

From Where We Stand . . .

The Washington Merry-Go-Round

We had the opportunity to see a little of the "inside Washington" this week. To this country boy the activity and drive generated by the men inside this mechanical monster were very impressive. The bigger they are, the more hectic seems their schedules. There appeared to be little time wasted on the upper echelons.

We met, listened to, and questioned some of the top officials in the USDA, including Secretary Freeman. Without exception, these men seemed very able. They appeared to be highly intelligent, some probably brilliant. Their ideals appeared unquestionably of the highest caliber, and they seemed sincere in the jobs they were trying to do.

In light of such a favorable personal impression, why was it that one very disturbing thought kept drifting back into this editor's mind? It was not a new thought certainly, but one that was reinforced repeatedly during the two-day session.

"Can the Farm Problem in this country really be this complicated?"

Admittedly, our tendency is to oversimplify many big problems. But as we heard this program and that program described we couldn't help but wonder whether the Washington world was so completely entangled in the complicated and endless web of **PROGRAMS** that they were manufacturing **PROGRAMS** like an organ grinder cranks out music. Then the not very humorous picture appeared of all of us dancing around like the organ grinder's monkey, tipping our hat and begging for handouts. Not a pleasant thought — perhaps even a little unfair — but it does seem that we've no sooner finished dancing to one tune than another one begins.

In the midst of all of the Administration's program men we felt somewhat reassured by a few of the thoughts expressed by Rep. Paul Findley, R-Ill. He strongly disagreed with the Administration's often-expressed opinion that removal of government subsidies would reduce farm income by half and ruin the farm economy. Findley said it would certainly work a hardship on some farmers at first, but he felt farm legislation is getting so complicated that it amounts to a conspiracy against the taxpayers.

The sooner we get back to a market-place commodity system which relates crop loans to market prices the

better off we will be, Findley said. So even the opposition has "programs," but their's seem a little more direct and palatable somehow.

But wouldn't it be refreshing, perhaps even a little reassuring, if some bright fellow in the USDA could come up with another word to replace the don't-to-death word **PROGRAM**.

What Do **YOU** Think?

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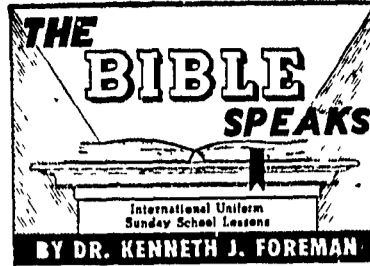
Invisible Egg-Writing Remains Invisible

If you are a regular reader of our Food Editor's column you may recall Mrs. Spence's recent suggestion for getting kids to eat more eggs (L. F. April 3, 1965). In good faith, she passed along a recipe she had received from the U. S. Department of Agriculture for writing, or drawing, on egg shells with a solution of vinegar and alum. The idea being that after the material dried the egg could be boiled and whatever you had invisibly sketched on the outside of the shell would then appear bright and clear on the hard-cooked egg white itself.

Unfortunately, the idea was not a complete success. We soon began hearing from our readers to the effect that "it just won't work". We contacted Mrs. Spence who in turn contacted the USDA. The latter replied that they too had noticed some early problems with the technique, but based on successful tests run last year they felt safe in circulating the recipe.

In their "sometimes it does, sometimes it doesn't" report, they noted that early failures were presumed to be due to oiling of commercial eggs. So they tried non-oiled eggs, and also encountered problems. These they attributed to a natural oil (bloom) deposited by the hen. Next they tried non-oiled older eggs. These seemed to work okay. Following the recent complaints they tried again, but now found their results to be quite inconsistent. And that is the story up to this time.

To those of you who tried this invisible writing technique and couldn't make it work, we apologize for giving you a "bum steer". To those who have not tried it, we say, "don't!" If any further constructive information on this process comes in we'll pass it along. If any readers tried this recipe and succeeded, please tell us your secret so we may straighten out the USDA on this



Putting God First Lesson for May 2, 1965

Background Scripture: I Samuel 13 through 15.
Devotional Reading: I Samuel 15:17-23

Preachers tell us we should put God first. People who combine patriotism with religion keep telling us the whole nation and not merely individuals ought to be putting God first. But what does it actually mean to put God first, as individuals and as a nation?



It doesn't mean just courtesy, such as crossing oneself when the name of God is mentioned, or speaking of God first and others after him. Yale has a song ending "For God, for country and for Yale"; but this does not make Yale a religious university. Putting God first doesn't mean special respects being shown to the ministers of God. Some men who are pretty profane will not swear in the presence of a clergyman or preacher. This is a kind of hypocrisy; it is hardly putting God first. Again, putting God first is not the same as paying your church pledge first and your other bills afterwards. This is getting warm, through. But a better test of a man's religion would be to ask about the amount of the pledge rather than how punctually he pays it!

God's orders first

Many persons walk past the doors of churches every day in the working year without ever going inside. They may be told that inside those doors somewhere here is a wall with the Ten Commandments on it—on a scroll or a brass tablet or something. Now the man on the street who never gets inside the doors may think that the Ten Commandments are like the bylaws

of a club: if you don't join, the bylaws are of no interest to you. The man's big mistake, of course, is to think that the Ten Commandments are not for him unless he chooses. On the contrary, God's laws, and his will as seen in those laws, are for every member of the human race. If they began with the words **THIS MEANS YOU** they could not be more personal than they already are. Yet such is the subtle power of sin in man that every day in some way or other men take orders, so to speak, from public opinion, from wives, from some admired friend, or from oneself, rather than first asking, What is **GOD'S** will?

