

# From Where We Stand...

## What Is A Farmer?

A farmer is a paradox. He is an "over-alled" executive with his home his office; a scientist using fertilizer attachments; a purchasing agent in an old straw hat; a personnel director with grease under his fingernails; a dietitian with a passion for alfalfa, animals and antibiotics; a production expert faced with a surplus; and a manager battling the cost-price squeeze. He manages more capital than most of the businessmen in town.

Farmers are found in fields plowing up, seeding down, returning from, planting to, fertilizing with, spraying for, and harvesting of. Wives help them, little boys follow them, the Agriculture Department confuses them, city relatives visit them, salesmen detain them, meals wait for them, weather can delay them, but it takes Heaven to stop them.

When your car stalls along the road, a farmer is a considerate, courteous, inexpensive road service. When a farmer's wife suggests he buy a new suit, he can quote from memory every expense involved in operating the farm last year, plus the added expense he is certain will crop up this year. Or else he assumes the role of the indignant shopper impressing upon everyone within earshot the pounds of pork he must produce in order to pay for a suit of clothes at today's prices.

## Moon Trips And Salmon Streams

The conservation of our dwindling natural resources should be handled with the tools of modern industry and management techniques that have a proven capacity for achieving the "impossible" such as sending men to the moon. The top official of the company that has had much to do with producing the hardware for the moon program, in effect, expressed this view when he observed that he could see no reason why "... modern business management techniques ... cannot be applied to this problem which affects not only us but our children and grandchildren."

Mr. Willard F. Rockwell, Jr., chairman of the board of North American Rockwell Corporation — a company that is concerned with both space and ocean floor exploration — suggests a special committee that could be appointed by the Administration composed of industrialists concerned about and familiar with the problems of conservation — as well as professional conservationists. This committee or council should formulate a conservation code with teeth in it. Trade associations, as well as local business groups, would be encouraged to subscribe to the committee's recommendations and the latter, in turn, would be responsible for local business adherence to sound conservation practices.

## Farm News This Week

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As Mr. Rockwell observes, "... if we can fly three guys around the moon and get them back safely, making the filthy Hudson River a beautiful salmon stream again, the way it once was, should be no problem."

## Tools Of Oppression

A recent news item in The New York Times reports that, "The Castro Government has ordered two million members of its vigilance committees to intensify surveillance over the remaining six million Cubans." This is like having two million policemen to maintain order in New York City. Today Cuba represents police statism with a vengeance.

Perhaps it is a good thing to have Cuba — a prime example of political oppression — a mere 90 miles from the U.S. doorstep. It should be a lesson to a nation whose people have never known oppression, political persecution, or feared unrestrained police authority — a people who may have grown a little careless with the liberties that were virtually handed to them on a silver platter by our country's founders.

## Across The Fence Row

"One of the interesting things about our presidential elections is the amount of dirt the two parties dig up about each other. We are indebted ... for this gem: 'Since the Democrats took over the Agricultural Department eight years ago, we have lost more than 800,000 farms in America. We have lost more than four and a half million farmers. But during that same span of years, we have added in excess of 20,000 workers to the payroll in the Department of Agriculture. The number of farms is down 20 per cent. The number of farmers is down 29 percent. But the size of the Agricultural Department is up 23 per cent.'" — Lake Worth, Fla., Herald.

## Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor:

For your readers who wish to break the daily drug habit (I'm speaking of health pills) I offer a well known country remedy in liquid form that has all the required elements for good health plus a few extras.

I've learned it contains the regular A, B, C, D and E vitamins as well as: riboflavin, niacin, pyridoxine, pantothenic acid and folic acid (all in the vitamin B complex). It has them all.

As for minerals, it has every one known to be needed by the human body. A few are: phosphorus, potassium, magnesium, chloride, calcium, sodium and iron. I found we need 19 minerals. This drink has all 19 plus 10 more besides.

Protein has become a big thing these days. Doctors say we must have 10 different ones (amino acids) for good health. This old fashioned country remedy is big in protein, having all 10 plus another eight.

I've discovered that doctors, dentists, nurses and beauty experts know of this drink and recommend it.

Now you probably think this must be a very expensive potion. Actually, its price is only 33½¢ a quart, home delivered. We call it milk. Tastes great, too!

A Farmer  
(Name withheld)

## 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 near normal with daytime highs in the upper 50's to 60's and over-night lows in the upper 30's to 40's. Normal high-low for the period is 68-45.

