

From Where We Stand . . .

Apathy, A Path To Nowhere

The dictionary says that one who is apathetic is "lacking normal feeling or interest; indifferent; phlegmatic; listless." In fact, it is really a form of "not being".

Is life really so valueless that we can be content to live it inside a shell like a clam, and let a small, militant minority make all our decisions for us — yes, even to the laws by which we live?

There have been extreme examples of mass apathy, or inertia, evident in our society in recent times. Our subways have provided the most recent arenas for apathetic spectators. And we recall that in one of our large cities not so long ago a woman was literally slashed to ribbons on the street while her apathetic "neighbors" closed their windows and drew their blinds to shut out her screams for help. Is this the world we inherited? Is this the legacy we want to leave our children? Of course not, but once begun, how do we reverse this trend?

The treatment must start right here, right now, in our own families and in our own communities. There is a one-two punch that can beat apathy every time: **INTEREST** and **ACTION**.

When was the last time that you became interested enough in a community matter to either fight it or push it? When was the last time you were aroused sufficiently by a proposed bill in your state legislature, or in Congress, to write, wire, or see your representative and let him know how you felt? When was the last time that you felt sufficiently **INVOLVED** — either pro or con — by an editorial in your local paper, by a news item on radio or television, by some local, national, or worldwide incident — to take **ACTION**? For some, the answer may be as recent as today, but for most it exceeds the limitations of memory.

Everyday of our lives we are letting important decisions be made for us, by others. We groan about more and more taxes; we say "yes" to our children's unreasonable requests because they tell us "all the kids are doing it", and we're so afraid that our kids might be regarded as "different from the crowd"; we bemoan the fact that our club's, cooperatives, or other organizations are run by small "cliques" who regard us as pawns. And we do nothing! We shrug our shoulders and weakly say, "Well, I guess it's always been that way."

What do you suppose might happen if, instead of shrugging our shoulders, we started to flex our brains?

This could be a very dangerous thing. If it were to spread, the collective results could literally pick this old globe of ours up by the poles and shake it till its core rattled!

We can not rid the world of apathy by accepting apathy as a way of life. As with many of our social problems, apathy begins at home and in our immediate communities. It not only is born in our daily lives, it must periodically be reborn there. And there is where we can strike the deathblow. One-two; **INTEREST**; **ACTION**.

Why not stop being a bystander, Now, today! Stop window-shopping. Lift up your head, square your shoulders, walk into the store of life and tell the world what **YOU** think!

What **DO** You Think?

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Our Laws Are "Going to the Dogs"

Under law, every citizen has the inherent right to protect himself and his property from harm or destruction. That is, under the "old law". The trend of the "new law" suggests a progressive erosion of individual rights.

For example, House Bill 731, which was recently before the Pennsylvania General Assembly and returned to committee for burial, would have made it unlawful for a farmer to shoot a dog that was attacking and killing his livestock or poultry. If the animal was unlicensed, the farmer could — at the risk of life and limb — "detain it in a humane way." If the critter carried a license, the farmer could not even detain it!

That bill would have in effect given dog owners the right to license their animals to kill or destroy the property of others. It seems that a person should be as legally and morally responsible for his dog's actions as he is for the actions of his children. The fact that many parents neglect this responsibility where their children are concerned is evident from the increasing role of the juvenile delinquent in our society. Surely we should not be asked to tolerate a tide of delinquent dogs as well. Any dog running loose and destroying another's property is either a stray or an uncared for "pet", and either way should be removed.

Too many of our animal laws are being influenced by "people" who not only value animal life above human well-being, but can't or won't stop shedding their "crocodile tears" long enough to try to understand the problems of farmers and other handlers of livestock.

What **DO** You Think?

Sugar Now Seen As Major Cause Of Heart Attacks

In the March issue of Food and Nutrition News, Dr. John Yudkin, chairman of the department of nutrition at the University of London, reported "new evidence in the study of coronary heart disease that implicates sugar as a causative factor."

Dr. Yudkin takes exception to the theory that fat in the diet, especially so-called saturated fats contributes to heart disease. "In the U.S.A.," Yudkin states, "it has been shown that fat consumption has increased by only 12 percent in the past 70 years with a significant increase in the ratio of polyunsaturated to saturated fats. According to the commonly accepted view, this should have resulted in a fall in coronary heart disease instead of the very considerable rise that has occurred. During the same period, however, sugar consumption has increased by 120 percent."

He also pointed out that men with recent heart attack histories had been eating twice as much sugar as men showing no evidence of heart trouble.

In atherosclerosis, a condition that often precedes heart attacks, in which arteries become narrowed or clogged by the formation of fat-like particles in the artery walls, he reports that subjects more regularly have impaired glucose (sugar) tolerance than high blood cholesterol.

"There are many exceptions to the hypothesis that populations and groups inevitably

show a relationship between dietary fats and coronary heart disease," Yudkin said.

He observed that tea and coffee were the main carriers of the high sugar intake of men with noted coronary or arterial disease. This was due partly to the amount in each cup, and to the larger numbers of cups consumed.

