

## From Where We Stand...

### A Soil Steward

A soil steward has been defined as one who recognizes land and water as gifts from God. And we would add that gifts should be used wisely. Especially gifts from God.

A land owner, if he is a good steward will without question improve his land to the best of his ability. With today's information, no one can hide behind ignorance as an excuse for letting his top soil go down the river. This is just as true of the urban homeowner with a big back yard as well as the farmer.

The deciding factor in determining action on conservation is: Do we have the desire to conserve our land, our water supply and our forests. In short, do we look at our resources as loans, granted for a lifetime, to be passed on to the next generation in not just as good condition but better condition. This is really a matter of attitude and emotion. Do we desire to keep our basic resources

With soil stewardship week continuing until tomorrow, we visited some of the management steps that are presently being taken in Lancaster County to reduce soil loss and improve crop land. In our visits we saw the spirits of responsible people at work on the land representing hundreds of other local farmers who are concerned about their gifts

We commend those who take their responsibility seriously, but much more must be done. More people must become interested enough in land to do more than thinking. As D. A. Williams has said, "We have, in our history as Americans, made giant strides across the land. Now we must retrace our steps and look at the land with new eyes — the eyes of stewardship, in which use and responsibility are seen as the unbreakable ties that binds us to nature.

"We will serve best what we love the most, for the desire to serve is founded on love. The desire to serve has made many of us dedicate ourselves more fully to God, to fellow men, and to the care of the natural resources we have inherited. There is a kinship here, for in service to one, we find reason for service to the others."

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

### More On Meat Inspection

How often have you, your friends or your associates used the expression "there ought to be a law"? It is safe, your answer would have to be "too many times to count." Too many legislators take our semihumorous complaint literally — and we are swamped with laws.

Nowhere has the penchant for passing laws been more in evidence than in matters dealing with meat inspection. A meet-

ing Monday night revealed many things, not the least important that the federal government has passed meat inspection laws that are impractical. Even the federal people are beginning to admit it by relaxing their interpretation of the law.

Not that we are against clean, wholesome meat and meat products. The fact is, we are for clean edible products of any kind. But, based on dealings with local butchers, we always have been getting a good product from our local producer-retailers in Lancaster County. We believe most of them, if not all of them, handle their product as if they were going to eat it themselves. They are simply part of a different "ball-game", than the huge meat packing establishments. (If we may use a word coined Monday night.)

In a way, we can't blame our federal law makers. They were fed a bit of "hog-wash" that attempted to portray the meat industry as completely corrupt. But, stories of beef being broken on an open dock, by a dirt road, in 95-degree weather with flies and maggots present just doesn't represent conditions in the meat processing industry. But in an effort to push a federal meat inspection law through congress, word went out to get evidence and that was the kind of evidence that was obtained. Much of the evidence was later proven "at least misleading and perhaps wholly false". But the law is on the books for the individual producer to live with.

Pennsylvania has a good meat inspection law. Let's do whatever is necessary at the federal level to let our inspectors follow it. With the exemption the state law gives to little producers retailing meat, we can go back to producing good quality meat and meat products in a sensible manner as we always have been in the past. At least, that's the way it looks from where we stand.

## Across The Fence Row

Someone has said: "If you have faith enough in any one idea to hang onto it and work at it, you will either land in jail, in the headlines, in public office, or in the biggest house on the block." Everyone shapes his own career: He either drifts with the tide or steers straight for a predetermined landing place on the farther shore. The world stands aside for the man who knows where he is going, but it crowds the idle dreamer and the careless drifter into the sidelines.

Every man carries with him the world in which he must live.

"In a world where many accepted standards of behavior are being challenged, we must practice as well as defend such time-honored virtues as integrity, diligence and professional excellence." — Anthony G. DeLorenzo, Vice President in charge of Public Relations, General Motors Corporation

Patience is the ability to idle your motor when you feel like stripping your gears.

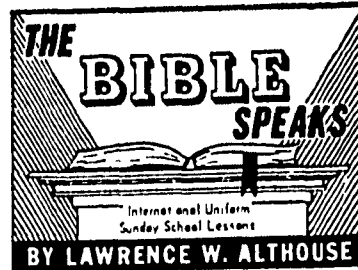
Really great people never think of themselves as being great — and as far as that goes, really small people never think of themselves as being small, either.

## 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 little day to day change. Daytime highs are expected to be in the 70's and over-night lows in the 50's. Normal high-low for the period is 76-52.

Rain may total greater than one-half inch as showers or thunder showers Sunday through Monday.



