

From Where We Stand . . .

Time For An Accounting

Congressional candidates for reelection customarily return to their home states to mend political fences and campaign for reelection in plenty of time to remind voters back home of the good things they have accomplished for their districts and their states. Most of these good things have cost the taxpayers a lot of money. That is one of the reasons the federal budget is in the neighborhood of \$190 billion a year and taxes are high and going higher.

This year the homecoming congressmen may find the usual political recipe for staying in office has turned somewhat sour. Citizens all over the country are getting up in arms at the tax take from their earnings, and efforts are being made to drive home to voters the close relationship between taxes, deficit spending, and inflation. For example, the National Tax Reform Committee has distributed to daily and weekly newspapers "A 15-point program" for cutting the federal budget by some \$20 billion.

Accompanying the 15-point program release is a summary of the spending record of Senators from the respective states on which the people back-home can judge the economy consciousness of their senatorial representatives. The 15-point program is based on an extensive study of the federal budget. The recommendations it contains to meet the current financial crisis of the U.S. government will make good sense to many people — and require spendthrift congressmen to do a lot of explaining.

Of course, we heard recently from a local congressman about the constituent who called him on the phone and demanded he vote for all tax cuts and then before closing the conversation asked the legislator to get him a \$20 government publication — for free, naturally.

We can't expect our "spendthrift" congressman to cut the budget with one hand and make hand-outs with the other. It just doesn't work that way. At least that's the way it looks from where we stand.

"Social Security"

By mailing 10 cents to the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., anyone may obtain a pamphlet on "Recent Improvements In Your Social Security." For another 10 cents, a copy of another pamphlet entitled, "Recent Improvements In Medicare" may be obtained from the same source. The two pamphlets explain rules of eligibility and current benefits under Social Security Amendments of 1967. They answer many questions that will be arising as more and more people become increasingly dependent on government payments and benefits of one kind or another.

Naturally, the pamphlets fail to point out that "social security" has become an

extremely relative condition for everyone — relative to inflation and the declining value of the dollar as well as to the ever-changing rules and regulations of government administrators. No one in his right mind would attempt to guess what "social security" will mean ten, fifteen or twenty years from now. No one even knows with certainty whether the dollar will be an acceptable medium of exchange. When it comes to "social security," government programs may help, but they will never take the place of individual effort, individual thrift and a sense of individual responsibility.

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

Across The Fence Row

"The average American wastes 20 per cent of the gasoline he puts in the family car because he drives inefficiently," notes "Timely Items," published by the Public Service Company of Colorado. "To get the most out of your gas, check your tire pressure regularly. Underinflated tires can waste half a gallon of gas out of every 20 you buy. Have your motor tuned every 5,000 to 8,000 miles. Faulty spark plugs alone can cut your gas mileage 10 per cent. Avoid repeated, unnecessary braking; nothing burns fuel faster. Because of this, as well as plain safety-sense, leave an adequate distance between yourself and the car you're following. Be sure your car can breathe by keeping your air filter clean. An engine needs at least 9,000 gallons of filtered air for every gallon of gas consumed. Steady your driving. Drivers who race their engines at stop lights, perform jackrabbit starts and race around corners are being uneconomical as well as dangerous."

"Impelled by signs of spring and curiosity as to how the motoring public was responding to nature's unfolding beauty, a man took a two-mile hike down the highway the other day. Along with birds and buds, here is what he saw: Two empty milk cartons, one empty whiskey bottles, nineteen empty potato chip bags, six empty paint cans, twelve empty unidentified cans, sixteen miscellaneous items, and a hundred and ninety-six empty beer cans. This, mind you, was on one side of one road in only two miles." — NEW BERN, N. C., SUN-JOURNAL.

"Why can't we have just one candidate, who can stand on his own two feet and say: 'I'm for less spending, less taxes, reduction of our national debt, less giveaways, more work for a day's pay, less crime, no riots, less strikes, less wrangling in our schools and universities, less bureaucracy, reduced doles to all federal departments, less waste in armaments, less foreign aid, less big brother to the whole world, more responsibilities to the states, less rent subsidies, less federal intrusion into everything from cradle to grave, more honesty, integrity in office, more thought and consideration to the lowly, down-trodden taxpayer?'" — EENTON, MO., DEMOCRAT.

People and boats each toot the loudest, when they're in a fog.

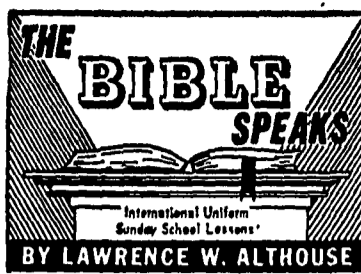
Reading the Bible is Often Like Looking Into the Mirror.

Local Weather Forecast

(From the U. S. Weather Bureau at the Harrisburg State Airport)

The five-day forecast calls for temperatures to average near normal with daytime highs 80 to 85 and over-night lows in the 60's. Turning cooler Sunday and again Tuesday with near or above normal temperatures at other times.