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Weather Forecast

Temperatures for the five-day period, Saturday through Wednesday, are expected to average below normal. Normal high for the period is 58 degrees and low 37. It will be cool during the first half with temperatures moderating during the latter part of the period.

Precipitation will occur as rain toward the end of the period with accumulations of less than one half inch expected.

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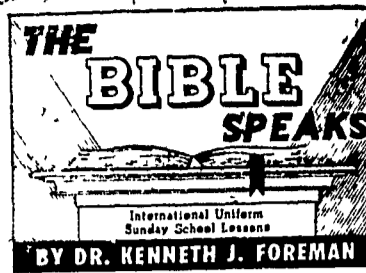
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Trial By Prejudice

Lesson for April 4, 1965

Background Scripture: Matthew 26.1 through 27.26.
Devotional Reading: Matthew 26 36-46.

"**VERDICT** first, trial afterwards!" It is only in a wonderland where everything makes nonsense and very little makes sense, that one would hear such a cry in a courtroom. But even little Alice in her dream knew there was something upside down about that sort of procedure. And yet the trial of Jesus, the trial that ended in his be-



Dr. Foreman sentenced without a single crime or even fault proved against him,—that trial was one where the court had made up its mind beforehand. We cannot and should not blame living Jews for what their ancestors did, any more than we blame modern Italians for the sins of the Roman Empire. But the fact is that the Sanhedrin, highest court of the Jewish people at that time, had determined that Jesus must die, before he was even arrested—much less tried. If ever a prisoner was tried by prejudice, Jesus was that man.

The way it went

The way it went was this. Putting all the gospels together and filling out the story in Matthew, we find that the Sanhedrin were determined to destroy Jesus, with violence if possible, but anyhow destroy him. They tried to make him out an ignoramus, a superstitious man, a rebel against Rome; they tried to make him sound like a fool in public; but it didn't work. So they got him arrested and charge with blasphemy. Jesus claimed no more than the truth, that he was in-

deed the Son of the Most High God. This seemed blasphemy to the chief priests, who made up most of the Sanhedrin; and blasphemy was in Jewish law a capital crime. But Rome's law held in Judea; and in Roman law arrested and charged with blasphemy. So the problem was to get Jesus condemned to death in a Roman court, the only court able to impose capital punishment, for a crime no Roman court would recognize. We know how it went. All the trial proved was that the leaders of the Jews did not like Jesus, in fact hated him. So Pilate, to save his own career, sentenced Jesus to be crucified, without any real charge or conviction.

What is prejudice?

The word "prejudice" comes from two Latin words meaning to judge beforehand. That is, having an opinion without considering the facts that should support the opinion—or refuse it as the case may be.

Don't we all?

It's easy to laugh at other people's prejudices; much harder to get rid of our own—or even to see our own. This is particularly true when many of the people we see and know and talk with every day have the same prejudices we also have. We are prejudiced whenever we say, or think, "All Negroes" (or all white men, or all women, or all Frenchmen) are like that!" We show prejudice when we judge a man by the color of his skin, before we know a single fact about him; or when we accuse a man of being a money-grabber only because of the shape of his nose; or of being a dangerous man or an inferior type all because he has some name like McDonald or U Thant or Kaminsky and we think or say, "All Scotchmen (or Orientals, or Poles or what not) are alike." "We are guilty of prejudice whenever we condemn any person unheard and unknown. Prejudice drove in the nails that killed Jesus; prejudice kills people today.

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Go To Church Sunday

Now Is The Time . . .

To Become Efficient

This is a "must" in today's farming picture; this might mean a certain degree of specialization in one or more farm enterprises. It surely means doing a good job of any undertaking and getting things done on time; good management is part of efficiency. We feel that it is much better to become efficient in a normal sized operation rather than to expand too rapidly into a big, inefficient program.

To Plow Down Corn Fertilizer

Many acres of corn ground will be plowed in the coming months. We refer to the merits of plowing down most of the corn fertilizer in order to get the most from it. It is especially important to plow down the nitrogen because it moves upward in the soil and into the root zone. A starter fertilizer at planting time is needed which supplies all plant food especially phosphorus.



MAX SMITH

To Beware of Cattle Parasites

The build-up of internal parasites in many local and southern cattle needs more attention. At a recent meeting of cattle feeders it was stressed that stomach worms can reduce gains and eliminate any profits from the feeding operation. Samples of the manure taken to your local veterinarian will discover the problem and he can recommend a treatment. Don't feed the worms.

To Inspect New Seedling

Some new seeding of al-

alfa may not be good enough to produce a profitable yield; the slow growth of last fall along with an open winter without much snow cover has been hard on these small plants; many have stayed out of the ground. Close inspection may result in the cultivating of the area and the making of a new spring seeding; we suggest this method rather than the broadcasting of seeds on top of the ground. Early spring seedings without any nurse crop could give one or two hay cuttings this season. Chemical weeding for weed control will be needed.