

From Where We Stand . . .

When You Consider It, Though —

The Farm and Home Foundation Board of Directors adopted unanimously four guidelines dealing with the way the press is to be treated at regular board meetings in the future. The text of these guidelines are as follows:

1. The fact that there have been many contributors to the Farm and Home Center, imposes upon this board a public responsibility that will preclude the advisability of carrying the press from regularly scheduled board meetings.

2. This board has the right to cautions in which case all persons including news reporters who are not members of the board will be asked to absent themselves temporarily.

3. Any misunderstanding or censure of a board member or the press or any personal grievance shall be settled outside of regular board meetings.

4. Where there is no pre-arranged agreement concerning what shall be published the discretion may be made by the press.

The board is entirely correct in assessing its obligation to conduct business in public through the eyes of the press. In fact, we believe the least amount of business needed to be done "under cover" by the board, the greater the appearance of everything being done honestly and in order — with the consequential result of greater support for the Foundation by the farm community in the immediate future.

The Farm and Home directors appear to have risen to the occasion by adopting these guidelines with the only thing remaining to be seen; just how much of their business must be conducted "off-the-record".

When you consider it, though, (laying aside all minor, touchy irritations that naturally come among men from a project of this magnitude) isn't it really amazing that the dream of a center of action for the greatest farm community in the world has actually become a fact. With 54 meetings being reported taking place in the center in one month only and the entire office space now occupied by renters it certainly provides the incentive to forget those problems of the past and go with new vigor toward the final goal of a completely debt-free, self-supporting Farm and Home Center.

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



Timely Remarks

The following remarks are quoted from the statement which a District Judge made to two youths convicted of a felony before passing sentence on them. The Judge's presentence lecture to the youths was made some twenty years ago, but it contains a message of great timeliness for youth and adult today.

Farm News This Week

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"You come from good homes, both of you. Yet now you have been convicted of a felony — a crime for which you might be sent to the penitentiary. In this case I do not have to send you to the penitentiary. I am permitted to give you a parole. But even if you never see the inside of a penitentiary or jail, you will not have escaped the penalties of your crime. The record of your conviction will be here as long as the courthouse stands. No amount of good conduct in the future can ever erase it.

"Next year, or ten years from now, or when you are old men if you are ever called to be witnesses in any court of law, some lawyer will point his finger at you and ask: 'Have you ever been convicted of a felony?' You will hang your head and admit that you have, because if you deny it, the records of these proceedings will be brought from the vaults and read to the jury. The question will be asked for the sole purpose of casting doubt on your testimony. Convicted felons are not believed as readily as other persons.

"Someday you may have a chance to live and work in one of the expanding countries of South America, and you will apply for a passport. You may not get it. You might enter Canada for a fishing trip, but you would not be allowed to stay. No country will allow you to become a resident. Your world is so much smaller than it was. Someday you may seek a position in the civil service of your state or nation. On the application blank you will find this question: 'Have you ever been convicted of a felony?' Your truthful answer will bar you from appointment. An untruthful answer will be detected because appointments are made only after investigation. The record is here to be found by anyone interested.

"In a few years you will be 21, and others your age will have the right to vote — but you will not. You will be a citizen of your state and country, but you will have no voice in public affairs. Someday the governor may pardon you and restore your rights, but it is going to be humiliating to ask him. He'll want to know your whole record. It is a bad one.

"I am granting you a parole. A parole is in no sense a pardon. You will report to the men who have accepted your parole as often as they may ask. Your convenience is not a matter of importance. You will also obey your parents. If your parents send you to bed at nine o'clock, you will go without complaint. You will perform such tasks as are assigned to you. Your parole is a fragile thing. Should the slightest complaint of your conduct reach this court, your parole will be revoked immediately and you will begin serving your sentence. You will not be brought back here for questioning and/or explanations. You will be picked up and taken to prison — without notice to you and without delay."

Across The Fence Row

Some men are known for their deeds, and other for their mortgages.

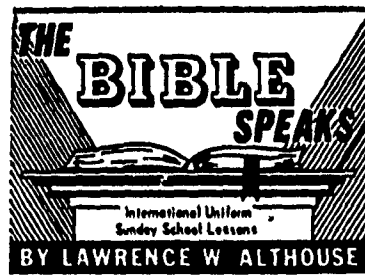
Everything one sees, hears and does leaves its mark on his mind and character. Thus, the importance of clean thoughts, honest companions, and good books.

Reading tends to make an old man younger, and a young man, older.

Weather Forecast

The five-day forecast for the period Saturday through next Wednesday calls for temperatures to average near normal with daytime highs in the 60's and the overnight lows in the 40's. Little day to day change is expected. Normal high-low for the period is 72-48.