God's character first

As soon as anyone says, "The business of everyone who believes in God is to be God-like"—or words to that effect, he will be met by a storm of objections. How can you say such a rash thing? This person will be asked, How do we know what God is like? How can a man imitate God without playing God?—and you know how bad that is. Well, there's quite a difference between playing God and imitating God. Doesn't it make sense for a Christian to imitate the Master of the art of life itself?

God's concern first

God's commands, his character: putting these first is to put God first. But that's not all. Equally vital it is to put God's concerns first. The Bible might well be called the Book of God's concerns. We know for one thing that the God of justice hates injustice. Now there is a monstrous injustice going on all around us. Much is being done to help, but injustice has by no means disappeared. Consider the injustices the white race in America has inflicted (for instance) on the Indian and on the Negro. We are not all called to make demonstrations in the street — some of us may be; but one who calls himself Christian, yet is not concerned with the plight of the oppressed in his own land, is certainly not putting God first. For the act of God most often recalled in the Bible is his freeing a horde of slaves. Injustice against man by man concerns the God of all men. Does it concern us?

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Ken Hess

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Sears Roebuck swine gilt bond winner Ken carries vo-ag projects in hogs, dairy, tobacco and corn and holds offices in the 4-H Baby Beef & Lamb Club, the 4-H Holstein Club and the 4-H Garden Spot Community Club. He has attended the International Dairy Show, the 4-H Club Conference, the Pennsylvania Association of Farmer Co-ops and was 4th-high individual dairy judge at the 4-H judging days in 1964. Hess received his Keystone Farmer degree in January and has participated on two TV programs presented by the

Lampeter Strassburg FFA Association

Ken is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Elvin Hess Jr. They live on their 92-acre Hess-Vale farm located one-fourth mile south of Strassburg.

Meat Judging

(Continued from Page 1)
Scheibel & Sons, Denver R1 and to Elmer Sensemg's at New Holland R1, and had two good workouts on meat cuts. Runner-up in the contest was Irving Schannauer with 178 points. He is a sophomore at Ephrata High School and lives at Reinholds R1. Schannauer and Hoke will represent the county FFA at the state meat judging contest to be held at Penn State University in June. Scoring was based on three

classes of meat placing — wholesale beef, pork carcass, and wholesale pork — and on identification of retail cuts of beef, fresh pork, cured and smoked pork cuts and veal also on identification of variety meats (tongues, livers, etc.)

The following boys finished among the first ten (Points rounded to nearest whole number, except where this would effect position): 3—Leroy Musser, Garden Spot H S (176 points), 4—Tom Zaitman (last year's winner), Ephrata H S (173 points), 5—Dean Ressler, Penn Manor H S (166 points), 6—Roy Bowman, Garden Spot H S (163 points), 7—Glenn Weber, Garden Spot H S (161 points), 8—Don Heishey, E-Town H S (160.8 points), 9—Paul Brubaker, Warwick H S (159 points); 10—Charles Harting, Ephrata H S (158 points). Carl Dalton of Kunzler's was official judge.

Weather Forecast

Temperatures for the five-day period, Saturday through Wednesday, are expected to average above normal. Normal for the period is a high of 70 and a low of 47 degrees. It will be mild over the weekend, then warmer toward the end of the period. Precipitation will be in the form of showers in the latter half of the period, and should total less than 1/4 inch.

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Now Is The Time . . .

To Observe Alfalfa Fields

Alfalfa growers and custom sprayers should be keeping a close watch on the weevil activity in every alfalfa field. Since mid-April there has been some hatching of the weevil and limited feeding on the alfalfa leaves. Weather conditions will determine how bad the infestation gets before the crop is mature enough to harvest. Be prepared to either cut or spray, depending upon the stage of growth, when weevil begins to seriously damage the leaves. Materials to use are still the same as have been suggested since last January.



To Plant Corn

It's difficult to name the exact time each year when corn should be planted for maximum yields. However, we suggest that early May be considered the best time to plant throughout Lancaster County, from the 5th to the 15th of May would be the 10-day period that most local growers should expect to get the best results. This may vary in some years, but over the average number of years, corn planted during this time will give the greatest yield of dry matter and feed value.

To Properly Place Corn Fertilizer

How and where you place the fertilizer for the corn crop will make a big difference on the yield. Young plants need some readily available fertilizer in their small root zone which may be supplied by applying a complete fertilizer with the planter in a band 2 inches to the side and 2 inches below the kernels. It is a mistake to place the seed and the fertilizer together because of the danger of burning and a poor stand. Heavier amounts of

fertilizer that will be needed during July and August should be plowed down so they will be in the future root zone of moist soil. Don't make the mistake of having a poor stand of corn through improper fertilizer placement.

To Control Weeds in Corn

For a maximum yield of corn we must control grasses and weeds. Modern chemicals make this task much easier than many cultivations. We suggest the use of Atrazine sprayed over the row at planting time for the control.

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