

From Where We Stand...

Hint Of The End Of Summer

The weather has been a bit "fallish" this week giving us a sense of what time of year it is again. Early risers on the farm don't need the calendar to tell them that autumn is here. The official date of its arrival isn't until September 23 but the cool, crisp mornings and the foliage and trees that show tints of color herald the coming event already.

The corn is starting to dry on the bottom leaves as the ears start to dent. Everywhere you go, silo fillers are working full time to get the abundant crop where it belongs.

And the County tobacco crop is fast being hung in the sheds after a halt in cutting for needed rains last week. It is a heavy crop, farmers say.

Some early fall seeding has been done with picturesque fields of newly started alfalfa getting the moisture boost needed.

In the gardens, the tomatoes are starting to show the end of bearing, red beets are bulging their bottoms above ground and the celery is getting ready for the trench. Which means a hint of the end of the growing season is in the air and that is the signal for the start of the local fairs. So, we'll see you at Solanco next week.

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

Time For Farm Freedom

The American Farm Bureau Federation with nearly 1.8 million member farm families has set its course for gradual elimination of federal management of agriculture. The goal is to free farmers from the red tape, regulation and political market manipulation that have consistently been part of federal agricultural programs.

In a statement before the House Agriculture Committee, Mr. Charles B. Shuman, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, has urged Congress to enact "a broad-based program to help individual farmers make needed adjustments, increase prices, expand markets, cut costs and thus provide the basis for increased net farm income. . . . Despite the expenditure of billions of dollars, farm problems have not been solved, and farmers have not achieved a satisfactory level of net farm income. . . . New legislation should be enacted this year so that farmers can plan ahead. The hour is already late."

The proposed legislation supported by the Farm Bureau over a five-year period, provides for an acreage retirement program to adjust the supply of farm products to the demands of the free, competitive marketplace. Acreage allotments and the costly price support system would be with-

Farm News This Week

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Stauffer Homestead Farm Rooted In Local History — Page 1

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LANCASTER FARMING

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drawn. Among other practical approaches, help would be available for farmers unable to make a living in agriculture and in need of training and financial assistance to get established in something else.

The agricultural resources of the United States are too vital to be left saddled with the rigidities and uncertainties of federal farm programs too often governed by political necessity rather than economics. Agriculture, considering the failure of past farm programs, should be given the freedom to take a new direction in running its own affairs.

Up To The People

A new fiscal breeze is blowing through the land and evidence of its impact is seen in the report that the federal budget, after eight years of red ink, ended fiscal 1969 with a surplus of more than \$3 billion. This is a sharp reversal from fiscal year 1968, when the federal government recorded a budget deficit of \$25.2 billion.

It remains to be seen whether any long-term control of federal spending levels will be politically possible. The brakes are on; they are being felt and not always with pleasure by those who are affected. Controlling inflation means such things as high interest rates and difficulty in financing home buying. It means greater resistance to costly settlements in labor negotiations. It means the slowing of business expansion and, finally, even though 1970 is a congressional election year, it means restraint in expansion of federal programs and services in which millions of people, who are also voters, have a vested interest.

Only the people of the United States, by their patience, understanding and support of control and common sense in federal spending policies can assure that a few years from now the dollar will still be worth somewhat more than the paper it is printed on.

Across The Fence Row

Today's youth are more sophisticated. If Booth Tarkington were to write "Seventeen" today, he would have to call it "Twelve." — Union Register, Ore.

Heard at the coffee table: "My wife may not be a good driver, but when it comes to parking, she does a bang-up job." — Holden Progress, Holden, Mo.

Somehow, newspaper editors wind up on the mailing lists of a wide variety of free papers and publications and things. We received a note from one of them the other day: "Because of the increased cost of printing and mailing, taxes and inflation, this publication comes to you twice as free as it used to." — Paris News, Paris, Tex.

First Salesman: What do you sell?
Second Salesman: Salt.
First Salesman: Why, I'm a salt seller, too.
Second Salesman: Shake!

