

From Where We Stand . . .

Caution Is Watchword

Dr. Hollis S. Ingraham, Commissioner of the New York State Department of Health, has said something that should be read and remembered by everyone who has been led into fear over the use of pesticides in agriculture. His words: "I believe that any new legislation for the control of pesticides should be approached with caution. Our evidence to date indicates that pesticides — although they involve risk — create benefits for man and for the future of man that cannot be achieved by other presently existing means."

Evidence of this nature was recently presented in the Journal of the American Medical Association. A study made by a group of doctors in the Phoenix area showed that a chemical insecticide used to spray crops has only a negligible effect on persons living nearby. It compared city dwellers unexposed to insecticides with persons living less than 500 yards from sprayed fields. Most of them lived within 50 yards. Results "support the conclusions of others that hazards of insecticidal poisoning to persons with environmental or incidental exposure are negligible."

Pesticides can be dangerous — but that danger is primarily of human origin. It lies in failure to read the directions and to take the generally simple precautions that will make their use safe. If the controversy over pesticides stimulates interest in proper use, it will have produced at least one worthwhile result. At the same time, let us remember that by 1980 the population is expected to grow by as much as 80 million over the 1960 census total. All of them will have to be fed. And this country will be called upon to help provide food for undernourished nations abroad. Without the pesticides, along with the armory of advanced production weapons agriculture now possesses, that feat would be impossible.

U.S. Beef To Europe

A short time ago a liner carried a shipment of American beef to London where it went on display at the famous Smithfield market. And that was an event of potentially great significance.

It marked the start of a cooperative program of the American Meat Institute and the Department of Agriculture to promote the sale of American beef in Europe. This, it is plain, is one way — and a most important way — of helping to solve the twin problems of overproduction and depressed prices the American beef producer has been facing. And the producers recognize that fact — the head of the American National Cattlemen's Association wrote a warm letter in praise of the venture to the president of the Institute.

What are the chances of success? It may be said that the signs are good. According to the Department of Agriculture, beef supplies are currently short in Europe, consumers demand is rising, and fewer supplies are available from traditional foreign suppliers. Some beef short countries also have lowered trade restrictions against imported meats. And

Europe's general prosperity has given much of her population the wherewithal to buy the meats they want. This is a totally new project. And it is eminently worthwhile.

No "Federal Funds"

The Senate recently approved a proposal to write into all spending measures the pointed reminder that the money appropriated comes out of the taxpayers' pockets.

Let us hope that the House follows suit and makes this an established policy from now on. For the term "federal funds" — which we have seen applied to all manner of activities, from highways to welfare programs — obviously has misled many people. They seem to believe that this money comes from some mysterious source which has no relation to themselves.

Well, the federal government can get money only in two ways. One is by taxes which hit us all hard. The other is by increasing the national debt which will have to be paid, plus interest and administrative costs, by the taxpayers of tomorrow.

The only money the government has, or ever has had, is that which it gets from the taxpayers. It's time much more notice was given to this simple and inescapable fact.

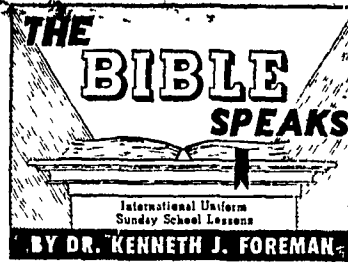
Revamping Kerr-Mills

A committee of the House has been considering ways and means by which the Kerr-Mills Act — which is the basis of the existing state-federal health program for providing medical aid to the aged and needy — may be revamped to encourage the states to make wider use of it. In the words of an AP report, "This kind of legislation is given a much better chance of going to the House with committee backing than is President Johnson's proposal for social security tax financing of hospital and nursing home benefits."

The social security approach — commonly known as Medicare — simply has failed to gain substantial public and congressional support. And there is every reason why that should be so. It takes no account of need or whether the individual wants or doesn't want the benefits. Almost every authority is convinced that the official cost estimates are ridiculously low. And, above all, it presents the very real danger of governmental, bureaucratic domination of the medical arts and institutions. After all, he who pays the piper calls the tune.

The Kerr-Mills approach is much sounder. It places administrative responsibility where it belongs — within the states, and state officials should certainly have a better idea of local problems than a faceless group in far-off Washington. It offers help where help is needed — not just because a person has reached a given age. And, in various instances, the benefits provided are greater than under Medicare.

The changes that may be desirable in Kerr-Mills are a matter of argument. But the principle on which Kerr-Mills is based is the right and workable one.



Not Forgotten

Lesson for July 12, 1964

Background Scripture: Exodus 2 through 4. Devotional Readings: Psalm 103:1-13.

WHERE IS your God? can be an earnest, even desperate question. Or it can be a sneer of mockery. It can be asked by friends of God or by his enemies. In times of peace and prosperity the question loses its anguish.



