

From Where We Stand . . .

Our Crisis In Crime

America's crime problem continues to grow at an alarming pace. In the first half of this year, there was 17 percent more serious crime than in the same period last year, according to the FBI.

Since 1960, the FBI says, serious crime has gone up 62 percent, while the population has gained just 9 percent. Thus crime is growing nearly seven times as fast as our population.

With such a startling increase in crime, more and more Americans stand the chance of becoming crime victims. Close to two Americans in every 100 will be victims of crime during 1967.

For the most part, these will be crimes directed against property alone — burglaries, auto thefts and larcenies of \$50 or more. But in 1966, there were 153,420 robberies (such as stickups and muggings), 231,800 aggravated assaults, 25,330 forcible rapes and 10,920 willful homicides. Violent crimes such as these are up 49 percent since 1960, and crimes against property are up 64 percent.

We believe this crisis in crime is largely due to the leniency with which we are treating our criminals. If the trend is not soon reversed we will obliterate ourselves in our own crime wave.

At least that's the way it looks from where we stand.

Refreshing Report

Not all of the African states are unquestioning followers of communism. According to one reporter, the President of the Ivory Coast who visited President Johnson in August is sometimes called the George Washington of West Africa. He is surrounded with procommunist neighbors, yet he has stood firmly for the free enterprise system. During his visit, he observed that many Africans believe their future is tied with that of the United States.

The Ivory Coast has welcomed foreign capital investments. It has become the third largest coffee producer in the world, the second largest cocoa producer and ranks high in bananas and tropical lumber.

After all of the grim tales of war and pillage that have come out of Africa, it is indeed refreshing to read a report that a head of state in that part of the world hopes to develop his country in accordance with the principles of free enterprise. He is indeed a latter-day George Washington.

Farm News This Week

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Human Spirit Best Hope

In spite of the best — or worst — efforts of the political promisers and planners, the human spirit still lives. Unfortunately, it usually takes a disaster of some kind to reveal the unlimited capacity of the spirit as well as the limited ability of the planners.

A little over three years ago, a disaster of classic proportions was visited upon Alaska. An earthquake reminiscent of the San Francisco quake and fire brought destruction to such cities as Anchorage, Valdez and Seward. As the news and pictures trickled out of the stricken area, the immensity of the catastrophe was revealed. For a short time — a matter of hours — destruction and shock immobilized all efforts except for an elemental struggle to survive. Then the great submerged force of the human spirit came to the surface.

The rebirth of the stricken area during the past three years was lately the subject of an interesting story by Jessie Ash Arndt in The Christian Science Monitor. He observed that many Alaskans expressed the sentiment that, "As long as it happened, it's best that it happened here: We're used to taking care of ourselves." As time went on, federal aid, of course, played a major role in rehabilitation, but the incentive and the initiative to get started and keep moving came from the local citizenry. As a local businessman remarked, "We can't wait for Uncle Sam to do it for us. We must start helping ourselves." Now, according to Mr. Arndt, "In Anchorage, new homes along Turnagain Arm have replaced the 80 which slid into the sea in 1964. . . . There are new and vastly improved port facilities, the new Captain Cook Hotel, and many new stores and other business buildings as well as more than 100 new homes in various parts of the city." The story is the same in Seward and Valdez.

The human spirit, in the final analysis, is the greatest builder of all. The recent disastrous floods that have wreaked such havoc in major Alaskan communities such as Fairbanks will put that spirit to the test again. Rebuilding is a race against the inexorable approach of the bitter northern winter. Despite all outside help that can be given, the life of these communities will depend largely upon the sheer strength and determination of individual citizens.

Across The Fence Row

Some people think they're dynamic, just because they explode easily.

Habits may resemble cork or lead — some keep us up, others hold us down.

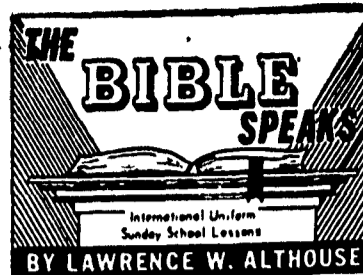
Then there is this story: Johnny looking out of the window says, "Oh, mother, a car as big as a barn has just gone by."

Mother says, "Johnny, why do you exaggerate so terribly? I've told you 40 million times about that habit of yours and it doesn't do a bit of good."

