

From Where We Stand...

Successful Experiment

We live in the post moon-walk age. Us older people have to make the adjustment in our thinking, because it is a fact, though we have heard of some people who still don't believe it.

And some adjustment will need to be made in our thinking also if the no-til corn planting method continues to show up as good as it has for the farmers reporting in the feature story of this issue. We would like to cling to the plowed and finely harrowed Lancaster County fields of the past. It just seems to be more like the Garden Spot we are acclaimed to be.

But facts are facts. And if a few more seasons produce the same results as was evident in no-til corn plantings this week, we will have to be classed with the people who don't believe in the moon landing if we don't accept the facts.

Every farmer we talked to is going to plant no-til again next year. They like the time saved. They like the reduction in soil loss. They even like the savings in expenses and machinery wear and most of all they like the promising yields of the no-til fields.

True, as one farmer said, no-til is still an experiment. But so was the moon walk. That doesn't say it wasn't done, or that it wasn't done successfully. The same can be said for no-til corn planting. At least that's the way it looks from where we stand.

Music Reduces Dark Cutters

Just when you think you have heard of everything — something else comes along. And in this day of changes in the beef industry (longer, taller cattle instead of the short stocky ones that won the shows 10 years ago) you are trained to listen to them all.

According to research at Kansas State University the sounds a steer hears before slaughter affects the meat produced. They found that loud noises prior to slaughter caused "dark cutters" in beef. Meat labeled a dark cutter has an abnormal dark color after slaughter and is normally avoided by the consumer and for this reason meat packers and retailers want to avoid this condition.

We know of carcass contests where carcasses which would have made it into the championship circles were labeled dark cutters. What do you do? Would you believe playing soothing music before slaughter?

It was found at the Cudahy Company packing plant in Wichita, Kansas, that when the soft music usually played for its workers was not on they had an increase in the number of dark cutters produced.

From this a study was conducted at Kansas State with two groups of cattle being

handled the same except one group was handled as usual and the other group was subjected to recordings of traffic, airplanes, and heavy equipment before slaughter. The results showed the latter animals produced darker meat than the control group. Dr. Allen of Kansas State University says that if music affects cattle, it may affect sheep and hogs.

For a long time many showmen of beef herds have used radios in their show barn and then took it on the show circuit for their contented cows. It would appear from these limited tests that sounds and noises do place more stress on cattle than we thought and perhaps — showmen should be more selective with their music this show season. It just might eliminate most of the current popular songs.

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

A Loser's Game

In the American experience, inflation has always been associated with booming business and general good times. Those who warned that continued deficit spending and debt accumulation by government, without regard to the taxpaying ability of the people, would lead to disaster were labeled reactionaries by new-style liberals who believed that government spending could open the door to attainment of the highest human aspirations.

Now we are beginning to learn what other nations have learned throughout history — that beyond a certain point the progress of inflation is accompanied by hardship rather than good times. Economists are beginning to speak of the possibility of a recession and inflation at the same time. Time magazine summarized a lengthy list of spectacular wage settlements — settlements that range as high as a 49 per cent increase in 13 months for construction workers in one Ohio city. But far from bringing good times to workers, these dramatic wage increases are becoming increasingly illusory.

Wages are outrunning output. Says Time: "During the last three years . . . the purchasing power of the average U.S. worker has done no better than hold steady." One union official, conscious of the trend, concedes: "Every time we get a raise, the prices increase and the hospitals go up as well. Somebody should stand still. If the others stopped, I think our men would be happy to stop too." The question is, are we ready to stop following the doctrine of false liberalism that has set the stage for a "recession" with inflation.

Across The Fence Row

Nothing, no, Nothing, causes more accidents than the Other Fellow.

* * *

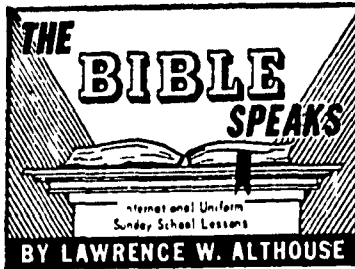
Another example of a hazardous life is that of a long-tailed cat in a house full of rocking chairs.

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 daytime highs in the 80's and over-night lows in the upper 60's. Seasonable temperatures are expected Saturday with a warming trend toward Sunday through the end of the period. Normal high-low for the period is 80-59.