Like one of Browning's characters, we can sing happily, "God's in his heaven and all's right with the world." But there comes a time when it is small comfort to think

that God is in heaven. That's exactly the trouble, we think. He is in heaven when he ought to be here. This is a sore question even when we ask, Where is our God, Where is mine? When it's your own faith that is about to break, the question about God isn't just a theological problem, it is acute, it becomes the most important question in the world. With all the people who need God's help, where is he? What is he doing?

God knows

"God heard . . . God remembered . . . God saw . . . and God knew." These words stand out in the two sentences that close the second chapter of Exodus. This is the first assurance the Bible has for us: we do not have a forgetful God, or an absent-minded one. The true God is not a pent-house god with a privately listed telephone. He hears, he knows, he sees, he remembers. He neither guesses nor forgets what goes on in his world.

God prepares a man

One reason why that question "Where is God?" can be so often asked, is that God never advertises what he is doing. If he did what maintenance crews do on the city street, put up a yellow barrier and a sign: Slow—God at

Work! it would be different. But he has his own ways of doing things. No doubt those toiling, sweating, bitter Hebrew slaves often thought to themselves or asked one another, Where is God? He seems to have forgotten us! But God did not report to them, and he will not report to us, every day what he is doing. Maybe if he told us we should only laugh—in the wrong place. What was God doing to help his poor persecuted people down in Egypt? Well, when the time came, he was getting a man ready (He was readying him in his great-grandparents, but that's another story.) Where is God? He is seeing to it that a little basket of reeds is not lost in the Nile backwaters. He is seeing to it that a little baby cries just in time to catch a Princess' heart. God was arranging for that child to have the best education in the world . . . Or if you had inquired some years later, you might have been told (if God had cared to let you in on the secret) that God was preparing an old man, a sheep-herder, to become acquainted with every mile of a terrible wilderness country. One day he would lead a nation where now he led his sheep.

God waits for the time

If God knows what is going on, and if God is preparing today as in Moses' time some great man or men to lead us into new promised lands, then why does he not come to our rescue now? The idea that God waits for the right time to come before he takes action is a hard one to swallow; but it is all over the Bible. God does not do everything at once. When God made this universe he made Time with it, and God respects all things he has made. Even Jesus Christ did not come till the time was "fulfilled," as the Bible expresses it. Children have only two hands on their clocks; one points to "now" and the other to "never." But there is another clock, and God made it and he goes by it, it has a hand pointing to "not yet." Moses, you may remember, once tried to help the Israelites by killing Egyptians. He killed one himself for a start. But it was not God's time. Sometimes men come too late to their work; God never does. "Our times are in his hand."

GO TO
CHURCH SUNDAY

Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



MAX SMITH

To Mulch Tomatoes

Home gardeners who want to save work and soil moisture for their tomatoes might apply some type of mulch for the remainder of the summer. Straw, lawn clippings, ground corn cobs, or other similar materials may be used with about 2 inches thickness. By applying a mulch, cultivation is eliminated, weed growth is stopped, and soil moisture is conserved which helps prevent leaf curl.

To Renew Old Strawberry Beds

If the decision has been made to retain the old strawberry bed for another season, then we suggest that the row be cultivated and narrowed to about 12 inches wide, matted off the tops of the remaining plants in the row, and then fertilize with a complete fertilizer. One such as 5-10-10 at the rate of 25 pounds per 1000 square feet. Thinning of the old plants will encourage new runner plants and a better yield next spring. If the old bed is allowed to remain thick with plants, the yield will not be as good.

Soil Test for Fall Seedings

Many acres of alfalfa will be seeded during August and more acres of small grains will be seeded during the fall. All of this land should get a soil test to determine the lime and fertilizer needs. Now that the 1964 small grain crop has been removed from much of this land, the soil should be tested and the materials worked into the soil as it is prepared. In fields of small grain where the legume-grass seeding is to be made next spring, the lime should be applied and worked into the ground this fall before the small grain is seeded.

Be on Alert for Hog Cholera

There is considerable traffic in feeder pigs in this part of the state. Hog cholera is a highly contagious disease of swine with visible symptoms rarely seen before the fourth day of infection. Death occurs from 4 to 10 days after symptoms are evident. Feeders are urged to be on the alert for sickness the first week or ten days after buying pigs, be sure to call your veterinarian if sick pigs develop. Early detection of the disease may prevent a serious outbreak of the disease.

● Farm Calendar

(Continued from Page 1)

- July 14 — Pequea Valley 4-H Club Health Meeting 8:00 p.m. — Manor Young Farmers meeting, Penn Manor High School.
- July 15 — 8:30 a.m. — Conestoga Valley Senior 4-H Sewing Club meets in the High School.
- 9 a.m. — Penn Manor Clash-ing Thimbles meet at Penn Manor Junior High School
- July 16 — 4-H Field Day at Long's Park.

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