

## From Where We Stand . . .

### Too Much Slush In The Fund?

One does not customarily think of the federal government, by nature, as a large "advertiser". But one had jolly well better begin thinking about it, or else be prepared to accept it as a way of life!

The Department of Agriculture, is a case in point. The Department was charged this week by Charles Shuman, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, with the use of government funds to propagandize the Administration's pet farm bill, which is now pending in Congress.

Shuman said in a letter to Secretary Freeman that reports from all parts of the nation "show conclusively the expenditure of large sums of public money in efforts to induce farmers to influence their representatives in Congress to vote for this ill-advised legislation . . . the expenditure of government funds to propagandize the citizens is an illegal, immoral, and unethical use of public money and power," Shuman stated.

We have no question that Shuman's charge is accurate and warranted. But it does bring the question to mind as to just how the Department handles and accounts for such expenditures. Is "propaganda padding" included in each appropriation as a retailer's "mark-up" to cover the costs of doing business? We are well aware of the suffocating quantity of USDA press releases that must be sent out daily just by the number that cross this desk. So they own the Post Office, but somebody's got to be paying the tab. Guess who?

Are these programs that are being developed for us by Papa Government so bad that Congress can only be persuaded to pass them by such means? Has the Administration so little faith in the products they are "manufactur-

ing" that they have to hide each one from public and Congressional view by wrapping it in reams of paper as one might a dead fish whose odor it was desirable to hide? Well, brother, if the programs are that rotten, no amount of paper is going to change their smell!

So, wherever the slush money is coming from, and of course it must originally come from your pocket and our's, isn't it about time we called a halt to this sort of waste? "Ibj" can coerce all the Congressmen he wants to in person or on the telephone, but it's about time the Administration, and in this case the Department of Agriculture, stopped using civil servants and government agencies to propagandize private citizens.

What Do YOU Think?

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### And The Rains Came

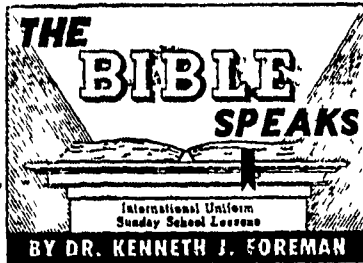
A sudden spurt of hope swept over Lancaster County this week — hope that the long drought that has plagued us these past three and one-half years has suddenly dried itself out. Through July, it surely looked as though we had at least one more arid year to endure. Now — well, maybe we're over the hill.

At least in the central part of the county the reports are looking up. We ended July with a rainfall deficit for the year of approximately two inches, even though July put down some very beneficial moisture at a crucial time. Then August was washed in with another two inches of the welcome stuff.

The experts say that if we can get a couple more inches on the ground in August we're going to have the best corn and tobacco the county has produced since 1961.

So, let her rain, we say!

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### God Accessible

Lesson for August 8, 1965

Background Scripture: Mark 1:35, Acts 2:46-47, Colossians 3:16-17, Hebrews 10:19-25.  
Devotional Reading: Psalm 84:1-10.

EVERYBODY HAS a god of some kind. What we worship has all the marks of God, or a god. Even the professed atheist has a god of sorts. Martin Luther remarked once: whatever a man hangs his heart on and depends on, that is his god. Sometimes a man's god is himself. Henley's poem "Invictus" shows us in a few lines the heart of a man who had been beaten up in the battles of



Dr. Foreman life, but still he thanks "whatever gods there be for my unconquerable soul." It is quite clear that Henley really hung his heart on himself and depended on himself rather than any god that religious people would be thankful for.

### God in the Dark

Human beings are not to be classified into believers in God on one side and non-believers on the other. The division ought to be between those who worship and serve the true God and those who worship some other kind. One of the first questions to ask if you want to find out about a man's religion would be: Is your God accessible? There have been men in all ages, probably, who believed in some sort of god but never tried to make contact with him. In darkest Africa before the white men came, the natives in many if not most tribes had two religions, as a famous missionary pointed out. They had (so to speak) their every-day religion with doll-gods called fetishes, but they were also dimly aware of a high god, a sky-god. They seldom if ever prayed to this God, they just felt he was there.

