

# From Where We Stand . . .

## Tomorrow's Leaders

In most agricultural pursuits, Lancaster County leads the state, and ranks near the top nationally. But at least as important as its agricultural production, is the county's prominence in training the youth who will help America to lead the world tomorrow. Local 4-H work is such a training ground.

Too often, in the flurry of local competition and activity, this broad, over-all goal is lost from sight; it should not be!

This point was summed up beautifully by Miss Marie Bushong of Columbia R2 as she competed last summer in the Senior 4-H Queen contest. Each contestant was asked to discuss briefly "What 4-H Means To Me". We'd like to repeat a few of Miss Bushong's words here as we remember them.

"America's greatest need today is the development of youth into leaders. 4-H is more than, as some people think, simply farm children gaining identity by raising a steer or cultivating a strawberry patch. Youth develops by learning to carry responsibilities, and there is something in the very nature of 4-H work that demands the cultivation of experience and responsibility." And the key word is **RESPONSIBILITY!**

As we celebrate National 4-H Club Week, September 25 - October 2, that vital point should be emphasized and reemphasized. As a people, Americans would seem to be following a trend away from acceptance of personal and civic responsibility. We seem more willing than at any time in our history to let others make our decisions, and this seems evident on all levels from local to international.

We hear a great deal these days about the irresponsible and insane behavior of youth in our big cities. Yet we hear comparatively little of the dedicated and responsible actions of the "good kids". This is not to suggest that "all city kids are bad and all country kids are good"; it is, of course, not that simple. But it is encouraging to note that even though farm numbers are shrinking, 4-H continues to grow. Figures show that 4-H now extends far beyond rural areas with 46 percent of members coming from farm homes, 32 percent from rural non-farm homes, and 22 percent from urban homes. The influence of the 4-H philosophy on our

urban areas is probably one of the best medications that could be applied. We hope this trend continues, and we are proud that Lancaster County is in the forefront on 4-H membership enrollment with over 1400 youngsters out of a state total of 42,000.

## Old Committees Never Die

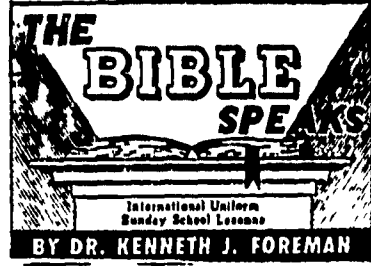
The closest man may ever come to perpetual motion is a government committee. Once established to investigate a specific problem, it proliferates its activities unto eternity. We originally felt the National Commission on Food Marketing had some worthwhile work to do — and we still think so, but are beginning to question the validity of some of its objectives.

The latest case in point is a recently declared intention of the Commission to determine "how well the U.S. food industry satisfies the needs of the nation's consumers". Contrast that objective, if you will, with the point continually being hammered home by the U.S. Department of Agriculture that the average American spends less than 19 percent of his take-home pay for food. Does that sound to you like an area that needs investigation?

Fifteen years ago the average consumer spent 26 percent of his income on food. Two things have happened during that period: the consumer's take-home pay has increased; farmers are producing food more efficiently, and it is being processed and marketed more efficiently and more competitively.

There are many outmoded and inequitable practices which the Commission could properly examine with the objective of upgrading and updating, but we fail to see that the one stated above is any more than another grandstand play to the almighty consumer. It is understandable that the political importance of the consumer far overshadows that of the farmer, but we don't enjoy seeing the farmers' own department — agriculture — relying so heavily on the consumer for justification of its future proliferation. One might even wonder before long just where the farmer will be able to turn for his representation. Chances are he will have to either switch to being a consumer, or fight!

What Do YOU Think?



BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN  
**Love the Link**  
Lesson for September 26, 1965

Background Scripture: 1 John 4:7-21  
Devotional Reading: Ephesians 3:14-21.

"Love," said St. Paul once, "is the link of the perfect life." (Colossians 3:14 Moffat.) In his time there were no buttons nor button-holes. Safety pins had been invented, but few common people owned them. What held a man's flowing garments together was the girdle or sash. With this large "cummerbund" as we would call such a thing today, a man could be neatly dressed.



Dr. Foreman said, "Without it, he rapidly became undressed, a mess of flapping robe and tunic and what not. We can put on all the virtues, but unless we put love on also, the virtues we have will be blown away. Love unites all the virtues, love fulfills all the commandments. Paul and our Lord alike emphasized the fact that the "great Commandment" is not any of the famous ten. They are each one a different way of expressing the great commandment of Love.

