

From Where We Stand . . .

Upside-Down And Left-Handed

Did you ever sit down with a stack of mail all arranged nicely, then find as you zip along opening envelopes that every so often one is upside-down? We handle between 50 and 100 pieces of mail each day, and have been finding for some time that all the envelopes from the Pa. Dept. of Agriculture were printed upside-down. A minor irritation, true, but one which necessitated a daily break in the rhythm and system of opening mail.

Finally, curiosity, or maybe it was just the heat, caused us to write to Harrisburg to find out whether they knew about this condition, and if so, what they were trying to prove with this individualistic approach.

Apparently our question was the first of its kind, although the condition had existed for many months. They went right to work on it, and found that most people they questioned didn't know the answer but thought that everyone else did. One man was finally located who explained the phenomenon simply. The machine did it! It seems the Dept. has a very efficient mailing machine — it combines the envelope-sealing and postage-metering operations into one step. According to our correspondent, this saves a tremendous amount of time each year on mailings.

The man who invented this machine with the upside-down efficiency seems to have created a left-handed monster for a right-handed world! We don't quite understand why the posting process couldn't be adjusted to stand on its feet rather than its head. Or, why couldn't the Dept get its envelopes made upside down so that when printed they would come out right-side-up and — oh, well; now that we know there is a reason for this novel approach we will be more amused than annoyed in handling future mailings. We can afford a little inefficiency if it helps our governmental agencies handle their work more efficiently. We appreciate the frank and prompt treatment our inquiry received from the Dept., but we can't resist suggesting that when this machine is finally ready for pasture, hopefully before we are, that consideration be given to replacing it with one of a less temperamental nature.

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The Farm Numbers Game

It has been a well accepted and much stated fact in recent years that the number of farms in America has decreased. While talking in terms of sheer numbers, this is true. But the USDA has come up with an interesting analysis of the situation.

If you divide the nation's farms into two sectors, depending upon which side of a \$10,000 gross sales figure they fall, the latest tabulations show that the sector above \$10,000 — the commercial

farms — actually increased by 159 percent between 1939 and 1959; and another 18 percent between 1959 and 1963.

Between the years 1939 and 1964, the total number of farms declined by 2.4 million. However, 95 percent of this decline can be accounted for in farms which had gross sales of less than \$2500. The above-\$10,000 group reflects some other characteristics in common in addition to gross sales. They are predominantly family farms; those increasing most rapidly tend toward specialization; and their operators generally work full-time on the farm.

The study also suggests that the minimum farm size necessary for economic survival would be greater than it is if it were not for an increasing reliance of farm operators on incomes from nonfarm sources. In 1959, nonfarm income accounted for about 20 percent of total income of farm operators in the above-\$10,000 sector; but nearly 60 percent of that of operators in the below-\$10,000 sector.

Looking ahead, it is expected that the present trend of shrinking numbers and increasing size will continue, but the percentage rate may be less dramatic.

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The End Of The Road

A great man came to the end of his earthly road this week in a foreign land, and yet no land was really foreign to him for he was truly an International man.

America, the United Nations, and particularly the World, lost a good friend when Adlai E. Stevenson, America's United Nations Ambassador, fell dead on a London sidewalk.

As President Johnson said in his tribute to Stevenson, he will be remembered for what he was rather than for the high offices he held. That he will, Millions of Americans disagreed with him politically. Many millions more had no idea what the man was trying to say to them. But he helped to bring us back to the ideals that are the bedrock of "The American Dream". And this idealist came along at a time when our stock of ideals was sorely in need of replenishment.

He was not a "gut-fighting" politician, in fact, he probably both envied and despised that breed. He tended to talk above the heads of the crowd, and, even though his warmth and sincerity reached many, the masses refused him the land's highest office. Probably against any opponent other than General Eisenhower, Stevenson would have become President of the United States in 1952.

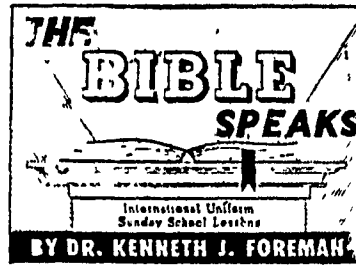
He's gone now, but we sincerely hope that the ideals of man's humanity to man — the legacy this proud, humble, honest, and brilliant gentleman from Illinois has left to us — will live on in our hearts and in our deeds.

progress of the crop on July 1, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service. This production is the same as last year but is 15 percent below the 1959-63 average production of 543 million pounds.

A yield of 1,700 pounds per acre is anticipated which is 6 percent below the 5-year average yield of 1,800 pounds. Acreage for tobacco equals last year's low of 27,000 acres and is 3,200 acres below the 5-year average. The most recent low acreage was 25,800 set in 1953.

Planting of tobacco seedbeds got underway in early April but cool weather delayed growth until late in the month. With warmer weather then promoting rapid growth field placement began the last week of May and was virtually completed by July 1. The early planted tobacco got off to a good start and looks very good. Moisture in Lancaster County as of July 1 was becoming very critical and later planted fields were beginning to show the effects of the shortage. Heavy rainfall the first and second weeks of July helped to relieve this situation.