Rain may total one-half inch or more as showers in the North section Saturday and more generally Sunday.



DEADLY SERIOUS!

Lesson for May 5, 1968

Background Scriptures Proverbs 16:22-32; 20:1; 23:19-21, 29-35.

Devotional Reading: Proverbs 16:22-32.

Your friend has "had a few" and suddenly he's the life of the party. Quiet, reserved, he begins to tell funny stories, do imitations, and sing rousing songs. Everyone smiles as he picks up steam and in a few minutes they will



Rev. Althouse

be laughing gaily at his hilarious antics. Everyone except his wife, for she knows how to lose our jobs, our money the performance must always end. The tipsy friend may amuse us. The helpless drunk on television may seem hilarious. Someone's admonition to temperance may seem a cause to smirk. Yet alcoholism is no joke. It is not funny to the alcoholic, nor his family, nor his employer, nor anyone else whose welfare may be jeopardized by him. It is deadly serious.

Wrong because . . .

It was from witnessing the tragedies of drunkenness and alcoholism that the writers of the Old Testament wisdom literature developed their proverbs of counsel in regard to the dangers of alcohol. When the sage said, "Be not among winebibbers . . . for the drunkard . . . will come to poverty . . ." (Proverbs 23:20-21), he did so because of his careful observation of the consequences.

Too often it is assumed that the moral teachings of religion are the biased result of a "kill-joy" attitude toward life. What is often overlooked, however, is that the moral teachings are based upon some very practical matters. Intemperance is wrong, for example, because of its destructive results. Drunkenness is castigated because of the misery and suffering it brings to people. Alcoholism is evil because of the terrible cost it exacts from society.

Because the wise men of the Old Testament had observed many personal tragedies and seen what insobriety could do to society, they were being extremely practical when they counseled:

Be not among winebibbers. . . Do not look at wine when it is red, when it sparkles in the cup and goes down smoothly . . . (Proverbs 23:31-35)
He who rules his spirit is better than he who takes a city (Proverbs 16:32)

More than "Don't"

They had seen the tragedy of the winebibber. They had observed those who had been deceived by the attractive and harmless appearance of drink. They knew the sheer practicality of learning to master one's appetites. Thus the sages were appealing to the minds of men, not their sense of obedience. They were not content to say "Don't," but went on to tell "why not." Alcohol, it was obvious, brings disgrace, makes men look foolish; it provokes fights, triggers violence (Proverbs 20:1); it interferes with our ability to work, causing us to lose our jobs, our money (Proverbs 23:21); it brings all kinds of woes, sorrows, and strife; it is the cause of accidents and injuries, it dissipates the physical body, induces hallucinations, demoralizes the mind, and releases our worst selves (Proverbs 23:33) and it forever tempts us to escape from reality into a fantasy world (Proverbs 23:35).

The pragmatic way

In short: alcohol destroys the drinker, physically, mentally, and spiritually. Nor does it stop there, injuring those around us, destroying our relationships with those around us. Ultimately it tears down the moral fabric of our society. The Hebrew wise men had observed all this and their resulting advice is nothing less than a pragmatic manner of dealing with a very real problem. Thus it is the sages who are the realists, who are dealing with the facts. The wisdom of the Proverbs is thousands of years old, but it is no less realistic and contemporary for a society where alcoholism is a major health and economic problem. The problem is serious; the consequences are deadly. Thus it calls for a response that is deadly serious.

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For Full Market Reports Read Lancaster Farming



NOW IS THE TIME . . .

By Max Smith

Lancaster County Agent

To Use Extra Corn

Many livestock producers have ear corn left from the bumper 1967 crop; if these farmers are making any kind of forage-crop silage, they might make good use of the corn and cob chop as a preservative. Any small grain or hay-crop forage that is made into silage will be improved by the addition of about 200 pounds of corn chop per ton of forage.

To Water Tobacco Beds Carefully

Due to the weather conditions this spring extra water is needed for tobacco plants. We advise that the plants be watered during the forenoon so they will have time to dry before night. Wet plants during the night are more likely to be troubled with seed bed diseases such as blue

mold and damping off. If any extra fertilizer or plant food is added over the plants, it should be washed off the leaves and soaked into the topsoil.

To Wilt Forages For Silage

It is very difficult to make top quality grass silage from any forage crop by using the direct cut method; ten years ago this was very popular, but now we discourage this practice because it is handling too much water. For quality silage from any winter grain or hay crop, it is very important to wilt in order to get rid of extra water. From 50 to 60% moisture in the forage will group it as wilted silage; down as low as 50% moisture or lower would put it into the haylage class. Either of these will be much better feed than direct cut silage.