

# From Where We Stand . . .

## Met It's Match

The most revolutionary farm mechanics idea to come along since the hay crusher is the tobacco harvesting machine invented by a local man from Willow Street. As reported last week, Ross Walter has spent nine years perfecting the machine and it is now ready for mass production.

Just how well accepted it will be on Lancaster County and Kentucky tobacco farms is still to be seen. But it's design is certainly a credit to the inventor who had to start without any other machine to copy or take parts from.

The labor situation on farms these days is given many times as the reason for the decline in tobacco acreage. If the labor problem really is the reason for not raising tobacco in the past, that reason has partly been eliminated.

Regardless, however, if the new idea in tobacco harvesting increases tobacco output or not, the back-breaking job of spearing tobacco has finally met it's match.

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

## Cherry Pie — FDA Style

Contestants in pie-baking contests at county and state fairs will be gratified to learn that a federal agency has gotten around to defining a cherry pie and how it must be made.

According to the Food and Drug Administration, "Cherry pie is the food prepared by incorporating in a filling contained in a pastry shell, mature, whole, pitted, stemmed, red, sour (tart) cherries (fresh, frozen or canned) that have not been treated with a chemical preservative . . ." The FDA says that a cherry pie shall contain, "not less than 27 cherries per ounce of net weight" Here is how to comply with the rules for making an "official" cherry pie: "Remove the filling and cherries from the pie and distribute evenly over the surface of a 12-inch-diameter U S No 8 sieve stacked on a U S. No 20 sieve Wash the cherries and cherry fragments free from adhering material with a gentle water spray Drain the cherry contents of the No. 8 sieve for 2 minutes in an inclined position (5-to 30-degree slope). Do not discard contents of No 20 sieve. Transfer the whole cherries to a tared pan and determine the weight of all whole cherries. . . ."

There is much more, but this is sufficient to get the point across When a government agency begins to prescribe how many cherries shall be in a cherry pie, the predictions of the computerized society in which every citizen lives under 24-hour surveillance of "Big Brother government" appears depressingly close.

## Farm News This Week

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## Do You Remember?

You're old enough to remember the real America — if you can remember when you never dreamed our country could ever lose. When you left the front door open. When you went to church and found spiritual consolation. When people knew what the Fourth of July stood for. When you took it for granted that women and the elderly and the clergy were to be respected.

When a girl was considered daring if she smoked in public. When a girl was a girl. When a boy was a boy. When they liked each other. When you didn't feel embarrassed to say that this is the best country in the world. When socialist was a dirty word. When liberal wasn't. When a nickel was worth five cents and could buy you a magazine, or a good cigar, or a 12-ounce Pepsi, or a big ice cream cone with chocolate sprinkles. When two nickels got you into the movies on Saturday afternoon, and you saw three pictures. When taxes were only a nuisance. When the poor were too proud to take charity. When you weren't afraid to go out at night. When Protestants and Catholics thought enough of their beliefs to argue about them. When ghettos were neighborhoods. When you knew that the law meant justice, and you felt a little shiver of awe at the sight of a policeman. . . .

When the flag was a sacred symbol. When our government stood up for Americans, anywhere in the world. When a man who went wrong was blamed, not his mother's nursing habits or his father's income. When everyone knew the difference between right and wrong, even Harvard professors. When things weren't perfect, but you never expected them to be. When you weren't made to feel guilty for enjoying dialect comedy. When people still had the capacity for indignation.

When you considered yourself lucky to have a good job. When you were proud to have one. When sick meant you weren't feeling well. When a complaint could accomplish something. When people expected less, and valued what they had more. When everybody wasn't entitled to a college education. When college kids swallowed goldfish, not acid. When America was the land of the free, the home of the brave — Conservative Book Club Bulletin.

## Across The Fence Row

It's hard to teach kiddies the A-B-C's, when they already know that V always comes after T.

It takes men to build nations, and ideas to build men.

Habits can be either a sinker or a cork, depending on you and on the habit.

Retirement comes hard for kids, too.

The world's most miserable people seem to be, not the broke, the crippled, the unfortunate, but those who have everything they want — but not the ability to enjoy it.

Personality may open the door, but character keeps it open.

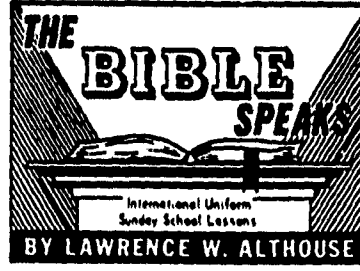
A notion without motion seldom cuts much grass

## Local Weather Forecast

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

The five-day forecast for the period Saturday through next Wednesday calls for temperatures to average above normal with daily highs in the 70's to 80's and overnight lows in the mid 50's to 60's. Cool at the beginning with temperatures moderating about Sunday and continuing a slow rising trend through the remainder of the period. Normal high-low for the period is 78-56.