Some cut worm damage is occurring but disease and insects have created no problems so far.



BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

Growth by Struggle

Lesson for July 18, 1965

Background Scripture: Romans 7
Devotional Reading: Romans 8:1-10.

SAINT PAUL undoubtedly knew what he was driving at when he wrote the seventh chapter of Romans. But few chapters he ever wrote have stirred so much discussion as this one. Two questions have given trouble to



Dr. Foreman Bible scholars: 1. Was Paul writing his own experiences or is the "I" here a dramatic way of expressing universal human experiences? 2. Is Paul describing the Christian life, or the life of a man who only became a Christian later? Let us leave these questions for the books. Let the reader make up his own mind about it if he can. Let us take three main thoughts which this chapter suggests to the writer of this column. They are (we hope) true thoughts and may be just what Paul was meaning to say. If not, we pray pardon from the God of all mistaken men.

Christian life is struggle

Last week we gave some thought to the fact that the life of a real Christian is a life of battle and effort. It is not a matter of quiet silent growth of the spiritual life. A race, a climb, a fight, this describes it better than quieter words. A big point in this chapter, and it is a big point in experience too, is that the struggle is not between me and my enemies, but between me and myself. I am my own worst enemy. No one else can do me the harm I can do — and have done, perhaps — to myself. No one and nothing else is as much to blame for my failures as I am personally responsible. There is something in me which wants one thing, and another something (or is it someone?) within me which wants just the opposite. It is a constant struggle between my

best and my worst, between Christ in me and the devilish me; between the Me that knows very well what ought to be done, and the Me that stupidly or stubbornly won't do it. It is a fight that tears me right down the middle, a fight that no one else perhaps can see but which I dread every day, because it goes on every day. One "I" makes promises the other "I" won't keep; one "I" makes resolutions the other one tears up with a laugh and throws into the waste basket. Which is the real one? Who's in charge here?

The struggle gets me down

"The juvenile delinquents that grew up to be dirty old men" — that's the trademark of a couple of comedians. It sounds funny, but it really isn't. Many a juvenile delinquent can't be anything else but a dirty old man. That is the easy thing to be; he can sink into that state of life without trying at all. That is always one way to get out of a fight: "I" here a dramatic way of expressing universal human experiences? 2. Is Paul describing the Christian life, or the life of a man who only became a Christian later? Let us leave these questions for the books. Let the reader make up his own mind about it if he can. Let us take three main thoughts which this chapter suggests to the writer of this column. They are (we hope) true thoughts and may be just what Paul was meaning to say. If not, we pray pardon from the God of all mistaken men.

Reinforcement for Victory

How was it, in 1776 and all that, that the poor, weak, divided American colonies defeated the armies of the British Empire? Well, they didn't. By themselves, the colonies would have been licked, indeed were licked all over the place. But when we persuaded the French to come over and help us, we began to get somewhere. With France as our ally, victory became almost a sure thing. So it is with the Christian's struggle within himself, against himself. Fighting alone, he weakens, surrenders and loses. With the right ally and fellow-fighter, he takes heart and wins. This is no mere human reinforcement, though it is always good to have sympathetic friends. The great victory-bringing ally is none other than the Son of God Himself, the invisible but ever-real inner Companion and Champion.

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ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE ON SUNDAY

Now Is The Time . . .

To Prepare Alfalfa Ground

Summer seedings of alfalfa should be made by mid-August. In order to have the ground worked down fine and firm, it should be plowed or disked several weeks in advance of seeding. As soon as the small grain is harvested the ground should be started for the new alfalfa seeding. Lime and fertilize according to a complete soil test. The plan of preparing the ground one week and seeding the following weeks does not usually give good stands.

To Keep Pesticide Records

There are many reasons for keeping an accurate record of the date, the material, and the amounts applied per acre of every chemical used on crops and livestock. Record forms are available from our Extension office for this purpose. We urge all farmers to adopt this record-keeping practice at once.

To Control Sheep Parasites

Good flock management requires regular attention to the elimination of internal parasites from sheep. Spring lambs should be drenched every 4 to 6 weeks during the summer, the entire flock should be rotated between several pastures in order to keep down stomach worm infection. The drenching of all animals in the spring, and again in the fall, is recommended. The use of a phenothiazine-salt mixture is a good preventative practice between drenchings — but not in place of drenchings.

To Keep Seeds Dry

Many flower and vegetable growers have extra seed left over from the spring plantings. In most cases this seed will be good next spring providing it is stored in a cool, dry place away from any spray materials. It should be well identified or kept in the original package or container. Damp basements or places where it will get wet and contaminated, are not the best storage places if the seeds are to be used next year.



MAX SMITH

Type 41 Tobacco Prospects About Same As 1964

Production of 1965 Pennsylvania seedleaf tobacco is forecast at 459 million pounds based on development and

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Weather Forecast

Temperatures for the five-day period, Saturday through Wednesday, are expected to average in the normal range of 87 to 66 degrees. It will be seasonable over the week-end with a warming trend toward the end of the period.

Precipitation may total 1/2 inch, occurring locally as showers about Sunday, and again on Wednesday.

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