or May. The alternate freezing and thawing of the ground is important in trying to get a good stand. Growers are urged to make their plans for this early work.

To Discard Direct-Cut Silage Making

Dairymen who are planning to make grass silage this summer are urged to return to the wilting method rather than the direct cut. The degree of wilting will depend upon the type of silage desired. From wilted silage down to low-moisture silage (or haylage) may be obtained by the degree of time permitted in the field before ensiling. The direct cut method means high moisture silage and creates a storage problem with lower quality silage for the herd.

To Inspect Breeding Ewes

Sheep growers are reminded of the problem of wool blindness that might be present with sheep that have considerable wool about the head. When the wool grows long it closes the area around the eyes and the animals have trouble in seeing normally. This should be cut out with hand or electric shears. Also, before the lambing season the long wool should be trimmed away from the udder! this will make it easier nursing for the new-born lamb.

To Recognize Corn Silage

All dairymen and cattle feeders are urged to recognize the good feed value in corn silage. In this part of the country it is very difficult to surpass the feed nutrients harvested from a good acre of corn as silage. In making plans for the 1964 crop season, producers are urged to include extra acres for silage. This type of roughage feed is strongly recommended for reducing feed costs.

Soil Conservation

(Continued from Page 1)
Holtwood R1, 95 acres in Drumore Twp., John B. Feir, Holtwood R1, 144 acres in Martic Twp., Earl Swartzentuber, Drumore R1, 119 acres in Drumore Twp., Eli M Horst, Leola, 70 acres in Upper Leacock Twp., H. Melvin Charles, Lancaster R2, 23 acres in Manor Twp.; Edna S. Hoffer, Mannheim R3, 68 acres in Penn Twp., Mahlon Charles, Marietta R1, 100 acres in East Donegal Twp.

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