

From Where We Stand . . .

"Needle In The Haystack"

We came across a cartoon this week that pictured a family on a picnic in a meadow beside a watermelon patch. While mom and pop prepared the table Junior wandered into the melons. It was a worried mom who suddenly realized that her son was astray. She admonished her offspring not to take any of them. "We don't know what they've been sprayed with," she exclaimed.

We agree that Junior should not steal the farmer's fruit. There is a moral issue even in such a small thing. But it's mom's reason for not stealing that leaves us cold.

What was intended to protect our citizens from harm has turned into a monstrous whip over the farmer. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) now has a new chemical residue tester called the Gas Chromatograph that could find a "Needle in a haystack," if that needle happened to be one of the banned pesticides. And it doesn't make any difference if the doctors do say our city cousins aren't having any bad effects from the nearly unmeasurable amounts of residue. The FDA must enforce the law.

Of course, we don't have much sympathy for the farmer who knowingly disobeys the label on sprays and antibiotics. But we certainly feel for the men who have followed the directions and still have run into trouble.

The time has come to stop developing methods of determining what is almost "less than zero" amounts of residue in our food.

And, if it is impossible to keep a minute unharmed amount out of our supply, then a low tolerance level should be set.

The time has also come for the public to accept a one part per million residue count for what it is an unharmed "Needle in the haystack," greatly contributing to the nice watermelons in the cartoon.

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

★ ★ ★ ★ Turn Heat On Alfalfa Weevil

Research work at North Carolina State University indicates that flame treatment of alfalfa during the dormant season offers "considerable encouragement" for obtaining adequate alfalfa weevil control. One unintended farm test of the treatment occurred this year. A brush fire that got out of control burned part of an alfalfa field. This spring the burned-over part had superior alfalfa growth and about 80 percent less weevil damage than the unburned part of the field. William V. Campbell of N. C. State says a flame treatment has not been perfected, but he is sure that this type of control in

some form can be effective. The flame treatment is used during the January-February dormant season and is aimed at destroying weevil eggs.

This is the most encouraging development in weevil control we have heard. Let's put all available engineers to work on perfecting a practical piece of farm machinery to do the job. With our technical knowledge it shouldn't be hard. Then maybe we can quench once and for all the fear of pesticide contamination of food.

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

★ ★ ★ ★ Public Power Or Public Farming Is Socialism

The newspapers of the United States know what centralized government can do to a free press. They have seen it disappear around the world, most recently in Cuba. There can be no criticism of the powers that control production and employment and tell the people what they can and cannot do or say under a government monopoly.

The Coral Gables, Florida, Guide recently commented on a political power plan for Dade County in Florida. Stripping the propoganda of sugar coating, the Guide said: "Claims for socialistic schemes always exceed delivery after the take over and promises of great reduction in costs, taxes and higher wages either never materialize or vanish with planned inflation.

"It is a startling fact that one of every 13 employes in the United States works for the Federal Government In Dade County, one of every 10 persons works for municipal, state or Federal agencies. If the current trend is not stopped — reversed — persons employed by free and private enterprise will some day be a minority group. We view this with alarm.

"The bureaucracy, inefficiency, featherbedding, waste, graft, payroll padding, and last, but not least, the authoritarian aspect of government control, would end freedom as we know it. Criticism of the government that owns you lock, stock and barrel would not long be tolerated."

The Guide emphasized that it was unalterably opposed to the take over of a taxpaying business by government in its area or elsewhere. The country sorely needs more of this attitude.

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

★ ★ ★ ★
The Amazing Cow — If one farm worker can supply food and fiber for 27 people, what could one cow do? Among other things, at the national average of 7,370 pounds of milk she could supply: Enough fluid milk and cream for 24 persons; enough butter for 48 people; enough American cheese to supply 120 folks; and enough sweetened condensed for a small army of 8,375.



Covenant

Lesson for August 2, 1964

Background Scripture: Exodus 19 through 24
Devotional Reading: Psalm 81 1-10.

THE RELIGION of the Jews is the mother-religion of our own, if we are Christian. Their Bible is a part of ours; and the New Testament cannot be understood apart from the Old. This is not saying we all have to be



Jews before we can be Christians. It does mean that our two religions are so closely related that we can speak of the "Judaean-Christian" or Jewish-Christian tradition, referring to the Jews before we can be Christians. It does mean that our two religions are so closely related that we can speak of the "Judaean-Christian" or Jewish-Christian tradition, referring to the Jews before we can be Christians. It does mean that our two religions are so closely related that we can speak of the "Judaean-Christian" or Jewish-Christian tradition, referring to the Jews before we can be Christians.