Weather Forecast

The forecast for the five-day period Saturday through next Wednesday calls for temperatures to average below normal with the daytime high in the upper 40's and the over-night low in the 30's. Mild at the beginning of the period and turning cooler Sunday. No marked day to day change is expected. Normal temperatures for this period are 57 high and 38 low.

Rain may total one-half inch or more at the beginning and again at the end of the period.



THE HARD WAY

Lesson for November 5, 1967

Background Scripture: Hosea 1 through 3, # 13.
Devotional Reading: Psalms 46.

Someone has noted the inconsistency of the woman who prays for patience, but complains when she is sent an inefficient cook! Her problem is shared by all of us: we want to learn the hard things by some easy, painless method.

Painless learning, however, is a rare luxury. Parents sigh when children refuse to take their advice, yet they may remember that no one could tell them much about anything when they were that age themselves. Most of us, it seems, must learn the hard way.

Rev. Althouse

Law Of Readiness

Educators speak of the "law of readiness." This means that people are more likely to learn when their experiences have prepared them and made them receptive. When his muscle development has progressed far enough, a child is ready to learn to walk. When a school child's mind has learned to deal with abstractions, we say they are ready to learn higher forms of mathematics.

Many of the greatest lessons of life are also dependent upon the "law of readiness." Certain things can only be learned when experiences have prepared us to receive them. Parenthood can be studied as an academic subject, but we cannot really learn all we need to know until we have become parents. Often, this seems to be "the hard way."

A young teenager seems headed for trouble. A number of people try to get him back on the right track, to keep him from making a tragic mistake. But he will not listen and in time he is sent to prison for a serious crime. There in his loneliness, he begins to understand the tragic waste of his life and vows to be a new person when at last he is released on

parole. He has had to learn "the hard way."

Why? Why?

It was infantile paralysis, says a biographer, that taught Franklin D. Roosevelt the quality of patience. It was a hard lesson for this restless, dynamic man, but from this tragedy he learned a lesson which was to be of inestimable value in his continuing career.

Thus it may be for many of the most necessary lessons: compassion, love, forgiveness, humility, the meaning of life and death; all of these seem to be learned best "the hard way."

Why should this be so? Why should God afflict us in order to teach us something? Why is pain so necessary?

We need to realize that God does not knock us down in order to pick us up. We manage to get down in the depths quite by ourselves. Yet, though he does not send tragedy to us, he nevertheless can use it to accomplish his purpose. God can squeeze a blessing out of the mess we make of our lives.

What's The Lesson?

It is not a matter of God being ready at last to teach us, but of us being willing at last to learn. Often this happens only when we have reached the "bottom of the pile." When we have been stripped of our pretenses, shown our inadequacies, and demonstrated our need for resources beyond our own, then we may be ready.

Hosea was a prophet whose greatest insights and understandings came, not in visions, dreams, or from scrolls, but from the depths of his own personal tragedy. God was able to use his marital troubles to reveal to Hosea something he wanted him to learn. How much better had Hosea been able to learn some other way. But for him, as for most of us, it had to be "the hard way."

Dr. Paul Tournier, the famous Swiss physician, suggests that when we are ill, we ought to ask ourselves what God might want to teach us through our illness. So it may be with other adversities. Whatever our difficulties, let us ask what blessing God might squeeze from them, what lesson he might teach us "the hard way."

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Go To Church Sunday

For Full Market Reports Read LANCASTER FARMING



NOW IS
THE TIME . . .

By Max Smith
Lancaster County Agent

To Check Heating Systems . . .
There will soon be activity in many tobacco cellars, growers are urged to give the chimney and stove pipes a thorough inspection before any fires are built. In many cases, the pipes may have been knocked loose or the mortar dried out between the brick. All of these could be fire hazards and should be corrected soon.

To Add Water to Silage . . .

Frosted corn may still be made into corn silage but the amount of moisture in the stalk may not be sufficient to secure good packing in the silo. After the corn has dried out, water should be added at the blower in order to prevent

the molding of the corn in the silo. The frosted corn will continue to have good feed value if water is added to permit fermentation.

To Rat-Proof Corn Storage . . .
With the bumper crop of corn on many farms this fall, the storage space becomes filled. One problem with temporary storage facilities is that rodents will make it their headquarters and do considerable damage during the coming winter. When these extra storage cribs are constructed, it is strongly advised to make them of concrete and wire, and other materials to keep out the rats and mice. This is not easy and some planning should be done in advance of construction.