Rain may total one-half inch or greater with general rain likely Monday or Tuesday.

**THE BIBLE SPEAKS**  
BY LAWRENCE W. ALTHOUSE

## CREDENTIALS

Lesson for April 27, 1969

Background Scripture: Deuteronomy 6:4-9, Joshua 1:8, Luke 4:16-22, Romans 16:25-27, 2 Timothy 3:14-16, 2 Peter 1:16-19.

On my bookshelves there are a number of books that are left over from my childhood. As I read their fading titles, I remember with what avid interest and preoccupation I read them. Some I read several times. I held on to them through the years as if they would be of great worth. Carefully I protected them with covers, mended them, repaired their bindings. I could not believe that there would come a time when their value would have diminished.



Rev. Althouse where we live

### Where we live

Today I see them differently. Although most of these books were written only twenty-five or thirty years ago, they are, for the most part, outdated. I had once thought of saving them for my own children, but today I realize that, with a few exceptions, these books would be of little interest to children in these times. Their day is gone. Time has passed them by.

The few exceptions to the above judgement are those books that deal with themes and ideas that do not become obsolete with the passage of time. Their characters face problems and situations much like our own, even though the historical circumstances may have changed considerably. These books remain fresh for us because they still speak to us where we live today.

Someone has defined good literature as "news that stays news." Is this not the secret of the Bible's authority? This ancient book — more accurately: collection of books — written by men whose circumstances were so different than our own, still is "news." The ancient wisdom retains its freshness. As Soren

Kierkegaard, the Danish theologian, has put it, "... you must remember to be constantly saying to yourself, 'It is speaking to me; I am the one it is talking about.'"

### The only "proof"

The authority of the Bible, therefore, is its ability to remain "news" generation after generation, its power to speak to our lives and our needs, its capacity to change the lives of men. We cannot "prove" the authority of the Bible, we can only demonstrate its authoritativeness for our own lives. He who has sustained a tragic personal loss can only testify that without the comfort of the Bible, he could not have survived. Another, who has found vital counsel in this book, can only witness to the direction he has received. Still another whose life has been turned from darkness to light, can only speak of how God has used his scriptures to salvage a useless life. How often people have told me of a particular verse or passage bringing them the strength or inspiration they so greatly needed in some crisis.

Katherine Mansfield, the writer, tells us that she did not come to the Bible until her mature years. She had avoided it completely in her youth. In later years while living in exile in the mountains, gripped by the tuberculosis that was slowly claiming her life, she discovered the book for the first time. "I feel so bitterly," she wrote, "that I have never known these facts before. They ought to be part of my very breathing."

### Words upon your heart

Is this not what the writer of Deuteronomy was saying? "And these words which I command you this day shall be upon your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise" (6:6,7). The tragedy of ignoring the Bible is not that we "hurt God's feelings," but that we rob our lives of something that is food and drink for the soul.

We might as well ask for an explanation of the authority of food and water, as belabor the authority of the Bible. Its credentials are the blessings it brings us. Thus wrote Peter, "You will do well to pay attention to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place."

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Released by Community Press Service)



## NOW IS THE TIME

By Max Smith  
Lancaster County Ag.

### To Check Corn Planting

Despite the weather the past week corn planting time is approaching, this very important grain crop deserves careful attention from planting to harvest. Growers should decide on the plant population per acre and take time to be certain the planter will drop this number of kernels plus about 10% mortality. Check the plants on the lane or driveway so that the desired number of kernels will be planted. Corn for silage should be planted from 3 to 4 thousand plants per acre thicker than corn for grain. Take time in preparing for the important job of corn planting.

### To Keep Good Records

This is not a new suggestion but continues to be a very important one. I refer not only to farm accounts but to accurate records on the use of all chemicals and spray materials. Such records are available at our office for both

and crop pesticide records. Follow the directions and keep accurate records of the date, amount, and materials applied. You may regret the neglect of this practice.

### To Beware Of Wood Ticks

Spotted fever may be transmitted to human beings after being bitten by a wood tick; these insects are more common in this part of the state and may be found in parks, woodlots, woods or other places with a number of trees and plenty of dense shade. Families are urged to be on the alert for the ticks when spending time in picnic areas or wooded places. Symptoms of spotted fever are rash on the wrists and ankles, later spreading to all parts of the body, high fever along with headache and general muscular aches. Folks with these symptoms should be careful! If the above symptoms are present at least two weeks.