### How can we love God?

"Thou shalt love thy God" is glibly said in Sunday school by children who are memorizing passages in the Bible. But when we grow old enough to think about such things, this seems like an impossible commandment to obey. For one thing, is love something that can be turned on or off at will? Can even God say to us, at the count of three, start loving — one, two, three, LOVE! Well, of course if we really thought that this is what God means, we should be thinking him a fool. What is meant by "Thou shalt" is more like "This is the way God wants us to think about him." But then another difficulty rises to the mind. Can we love God as we love a human being? The answer is No, it goes without saying. We have to use the same word for it whether we are thinking of loving God or men. Still it is not meaningless

to speak of loving God. It is the opposite of hating him. To love is to draw closer; to hate is to withdraw, to avoid. To love is to unburden the heart; to hate is to bar the heart's door tight. To love is to share, to hate is refusing to share. A man in love with a girl — or the other way around — wants to do what the beloved wants done. So with the lover of God. One way to love Him is to become absorbed in his service, to love what he loves and hate what he hates. In today's jargon, by identifying with God's purposes we come to love Him.

### If we love another . . .

Another way to arrive at the joyful state of love to God (which is more than believing or merely obeying or praising or "explaining") is to love our fellow-human beings. The "second great commandment" (not the second-greatest) is Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. The Apostle John speaks not of neighbor but of brother. Evidently he has learned (from God, we may believe) that neighbor means brother. Begin to think of your neighbor as your brother, and you are on the road to loving God. If we love one another, John says, God lives in us and his love (our love of him and his love of us) is made perfect in us. We are not good enough to love God, to tell the truth; that we can love at all—God or man—is made possible by God's grace. Our love does not waken God; his love wakens us to love him and to love the "brother" whoever he may be.

### Casting out fear

Man as he is, man-on-the-hoof, man as sinner, is more afraid of God than in love with him. Contracts sometimes make reference to "acts of God" meaning disasters of great magnitude. But sunshine and spring flowers and autumn colors are just as much acts of God as are fires and earthquakes. Loving God is not going to cast out respect and reverence and thanksgiving; loving God is not destructive of God's dignity. But it does cast out fear.

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## Go To Church Sunday

### ● Random Sample

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mortality, feed conversion, body weight at housing time and at the end of test period, number of days required to reach 50 percent production; net income over feed and chick cost, egg weight and distribution — Extra Large to Peewee, and interior egg quality as calculated by albumen height, percentage meat and blood spots, and shell thickness

### Self-Help Ideas for Young Children's Clothing

Select children's garments that have some self-help features and a limited number of fasteners

### Lancaster Farming

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### ● 4-H Congress

(Continued from Page 1)

teen-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Wivell, Columbia R1, state winner in home economics

Wolgemuth and Miss Frey teamed up to win the state livestock conservation demonstration last month at Pennsylvania 4-H Days with their demonstration, entitled "Shape Up and Ship Out"

The pair also won the county beef demonstration in 1964. Both are members of the Red Rose 4-H Baby Beef and Lamb

Club, of which Miss Frey is secretary

A 4-H Club member for six years, Wolgemuth is a junior at Donegal High School, Mount Joy. Miss Frey, a junior leader with seven years of 4-H work, is a junior at Lancaster Mennonite School.

Miss Wivell, a 4-H Club member of 10 years and a past president of Lancaster County 4-H Council, is a graduate of Donegal High School. She is presently in student practical nurse training at Lancaster General Hospital.



Nancy Frey



Dallas Wolgemuth

## Now Is The Time . . .

### To Sow Quality Seeds

Growers of winter barley and winter wheat are urged to be sure of the quality of their seed grain for next year's crop. In many cases the seed is carrying too many weed seeds and some grain diseases. If home-grown grain is being used, it should be treated for disease control and a weed seed count made on it. One of the best ways to guard against poor seed is to buy and plant Certified seed. The needed maximum yield per acre is too important to take chances on poor quality seed.

### To Harvest Corn Fodder

With the shortage of bedding on many livestock and dairy farms, it is suggested that the corn stalks be harvested, after the corn is picked, and used for bedding purposes. This material is rated as a very good bedding and absorbs large quantities of liquids. After the stalks are dry, they can be shredded or chopped and then brought to the barn in bales or as loose material.

### To Be Careful with Frosted Crops

In spite of recent weather conditions, killing frosts are soon to come and will demand careful management of some of our forage crops. Sudan grass, sorghum hybrids, and alfalfa require special feeding care after killing frosts. The sudan grass and the sorghum hybrids should not be used in a fresh state after a killing frost, however, they can be made into silage and permitted to ferment for several weeks. Livestock should not be allowed to graze alfalfa when the frost is on the



MAX SMITH

plants, this condition may cause acute bloating; after the frost is melted and the plant is dry, the alfalfa may be safely grazed.

### To Check Electric Wiring

Before the winter season approaches and all livestock are housed, it is suggested that every farmer be certain that the wiring in the barn is safe and that all insulation is in place. In some cases, extra electric equipment added in recent years might be too much of a load for the size of wires. A close inspection and correction of danger spots might prevent a serious fire.