

From Where We Stand . . .

Food For WHOSE Freedom?

There's an old saying that Uncle Sam should begin heeding pretty soon — "I can handle my enemies; it's my friends who have me worried".

This nation has a long history of trying to be friendly with nearly every country in the world. We've fed many of them, clothed them, protected them from the local bully, and even wiped their noses and dried their tears when natural disaster overtook them. Some have thanked us by "spitting in our faces", figuratively, and too often, literally. And, oh, the things they say when Uncle's back is turned! But, these are our "friends", so we can overlook their behavior. Can we? It seems to us that if we have enough friends like that we sure don't need any enemies!

We were glad to see the tone of the Food-For-Freedom bill which cleared the House recently. For one thing, it spelled out that food under this program would not be available to any nation giving aid to our enemies — North Vietnam and Cuba, specifically.

The bill, now in the Senate, will get the full, well-known, Administration pressure treatment. Johnson wants that section changed. Why? Because our biggest customer under the program, India, would be ineligible to participate if it were not changed.

Secretary Freeman, in testifying before the Senate Agriculture Committee last week, said the food law should not provide an absolute bar to shipping food to nations who are in turn aiding and abetting our enemies. Rather, Freeman suggested, guidelines should be laid down for the President to make any final decision regarding questionable sales.

While we agree with Freeman that it would often be difficult to determine accurately which nations are supplying materials to our enemies, this law is as good a place as any to take a stand. It's about time we said to these needy nations, and any others who fit the shoe, "Look, boys, you can't have it both ways anymore. Either you're with us, or you're against us."

No doubt this approach is not consistent with international diplomacy, but we don't seem to have had much success with the standard formulas, perhaps it is time we tried the direct, "take it or leave it" approach. At least it should flush our enemies out into the open, and help us to know better where we stand.

We see no reason for changing the law simply because it might offend a hungry India. They need our help, and we want to give it. It therefore behooves them to see that they qualify for the

program, not that we weaken the program to accommodate their transgressions.

India and others, while not actually shooting at us, are helping to make it possible for our more militant enemies to do so. And they are helping to prolong a conflict which is devouring American lives at an ever-increasing rate.

We hope the Senators will have the courage and the conviction to resist Administration pressures, and that they will not weaken that section of the Food-For-Freedom bill by making the benefits available to our enemies.

★ ★ ★ ★ Another Drought Year?

Hope not, but it's beginning to shape up that way, isn't it? Spring rainfall looked real good, but that's pretty well used up by now, and then some.

About midweek, when this was written, we took a look at conditions around parts of northern Lancaster County. Most of the crops we saw looked thirsty, but because of widely scattered showers it seemed worse in some areas than others. Surface soil was dry and powdery, and you had to kick away a lot of it some places to find any dampness. It almost seemed as though the little bit of moisture was trying to preserve itself by creeping deeper and deeper into the earth to escape the wrath of the withering wind and sun above.

The thirsty roots seemed to be reaching for the receding moisture, but not quite making it, leaving the plants high and very dry. Many plants seemed to be "growing" smaller while they waited anxiously for rain.

Corn and tobacco seemed the crops most affected. Most of the tobacco hadn't had any rain on it since it was transplanted, and some curling of corn leaves was seen. Probably one more week without rain will be critical for much of the tobacco, and will be a real setback to the corn crop.

Although the weather map shows no particular rain in sight for our area, one optimistic farmer we talked with said, "That wind's been right out of the east for awhile now; if that keeps up sooner or later it'll bring us something." Let's hope he's right.

We promise to do our part to help make it rain soon, at least we'll do all the things that usually result in rain — going on vacation next week, will wash the car, leave rain coats at home, plan to picnic, etc. This procedure has never been known to fail. In fact, just writing it here is likely to bring enough rain to wash this editorial right down the Conestoga by the weekend.

Weather Forecast

Hate to say it, but the weatherman calls for the hot stuff to continue for the next five days. Temperatures will average above the normal range of 85 to 62 degrees for the period, but there is a chance of cooler weather by Tuesday or Wednesday.

There'll be no general drought relief in the next five days, but widely scattered showers Sunday and again Wednesday may deliver about 1/10 inch of moisture.

Now Is The Time . . .

By Max Smith, Lancaster County Agent



SMITH

To Recognize Cow Comfort

Anything to make the milking herd more comfortable during the hot summer months will put milk in the tank and money in the bank. The cows should have free access to fresh water, shade and loose salt at all times. The least effort required to satisfy their appetite will also result in greater production. During the day the herd may go to pasture or to the dry lot if they have the above items. In some cases it may be better to confine the cows during the day in a well ventilated barn and turn them out at night. Special attention to their comfort will result in greater returns.

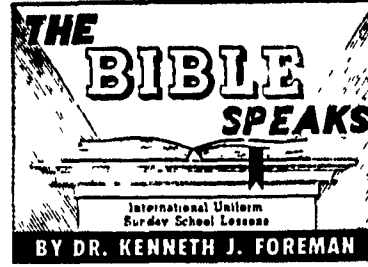
To Shear Pine Trees

Christmas tree growers and others who may have any pine trees on their property and who want to have them grow into a desirable pyramid shape, will want to do some trimming and shaping during June and early July. Some of the long terminal leaders may need to be shortened to get the tree to grow more compactly. This work should be done near the end of the pine tree growing period, which is June for this area.