Rain may total less than one-fourth inch as showers scattered over the region Monday.



## THE SIN OF SILENCE

Lesson for September 15, 1968

Background Scripture: Esther 1 through 8,  
Devotional Reading: Psalms 46.

For the Christian there are few books in the Bible more troubling than Esther. It is an interesting story, but the follower of Christ can hardly help but be appalled at the bloody conclusion in which 75,000 of the Jews' enemies are slain in a single day's vengeance.



Still, Maimonides, the medieval Jewish philosopher, said that if all the rest of the scriptures passed away, the Torah and Esther would remain. Today it remains one of the favorite books in the synagogue and is read at every celebration of the Feast of Purim. Even an important Jewish women's society is named in honor of Esther (Hadassah).

**An epic of survival**  
To the non-Jew it may not seem at all a religious book—the name of God is not even mentioned in it. Martin Luther was quite outspoken in his derogatory opinion: "I am so hostile to this book that I wish it did not exist. . . ." Why, then, is it so important to our Jewish brothers?

The answer should be obvious to the sensitive reader: it is a stirring story of deliverance from the evil of anti-Semitism. Its story helps to remind the Jew that, though captive to the Egyptians, harassed by the Canaanites and Philistines, carried into exile by the Assyrians and Babylonians, persecuted by the Persians, the Macedonians, the Romans, the Christians, and systematically exterminated by the Nazis, they have nevertheless survived and it is a celebration of that triumphant survival!

It is also appeal for self-sacrificing courage and perseverance. Esther's uncle, Mordecai, does not assure her that everything will come out all right—as often it does not—but instead says: "And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" Her response is still an inspiration for the Jew today: ". . . if I perish, I perish". (Esther 4:14-16 RSV)

### Roots of prejudice

There is, however, something else in Esther for the non-Jew. None of us should be able to read this book without some stabbing of conscience and the haunting realization that the greatest of evils in this book, anti-Semitism, is still with us today, an evil for which we cannot quite escape some collective if not individual responsibility. Haman's route to prejudice is not unlike our own. He begins by hating an individual Jew, Mordecai, and goes on to despising all Jews. He hates the Jew because his culture refuses to be swallowed up by his own. The Jews are different and that difference becomes both a cause and a symbol of his hatred.

Instead of Haman, perhaps we identify with the king. He has no particular dislike for the Jews. He allows Haman to persecute them simply because he is too preoccupied with other things! Though he has the power to do something about it, he manages to regard it as none of his affair. How many Jews have grievously suffered, not only because of the Haman's, but because of men like the king who are too preoccupied with other concerns?

### Guilty bystanders

There are others in the story, minor characters who merely carry out the orders of the Haman's. They are men who build scaffolds (or ovens) for someone else's victims. They are soldiers obeying their superiors and guilty bystanders who go blithely about their "business as usual."

That is how monstrous crimes take place: not only because of the Haman's, the very visible villains, but also because of the others who let it happen by their silence. Queen Esther could have been one of these. Her own position was secure. No wonder our Jewish brothers admire this woman who risked everything rather than commit the sin of silence!

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## For Full Market Reports Read Lancaster Farming



## NOW IS THE TIME . . .

By Max Smith  
Lancaster County Agent

### To Graze Alfalfa Carefully

The grazing of alfalfa fields in the fall is a very common practice instead of making the last cutting. The alfalfa plant is not poisonous after frost or freezing weather, but may be the cause of severe bloating when wet or when coated with frost. Producers are urged to be sure animals graze the alfalfa field only when the plants are dry and only after the animals have had some other type of forage prior to being put in the alfalfa. Dairywomen should remove their milking cows at least four hours prior to the milking time.

### To Sow Winter Oats

Farmers in southeastern Pennsylvania interested in growing a crop of winter oats should get

them in the ground around the middle of September. Also, oats should be seeded on well drained soil. Norline or Dubois are two recommended varieties. The severity of the winter weather and the extent of winter killing largely determines the yield per acre.

### To Prepare Corn Crib

The corn crop is maturing and soon the corn pickers and shellers will be working. Cribbs should be cleaned and sprayed for insects, the use of either methoxychlor or malathion as a spray in the crib will eliminate the chance of grain insects. Every effort should be made to make the crib rodent-proof in order to reduce losses and gain quality.