

## From Where We Stand . . .

### Allies In Suburbia

As we celebrate Farm-City Week, November 17-23, we are reminded once again of the increasing inter-dependence between these two main segments of the American population — the producers and the consumers.

As farmers, we need the products and the markets of the cities and the suburbs. For consumers, the future depends on a constant flow of high quality foods from producing areas at reasonable prices.

But if this relationship is to continue, it is vital that we convince the general consuming public of two things: (1) food is the biggest bargain in their budget; (2) it can only remain so if the farmer can continue to produce it as a free and independent businessman.

We can have Mrs. Consumer as an ally, or as an enemy; the decision lies in how effectively the farmer gets his message to her. We can't really use any more enemies at this time, but we sure do need some good friends.

As the farmer's voting influence continues to shrink through reduced numbers and reapportionment, he will have to become more and more dependent upon sympathetic city and suburban votes if he is not to be disenfranchised. It is, therefore, important that the general consuming public come to understand some of the problems the farmer has in the tremendous job of feeding a growing nation and a hungry world.

In our everyday contacts with non-farm friends it is the duty of each of us to keep plugging that message to the consuming public until even we get sick of hearing it.

Food is indeed the greatest bargain in this country. It is the case in no other country in the world that the consumer can walk into a market where 6000-8000 different items are in stock, and buy the week's food needs for an average of one day's pay. In the Soviet Union, for example, it takes about three-days' pay to buy the family's food supply for the week, and it seems reasonably certain that the average Russian does not consume, at our bargain prices, the 171 pounds of red meat, 38 pounds of poultry, 175 pounds of fruit, 336 pounds of vegetables, and 634 pounds of dairy products that constitutes the average American diet.

If American farmers are to continue making the high-risk investment of money and labor to maintain this miraculous flow of food and fiber to every corner of the land, the least they can expect in return is a reasonable price for their product, and political and economic independence.

Yes, the consumer certainly needs the farmer, but this is not a one-way street; we need her to buy our farm products and to support our best political and economic interests. Only a continuing educational campaign at all levels — from elementary schools on — can accomplish this farmer-consumer alliance. But once accomplished, and carefully tended, it can become a lasting guarantee to both parties that the best interests of each will be protected.

### ★ ★ ★ ★ The Thanksgiving Feast Is Truly American!

Thanksgiving Day is a purely American feast, begun traditionally by the Pilgrims, and continued through the centuries as a national day of religious and gastronomic significance.

Even today when all the foods of the world are available to enrich our daily diet, the Thanksgiving menu of the average household is still predominantly American in origin and production. A sumptuous feast can be spread with only the kinds of food that the pre-Columbian Indians knew and taught the white men how to raise and use. An All-American Thanksgiving menu is

tempting to a gourmet's taste and satisfying to a hungry, growing boy.

Turkey, cranberries, both white and sweet potatoes, numerous sorts of beans, squash, pumpkin, tapioca, corn, including sweet corn and popcorn, peppers, avocado, cocoa and chocolate, oysters, pineapple, chestnuts, peanuts, brazil nuts, cashew nuts, and while not strictly a food, the tobacco of the after-dinner cigaret, cigar or pipe. All of these are of strictly American origin.

Even without excluding non-American dishes, the usual Thanksgiving dinner, with roast turkey, cranberry sauce, string beans, corn bread, pumpkin pie on the menu, is American enough. Those who wish can easily build in their kitchens a strictly made-in America Thanksgiving bill of fare.

The turkey that is the center of the usual Thanksgiving feast has a dual claim to the 100 per cent citizenship. It is as native to the American continent as the Indians. Yet the turkey also has a record of early immigration from Europe.

Cranberry sauce is as American as the roast turkey that it accompanies to the relish of the feast. Cranberries are found only on the American continent. The cranberry bogs of New Jersey are famous the world over.

"Fixin's" are indispensable to the turkey, and sweet potatoes are indispensable to the "fixin's." Sweet potatoes, as well as the white potatoes, misnamed Irish, are American in origin.

The sweet potatoes, "taters" south of the Mason and Dixon line, are probably of tropical origin. At any rate, they thrive best now in the warmer parts of the country.

The white potato is not Irish but Peruvian in origin. It got its misnomer because it was so widely grown there and Irish immigrants in the early 1700's brought large quantities of them to the United States.

For the salad course, there may be avocados; also called alligator pears, for these are native to this hemisphere. The bread should be corn bread, of course.

Corn is the greatest of the agricultural gifts of America to the world. When the first settlers from England found this grain being cultivated by the Indians they called it Indian corn to distinguish it from the use of the word corn to mean in British usage all kinds of grain, wheat, barley, rye and all the rest.

Corn probably originated in the South American highlands but by the time the white men came its cultivation had spread as far north on this continent as the climate permitted.

In the fields of Indian corn found by the early colonists, there were orange-yellow pumpkins growing much as they are grown today.

Pumpkin pie is as Thanksgiving as turkey, yet just 50 years after Columbus the American pumpkin had been so adopted in Europe that it was being called the Turkish cucumber.