To Inspect Lightning Rods

Buildings that are equipped with rods should have considerable protection providing the rods are attached at all points, and providing the ground rod goes into moist soil. During periods of dry weather this rod or ground

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The Bible Speaks
International Uniform
Sunday School Lessons
BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN
The Crash
Lesson for June 26, 1966

Background Scripture: II Kings 24 through 25, II Chronicles 36, Jeremiah 38 through 39, 52.
Optional Reading: Jeremiah 18 18 through 19 1.

A Jew once wrote a letter to the question-and-answer column of the B'nai B'rith monthly asking: What was the most important event in Jewish history? The editor replied that it would be hard to select just one, but in his opinion



the two most important were the Exodus from Egypt, and the Exile. By Exile he meant the scattering of the Jewish people among all nations, as we see them today. The beginning of that was the crash of a city, Jerusalem, and the date was 587 B. C. The army, or part of the army of Babylon, came into Palestine and just took over the country. The famous golden city of King Solomon was reduced to rubble. With the crash of their capital (which is not wholly under Israel's control even today) went the crash of the nation, the royal dynasty, the hopes and dreams they had cherished for centuries. Thousands of good people asked themselves: How can this be? This was God's city, we are God's people." That was a theological question and raises a theological answer (as many of our problems do).

WAY THEY THOUGHT IT WAS

What the citizen could not understand was how or why God had let them down. He had promised, by various prophets, that the royal dynasty would endure forever: he had said (by Isaiah) that no weapon formed against Jerusalem should prosper. They had made a covenant long ago with God. The Lord had delivered them out of many past calamities, he was strong enough to save them always no matter what. They could draw only one of

two conclusions: Either the Lord was a god who did not keep his word, or else he was a weak God, one who meant to do well by his people but lacked the intelligence or the power (or both) to do what he honestly tried to do. Could it even be (they wondered) that their "god" was not god at all? Perhaps they had been worshipping an idol all this time.

WAY IT REALLY WAS

The way it really was, was this: God is not weak or changeable, not boastful nor forgetful. The crash of the golden city was indeed his doing, or done by his permission. But it was not a case of letting his covenant people down. It was a case of punishment. The army of an invader, even a cruel invader, may be, and at that time was, an instrument of punishment in the hand of God. That God does not change, is quite true. God is a Savior but also a Judge; and sometimes (not always, be sure) his judgements are not handed down on a distant Judgement Day. Judgement Day can be NOW, and a nation may be on trial and the verdict Guilty. It was all the prophets could do to pound this into the peoples' heads, and most of the people never did open their eyes to the inside truth.

ARE YOU PART OF PROBLEM?

"What has all this got to do with me?" is a fair question; "I'm no nation, I'm only plain John (or Mary) Smith." Well, you are a part of a nation. There is such a thing as national character, good or bad. But national character is just the summing-up and interaction of private characters. And what creates character? The choices the individual makes every day. Acts of choice become habits of choice, and man's habits of choice are his character. If there were more people like you, would our country be better or worse? As Dr. Redhead is fond of saying, are you part of the problem or part of the answer?

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ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE SUNDAY

FOREMAN RESIGNS

Pennsylvanian To Write 'Bible Speaks'

The Rev. Lawrence W. Althouse, minister of Calvary Evangelical United Brethren Church, Mohnton, Pennsylvania, has been selected to write the newspaper column, *The Bible Speaks*, starting July, 1966. He succeeds Dr. Kenneth J. Foreman who has retired after writing the column since 1948.

"The Bible Speaks is based on the International Uniform Lesson Outlines, produced by the Uniform Lesson Committee of the Division of Christian Education, National Council of Churches," according to Mrs. Helen Cantley, managing director of NATIONAL COUNCIL RELIGIOUS FEATURES. "It is for use of weekly newspapers and small dailies, and currently runs in nearly 360 newspapers. Syndication for *The Bible Speaks* is handled by Community Press Service, Frankfort, Kentucky."

A native of Reading, Pennsylvania, Mr. Althouse is a graduate of Wharton School of Finance and Commerce, University of Pennsylvania, with a degree in economics. He is a graduate of United Theological Seminary, Dayton, Ohio, and is working on his thesis for S. T. M. degree in religious education, having completed course requirements at Union Theological Seminary, N.Y.C.



Rev. Althouse

Mr. Althouse is author of *Youth Guide on Affluence and Poverty*, printed this spring (1966) by Friendship Press. For many years he has written the lesson quarterly materials for junior and senior high school youth, and also for the teachers' books, for the Evangelical United Brethren Church.

The International Uniform Lesson Outlines was the first major effort in which Protestant Sunday school forces of America united on April 18, 1872. It provided a series of uniform lessons which could be used in each department of the entire Sunday school, and in all Protestant Sunday schools, based on the same Scripture text.

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