In the most basic matter of all, the Jewish-Christian line is clearly different from other religions; namely, in what we can call the pattern of religion. Let's translate that into what a "religious" man would be expected to do. It is not true that all religions are much alike. Ours is sharply different from others. What would an ancient Greek (say five hundred years or more before Christ) have done if he were a religious man? What you would have noticed most about him would have been how often he mentioned some god's name, asking him to bless what he was about to do. Also you would have noticed how often he made a "sacrifice" of some sort even if no more than a pinch of incense or a cup of wine poured on an altar. In an Indian city this writer has seen a little stone bull on the outside of a temple. The bull's neck was wreathed in orange-colored flowers — the sacred color there — which various poor worshippers had left there that morning as a religious duty. Very much the Greek idea. The gods were there to help you or hurt you, and you kept them on your side by

frequent requests and frequent offerings.

Well, it wasn't only Greeks or Indians, many religions with variations of detail follow this same pattern in essentials: You do right by God and he will do right by you. In practice this was like the ordinary law-abiding citizen's attitude to courts and court rooms. He stays away from them as far as he can. He respects the laws, but he stays away from the law-makers and the law-enforcers. The last thing he wants to see is a policeman at his front door to tell him the Judge wants to see him!

What is special about our religion

Of course the Jewish and Christian religions are not the same; but they do have several points in their "pattern," as we are calling it, which stand out as quite different from the more usual pattern as the Greeks and Indians—among many others—have practiced it. First and most basic, the other pattern can be summed up thus: If I do enough for God, he is bound to do something for me. In the Hebrew-Christian tradition, this is turned around: God has done much for us; therefore let us do all we can for him. In their pattern, religious acts (i.e. acts which are called religious) are inducements to the gods to come over to our side. In our pattern, religious acts are acts of gratitude for what God has done for us. (For the Hebrew the great thing God did was to get them out of Egypt; with us, the great thing is God's coming to us in Christ.)

"The ethics of response"

Another strand in the Jewish-Christian tradition is this: whereas in other religions a religious act may be altogether unrelated unconnected with a man's daily conduct, in our pattern we show our gratitude to God not only by loving him but by obeying his will in all the affairs of daily life. A man who does not love his brother cannot love God. Man does not earn God's protection and favor, he does not deserve it; but man, the undeserving, lives for the God who freely saves him. This is called by Christian thinkers the "ethics of response." The old Hebrew name for this pattern of religious living is "covenant." The Ten Commandments are presented not as arbitrary rules, but as a pattern of human response to the God of Deliverance; in the Covenant we reach a hand to the God who has already reached down to us.

Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH

To File For Gas Tax Refund

Farmers may get 4c refund for federal gas tax and 7c refund for state gas tax per gallon of gasoline used for agricultural purposes, the period of time covered is from July 1, 1963 to June 30, 1964 Federal Gas Tax Form No. 2240 is available at the Internal Revenue Office or at the County Extension Office. The form for the state tax refund is available from the Board of Finance and Revenue, 132 Finance Building, Harrisburg, Pa. Either of these forms must be filed between July 1 and September 30 this year.



MAX SMITH

To Order Seeds

Small grain seed needed for this fall's planting should be ordered soon in order to have a better chance of getting what you want. Adapted varieties of certified seed are the best buy, rather than to plant just what you can get at the last moment.

To Prepare for Alfalfa Seeding

Early August is one of the best times to make a summer seeding of alfalfa in southeastern Pennsylvania; experience has shown better results on well-prepared and a firm seedbed; lime and fertilizer should be worked deeply into the soil before seeding. The band seeding method has been most successful and is strongly recommended. Chemical weed control either before seeding or when the weeds are small after seeding, is very important.

To Extend Pasture Season

Livestock producers may want to make an August or September seeding of small grain or some cover crop that may be grazed late into the fall and very early next spring. Crops such as winter wheat, wheat, common ryegrass, or field brome grass may be used for this purpose. Fly resistant varieties of winter wheat such as Dual or Redcoat may be heavily grazed this fall, lightly grazed next spring, and still produce a good crop of wheat. By having this extra pasture later this fall and early next spring, stored feed such as silage and hay may be saved.

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Phone - Lancaster
394-3047 or
Lititz 626-2191

Robert G Campbell,
Advertising Director

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NEED LIGHT
Direct sunlight promotes the vigorous growth of geraniums and the plants will bloom continually, says Penn State extension floriculture specialists. Geraniums need several hours of direct sunlight every day. The plants grow well in south windows, but may be placed in east or west windows providing the sun will shine on them a few hours each day. In shade, geraniums develop long thin stems, small leaves, and few flowers.

CONTROL FLIES
Sanitation is still the most important factor in effective house fly control programs, according to extension entomologists at The Pennsylvania State University.

LANC. CO. FFA MARKET HOG SHOW
The FFA members from Lanc Co will hold their Second Annual Market Hog Show and Sale at the Green Dragon Market & Auction on August 4, at 8 00 a.m.

Approximately 180 head of hogs have been entered. Lee Mohny, vocational agriculture instructor from Mercer Co, will be the official judge. A judging contest for FFA members will be held at 11 00 a.m., and the sale will follow at 1 00 p.m.

Last year the nation's bee colonies produced a record 299 million pounds of honey. That is enough to supply each person in the U.S. with slightly more than 1 1/2 pounds.