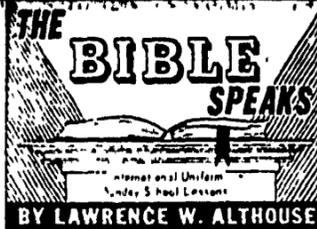
Beans of many varieties deserve a place in the American Thanksgiving table, for they were extensively cultivated by all the native populations of the New World.

Nuts give Thanksgiving a double dessert.

America is a land of rich and varied food supplies, capable of sharing its bounty with other areas of the world and willing to aid other countries to raise larger crops of food, often of Western Hemisphere origin. We are thankful for this at this Thanksgiving as it may help bring peace to the future of a less hungry world.

### ★ ★ ★ ★ Best Advice of the Week

Republicans have been overheard telling defeated Democrats lately — "Cheer up. If you liked Milton Shapp, you're going to love Ray Shafer!"



## Prophet, Go Home!

Lesson For November 20, 1966  
Background Scripture: 2 Kings 24:8-16; Jeremiah 27.

Imagine that you are a member of a Christian minority in a land that has been overrun by the Communists. Although they have not succeeded in destroying the faith, their persecutions of the Church have taken a heavy toll. The faint-hearted have defected and the brave minority grows ever smaller and weaker. The word "revolt" begins to be heard frequently among the



Rev. Althouse faithful.

Then an important letter arrives. It is from the exiled leader of the Church, a man greatly respected throughout the nation. The letter is smuggled through the Iron Curtain and a secret meeting of Church leaders is called to hear its counsel.

### Unwanted Advice

What will the letter say? You hope that it will be a call for an unrelentless campaign of underground harassment, sabotage, and eventual revolt against the godless rulers of your land. You anticipate a ringing denunciation of the Church's enemies and a promise of God's help in throwing off the yoke of tyranny. Surely this is what God will say through this prophetic leader!

But he says none of this. The letter begins rather with an admission of guilt: your country is captive because it deserted God. It continues with unbelievable counsel: you and your fellow Christians are to settle down into a normal, peaceful pattern of life — there is to be no revolution. You are to work for the welfare of your nation as constructive citizens, even praying for it and its godless leaders. It counsels patience: this tyranny will not soon end. It closes with a promise: God will bring great good even out of this tragedy.

This is not the message you

indignant, disappointed, and furious with this man and his traitorous advice. What kind of Christian is he? Has he no faith? No patriotism?

### All Part Of Plan

This is, of course, an ordinary situation. Perhaps, however, it may help us to understand the exiled Jews in Babylon; when they received Jeremiah's long-awaited letter what they wanted from this prophet who often had proven correct, was encouragement and a call to resistance against their captors.

Jeremiah did not tell them what they wanted to hear, but what he believed God had placed upon his heart: (1) It was God Himself who permitted them to be carried into exile; (2) "Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat their produce"; (3) "... seek the welfare of the city... and pray to the Lord for in its welfare you will find your welfare"; (4) the captivity would last for no less than seventy years; (5) this was not an evil fate, but within the plan and purpose of the Lord. The letter exploded like a booby-trap!

How eagerly we war for the word of God until we discover that the Lord, more often than not, sends us a message we do not want to hear. Like many who go to professional counselors, we ask for his help but what we want is not his counsel, but his blessing upon our own point of view. Even if we're on the wrong track, we want him to tell us we are on the right one.

The French critic, Vinet, once observed: "Most friends of truth love it as Frederick the Great loved music. It used to be said of him that, strictly speaking, he was not fond of music but of the flute, and not indeed of the flute but of his flute." Is it not that way in our friendship with truth, not Truth, but our truth?

Prophet, go home! Do not confuse me with the truth. My mind is made up.

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## ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE SUNDAY

## Now Is The Time . . .

By Max Smith, Lancaster County Agent

### To Spray For Winter Weeds

Modern weed control requires some attention to the chemical killing of weeds during the fall and winter season. With good moisture conditions this fall we are aware of considerable growth of shepherd's purse, chickweed, and ground ivy. Most of these weeds will be found in alfalfa seedings or other hay crops. The use of one of the dinitro sprays when temperatures are above 50 degrees F will help control all of these weeds. The use of Chloro IPC for chickweed when temperatures are below this level, will give best results. Spray when the weeds are small and immature.



SMITH

### To Be Cautious With Tobacco

Some growers may be thinking of starting to strip tobacco in the near future. We'd like to point out the lateness of the tobacco harvest on many farms and the slow curing weather this fall. Many plants went into the shed full of sap and moisture and it will take more time to get them dry. Suggest that care be used in not stripping too soon and to be sure the leaves and ribs are ready to be baled.

truck and livestock traffic in this area which makes it possible for the spread of any disease or infection. Scabies is a skin condition of sheep that causes itching and the rubbing off of the wool. Growers are urged to contact their veterinarian if these conditions are present.

### To Be Alert For Sheep Scabies

Even though the state of Pennsylvania is listed as scabies free on the livestock health records, all local producers are urged to be on the alert for any skin condition that may cause the animals to rub off the wool. There is considerable

### ● Horse Titles

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The primary purposes of the 4-H horse and pony program according to associate county agent Winthrop Merriam, are to develop riding skills, gain self confidence through competition, and learn the meaning of responsibility by caring for an animal.