INTERNATIONAL UNIFORM SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS  
BY LAWRENCE W. ALTHOUSE  
**THE KEYS**  
Lesson for May 18, 1969

Background Scripture: John 5:37-47, 16:12-15, Acts 8:26-35, 17:10-12, James 1:22-25  
Devotional Reading: Ephesians 6:10-20.

Multitudes have seen one of the motion picture versions of "Mutiny on the Bounty." Others have read the novel by Nordhoff and Hall.

Many may not know that this is a true story, nor be aware of the fascinating sequel. After the mutineers sank their ship, they set ashore on a lonely island off the coast of South America, Pitcairn Island. At first, the nine sailors, six natives, ten women and one girl of fifteen lived peaceably together. In time, however, one of the sailors discovered how to distill alcohol and the island soon became a nightmare of violence and debauchery.

**Rev. Althouse**  
Dust on the Bible  
Only one sailor survived this tragic incident, Alexander Smith. In one of the chests that had been taken from the Bounty he found a copy of the Bible. Appalled by what had happened in this island "paradise," Smith began to teach his fellow exiles the principles of the Bible. In time, not only his own life was transformed, but the life of the island colony as well. This is what can happen when the Bible is used with any degree of determination. But it must be read! Merely possessing the Bible is of little value. Someone has rightly said that "The devil is not afraid of the Bible that has dust on it." Or as David F. Nygren has put it, "If all the neglected Bibles were dusted simultaneously, we would have a record dust storm and the sun would go into eclipse for a whole week."

We have a strange double-standard with the Bible. On the one hand, most of us believe the Bible is essential for the Christian. On the other hand, however,

many of us apparently do not indicate by our use of it that we believe it is essential for us! L. R. Akers did not much exaggerate when he said that "There are ten men who will fight for the Bible to one who will read it." Yet, what God desires for the Bible is not defenders but readers.

**Eager Examination**  
Many people buy the Bible, thumb through it, and then put it aside, wondering why they didn't get more out of it. These could profit much by the example of the people of Berea. The writer of Acts tells us that "they received the word with all eagerness, examining the scriptures daily to see if these things were so" (17:11).  
John Ruskin once remarked that "The Bible is the one Book to which any thoughtful man may go with any honest question of life and destiny and find the answer of God by honest searching." The Bereans found the answers to their questions because they pursued them with "honest searching." There was an "eagerness" in their approach to the Bible. Their approach was not that of thumbing through the scriptures, but of carefully "examining" them. They came to the Bible, not occasionally, but "daily." Many of us, unfortunately, would like "Berean" results, but without "Berean" efforts.

**Doers of the word**  
There is yet another key to fruitful Bible study. It is not enough to grasp its truths with the mind, we must also make them incarnate in our lives. "Of all commentaries upon the Scriptures," said John Donne, "good examples are the best and liveliest." If the Bible is ever to mean anything to us and others, we must make it come alive in the way that we live.  
"But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves" (James 1:22). The scriptures, says James, are like a mirror in which we can see ourselves as we really are. But if we go away from the mirror and do nothing about what we see, the mirror is useless. Only if we act upon what we learn of ourselves in the Bible, can we truly understand and appropriate its meaning for us.

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**NOW IS THE TIME...**  
By Max Smith  
Lancaster County Agent

**To Recognize Forage Maturity**  
One of the most important factors in harvesting top quality hay or silage is to cut the crop in the proper stage of maturity. Many producers permit the forage to get too ripe and lose valuable feed nutrients. Small grains should be cut in the blossom to early milk stage and grasses cut at heading time. Most legumes will be best when cut in the bud to early blossom stage. An Extension Circular, "Silos and Silage" will give all details.

**To Keep Pesticide Records**  
This is a very important farm practice that I'm afraid is not being done on many farms. An accurate record of the use of all sprays and chemicals on both livestock and crops ought turn out to be a life saver, proof that the producer followed the prop-

er recommendations is essential. Record blanks are available from all custom spray operators as well as from our Extension Office.  
**Livestock Producers**  
Many livestock producers with pasture areas should be giving some thought to clipping the pasture in the next few weeks. Most of the common grasses will be heading soon and many of the weeds will be coming into bloom. A mowing during the latter part of May will encourage new growth of the grasses and prevent the weeds from going to seed. Any excess first growth of forage will dry and be consumed by the animals as they graze. Good pasture management requires mowing of the area every 4 to 6 weeks during the growing season.

## Farm News This Week

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