Rain may total one-fourth to one-half inch as showers mainly on Saturday and Tuesday.



THE "RIGHT TIME"

Lesson for August 18, 1968

Background Scripture: Ezra 4 through 6; Haggai 1 and 2; Zechariah 1 through 8.
Devotional Reading: Psalms 138.

A boy was working on a model airplane in his home. A friend of the family visiting there saw him and asked, "Oh! You're a model airplane fan?" "Sure," said the youth. "This must be the tenth one I've begun this year."



Rev. Althouse

The hard part

It seems that it is human nature to be "not so good at that part of it." We have a way of beginning all sorts of projects and completing far fewer than we have begun. I once saw a strange-looking building that in some ways looked like a church and in other ways like a gas station and garage. I learned that I was correct on both counts, for the building was begun as a church, but the congregation ran out of money and purpose. It was then sold to a man who converted the partly-completed structure into a gas station. There are many such monuments throughout the world to projects that have begun with great expectations and ended in despair.

This is what happened in Jerusalem when the exiles returned from captivity in Chaldea. With great emotion they laid the foundations for the restoration of the temple. Yet in the book of Haggai we find that eighteen years later and the temple is still not much further along. For the most part it still lies in ruins.

They had made an exciting beginning in restoring the altar and commencing the twice-daily offer-

ing of sacrifices there. But then things had bogged down. The unity evident in the people when they arrived in Jerusalem from Chaldea began to disintegrate. Zerubbabel and Joshua (same as "Jeshua" in Ezra 6:2) had probably become discouraged and were no longer able to give people the unifying and motivating leadership they needed.

Time is not yet

It is in times like these that God raises up someone to bring people the leadership required for the situation. Again and again in the Old Testament we see this principle at work. Men like Moses, Gideon, Samuel, David, etc., are introduced by God when the time is ripe. This is what he does for the people of Jerusalem, sending a prophet named Haggai to both condemn the people's failure and inspire them to complete the task.

The people have ready a reason for their delay. Haggai hears and repeats it: "This people say the time has not yet come to rebuild the house of the Lord" (Haggai 1:2 RSV). Notice how this ancient book contains a most modern alibi. Is not this the reason advanced for falling to press today some of the most vital projects confronting us? "The Negro is not ready yet for full and equal right!" "The nation is not ready yet for full integration!" "I am not ready yet to live in full and complete commitment to God's will!" We are like the house of clocks in one of James Thurber's stories: the time they told was always "then," never "now."

It never comes

The prophet, however, was not moved by the people's alibi. Though the time may not be "right" to rebuild the temple, then why are they building elaborate, paneled houses? If money is the problem, then why do they spend so much on themselves? Nowonder the time isn't "right." At this rate, there will never be a "right time!"

Haggai notes a very ironic truth: the more people lavish upon themselves, the less satisfied they are with what they have. There never seems to be enough. Their desires and hunger seem insatiable. It is like putting their money in a bag with holes. They are only fooling themselves: for them the "right time" will never come.

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Lancaster Farming Ads Pay



NOW IS THE TIME . . .

By Max Smith

Lancaster County Agent

To Allow Corn To Mature
Silo filling time is approaching and the corn is developing rapidly. All livestock producers are urged to allow their corn to mature to the dent stage before making into silage. As the corn goes from the silk stage, to the milk stage, through the dough stage, into the dent stage, it increases in feed nutrients. Don't be guilty of reducing nutrient yields by cutting too soon.

To Reduce Soil Erosion

The fall of the year is one of the good times to establish contours on slopes and hillsides in order to reduce soil and water losses. As the ground is being prepared for fall grain, alternate strips may be planted to small grain and then next

spring the remaining strips go into a row crop. Following the heavy rains of this past summer, land owners should be able to evaluate their soil saving practices.

To Alternate Fly Sprays

Livestock producers who are having trouble obtaining fly control with residual sprays are urged to try a different insecticide for the remainder of this season. There is some evidence of resistance being developed in the flies where the same material has been used. We suggest that two or more of the following be used over a period of several years as residual sprays in barns: Ronnel emulsion, Dimethoate (cygon), or Diazinon.

Farm News This Week

Belgian Horses To Join County Plowmen At Hershey — Page 1

Guernsey Breeders Hold Field Day At Lindenhof — Page 1

New 4-H Queens Are Miss Hess And Miss Nauman — Page 1

LANCASTER FARMING

Lancaster County's Own Farm Weekly

P. O. Box 266 - Lititz, Pa. 17543
Office 22 E. Main St. Lititz, Pa. 17543
Phone Lancaster 394-3047 or Lititz 626-2191

Everett R. Newswanger, Editor
Robert G. Campbell, Advertising Director
Subscription price \$2 per year in Lancaster County, \$3 elsewhere

Established November 4, 1955
Published every Saturday by Lancaster Farming Lititz, Pa.
Second Class Postage paid at Lititz, Pa. 17543

Member of Newspaper Farm Editors Assn.