Precipitation may total up to one-half inch as rain Saturday and scattered showers and thunder showers toward the end of the period.



THE GREAT LIE

Lesson for September 7, 1969

Background Scripture: 1 Samuel 8 through 12, 15
 Devotional Reading: Deuteronomy 17:14-17.

In a few short months the American people will go once again to the polls. In the interval between now and then the game of politics will command a lion's share of our national attention and energy. In the midst of all the color, noise and high spirits that have become so much a part of the American political scene, we are particularly vulnerable to a most dangerous deception. This

Rev. Althouse deception goes far beyond what the various candidates will say about themselves, each other, the issues, or the parties.

"Thus says the Lord . . ."

In Romans 1:25, Paul says: "because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and served the creature rather than the Creator . . ." In other words, Paul is saying, we often deceive ourselves and thus give to men the sovereignty and allegiance that belongs to God alone. We look to human beings with divine expectations and are thus doomed to disappointment in our political life.

Paul was not the first Biblical writer to sound this warning. We find this same concern in 1 Samuel. You will remember that when the Israelites entered the land of Canaan under Joshua, they then dispersed throughout the land, each tribe settling in its own designated territory. During the period of the Judges, other Israelites formed a loose confederacy of independent tribes. When the tribes were threatened with grave danger from time to time, they would co-operate briefly under the leadership of men like Gideon.

From these experiences of co-operation came a growing desire for a more permanent unity in the

form of a centralized government. They wanted to abandon the confederacy and replace it with a monarchy. They had seen the kingdoms of their neighbors and witnessed all that could be accomplished with a strong central government. So they clamored for a king.

To fight our battles

Samuel, their spiritual leader, vigorously opposed this request. Yet, when he had had his say, "the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel; and they said, 'No! but we will have a king over us that we also will be like all the nations, and that our king may govern us and fight our battles.'" Still Samuel resisted until at last the Lord intervened and told him: "Hearken to their voice and make them a king."

Now this story does not mean that the whole Old Testament is pessimistic about the establishment of a monarchy, but it does indicate that throughout the Old Testament there is a recurring uneasiness about it. Not that government in itself was evil; it was what men did with their governmental institutions. Among all the ancient peoples, therefore, the Hebrews were among the first to regard the monarchy, not as a divine institution handed down from heaven, but as one quite human. Though they realized the need for these human institutions, they also fully recognized the tendency of these institutions to become a substitute for God.

History's confirmation

How often history has confirmed the judgment of both Paul and Samuel. Not only has there been a willingness on the part of man to assume the role of political messiah, but there has also been an even greater willingness on the part of the great masses of people to accord to them an almost superhuman or divine nature.

Samuel warned the people about this great self-deception and then helped them to choose a king. This is instructive for us, too: let us ask his aid in choosing our leaders, but when we have cast out ballots, let us not fail to continue to serve God in the responsibilities of our own Christian citizenship.

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Attend The Church Of Your Choice Sunday

Read Lancaster Farming For Full Market Reports

NOW IS THE TIME . . .

By Max Smith
 Lancaster County Agent



To Beware of Silo Gas

I'd like to repeat this warning as we go into the silo filling season. With larger silos and with more liberal use of commercial fertilizers, we seem to have more dangerous accumulations of silo gas. Most of these gases are odorless, heavier than air, and some are colorless; however, one of the most common is nitrogen dioxide which is yellow. Farmers are urged to beware of these gas conditions at silo filling time and for 10 days afterwards.

To Seed Certified Grains

Small grains will be seeded in the next month and growers are

urged to use the best seed available; in most cases this means certified seed; the other inputs into a grain crop will be the same such as labor, fertilizer, and overhead; therefore, the greatest returns have the best chances with certified seeds. Don't plant the unknown; it may be very costly.

To Save Nitrogen on Barley

On many farms the problem of lodging with winter barley reduces the grain crop. In most cases this is due to high fertility and too much nitrogen; growers are urged to use only phosphorus-potash fertilizers on barley this fall and do not top-dress with any kind of manure.

Farm News This Week

Jay Smoker Wins Kunzler Scholarship — Page 1

No-Til Planted Corn Fields Show Excellent Promise — Page 1

Mrs. Brubaker Has Exhibited Produce For Thirty-Five Years — Page 20

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