### God in the Light

The ancient Hebrews, God's Covenant people, had traces of

the idea of God in the dark. The room where his "seat" was in tabernacle or temple was a room without windows or lights. No one was allowed to enter that room except the high priest and he only once a year. The mystery and even terror of that God loomed strongly in the worshipper's mind. But for all that, God was also a God of light. His people could pray to him. The very fact that they made covenants or agreements with him, whether he was visible or not, showed vividly in the prophets' messages and in other ways.

### God Accessible

The writer to the Hebrews, in the New Testament, makes a strong distinction between the accessibility of God as it was in older times (the days of Moses, for example) and since the coming of Christ. Instead of being a hidden god, to be reached on special occasions by special people, he now lives just beyond the door of worship. More than once in Hebrews the throne of God is mentioned, but no longer a throne in the dark. Christ is the one who has made the throne of God accessible. God is no longer the silent god, he speaks to us, and what he says can be summed up in one word: JESUS. God does indeed sit on the throne of the universe; but that throne is as near as your next prayer. Once and for all, there has come a Light of the world, and in time this Light will control and destroy the darkness. God had been known as the Creator of men, and as the Judge of men, but now he is to be known, in a transforming way, as the Companion of men. All persons long associated with one another come to be very much alike. So those who are companions or friends of Christ come to resemble him in thought and action. If a man or woman lives deeply and intimately with the Father of our Lord Jesus, seeing life as Christ saw it, living as he lived it, Christ will be shared with more and more people. If any man would master the art of living, he must meet and live with the Master of Life.

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ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE ON SUNDAY



GRAND AND RESERVE CHAMPIONS (left to right) at the FFA Hog Show this week posed briefly with their owners, Kenneth Martin and David Heisey, respectively. L. F. Photo

## Now Is The Time . . .

### To Seed Alfalfa

Early August is one of the good times to make a seeding of alfalfa; the other time to make a straight seeding without any nurse crop would be early spring (late March or early April). The ground should be well prepared, fine, and firm. The band seeding method is strongly recommended in order to get faster growth of the alfalfa seedlings. Early August seedings have a much better chance of winter survival than seedings made in late August or early September.

### To Prepare For Winter Oats

Local farmers who are planning to grow a few acres of winter oats should be planning to seed about the middle of September; winter oats will do much better on well drained land with less danger of winter killing. Norline or DuBois are the two recommended varieties for this area.

### To Plan For Extra Silage Storage

Livestock producers who do not have sufficient silage storage might consider a trench or bunker silo for extra space. In most areas of the county the corn crop looks promising and the making of the corn into silage is the best way to harvest the maximum number of feed nutrients per acre. Plans for these horizontal silos are available at the Extension Office.

### To Renovate Old Pastures

Many permanent bluegrass pastures will be more productive if they are renovated and seeded down to some of the higher producing grasses. The old sod should be plowed, or disced several times, during August so that the new pasture mixture can be seeded during late August or the first few days in September. A complete soil test will show the lime and fertilizer needs that ought to be worked into the soil before seeding. Grasses such as Penn-late Orchard, Bromegrass, or Reed Canary are adapted and will give more growth during the summer months.



MAX SMITH

### ● FFA Hog Show

(Continued from Page 1)  
Weaver, Pequea Valley, 6, Dale Hershey, Cloister.

Mediumweight — 1, Kenneth Martin, Grassland (Yorkshire champion-grandchampion); 2, John Frey (Yorkshire reserve champion), 3, Thomas Zaitman, Cloister; 4, Dale Hershey; 5, Robert Fisher, Grassland, 6, Kenneth Zimmerman

Heavyweight — 1, Terry Myer, Grassland, 2, Terry Kauffman, Cloister, 3, David Heisey, Cloister, 4, Dale Hershey, 5, Earl Hertzog, Cloister, 6, Eugene Rissei, Warwick

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### Lancaster Farming

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### 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 86 and a low of 65 degrees. It will be warmer over the weekend, moderating somewhat during the latter half of the period.

Precipitation may total more than 1/2 inch, occurring as showers and thunderstorms over the late weekend and early next week.