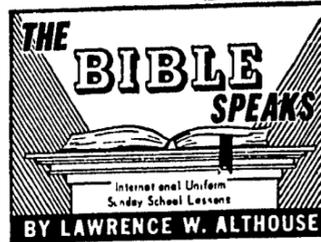
Real Estate Prospect: "Good Heavens! That's a tumbled-down looking shack. WHAT'S holding it together?" Agent: "The termites are holding hands."

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 high's in the low 80's. A warm trend is expected Saturday through Monday and then turning cooler at the end of the period.

Rain may total one-fourth to one-half inch as scattered showers Tuesday and Wednesday.



OUTWARD APPEARANCE

Lesson for September 14, 1969

Background Scripture: 1 Samuel 16: 18-16, 24; 2 Samuel 11: 16, 21-11, 5: 12, 6: 15, 12: 15.
Devotional Reading: 1 Samuel 16: 6-13.

On the day that President Abraham Lincoln stood among the graves on Cemetery Hill and delivered what we know today as the Gettysburg Address, a newspaper editor from Harrisburg, Pa. stood in the audience and



put away his notepad when the awkward-looking chief executive began to speak. There would be no need, he mused, to record these words. Returning to Harrisburg, he wrote his story, paying lavish praise to the other speakers. Of Lincoln, he wrote: "We pass over the silly remarks of the President; for the credit of the nation, we are willing that the veil of oblivion shall be dropped over them and that they shall no more be repeated or thought of."

Looking the part

Like so many of Lincoln's contemporaries, the editor had judged him on the basis of his appearance which was hardly attractive. His face might be generously described as "homely" and his whole stance and bearing had an air of awkwardness that seemed more in keeping with the "backwoods" of the frontier from which he had come. Lincoln did not "look the part" of a President, let alone a great President.

Yet, often we find that a man does not have to "look the part." Long before David had become king of Israel, God had warned Saul concerning him: "Do not look upon his appearance or the height of his stature . . . for the Lord sees not as man sees; man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart" (1 Samuel 16:7).

Apparently David was not nearly so impressive-looking as Saul. David, it seems, was quite short in stature, while Saul was

strikingly tall. David did not look the part of either warrior or monarch. Yet God chose David to replace Saul for reasons of his own wisdom. In time, however, the people realized that Saul was not nearly the leader that David was. What was the reason for David's success, they wondered? The answer: his commitment to God and the covenant.

An ambitious program

At the death of Saul, therefore, the people began to look to David. First the southern tribes sought him out and established him as their leader. For seven and one-half years he ruled the tribes of Judah from Hebron, a hill town about twenty miles southwest of Jerusalem. During this period the northern tribes of Israel watched him and gradually were won over to him. Finally, a delegation of Israelites came to him at Hebron and asked him to be their king as well. The man who had not "looked the part" made the twelve tribes one nation!

For the first time, then, the people of the various tribes were seeing themselves as one people under God. The reason for their unity would not lie in their similarities (for each tribe had unique characteristics and heritage), nor in their common geography (for the north and south were geographically unlike), nor in their mutual dependence (the northerners did not really need their cousins in the south); rather, their unity could be traced to one factor alone: the one God desired them to be his people!

Inconspicuous, but . . .

When he had made his covenant with the people at Hebron, David set about to begin a three-point program: (1) to unify the tribes of north and south into one nation; (2) to capture the city of Jerusalem and make it the central capital of the new nation; (3) to establish amicable relationships of mutual respect with neighboring nations. It was an ambitious program, but this inconspicuous-looking man with the help of God accomplished all this and more.

Let us remember that when next we look only "on the outward appearance."

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NOW IS THE TIME . . .

By Max Smith
Lancaster County Agent

To Do Testing

The value of both soil and forage more farmers each year. At this time of the year both soil sample and samples of hay and silage may be tested with economical results. Fall is a good time to find out the lime and fertilizer needs of the soil so that proper purchases may be made. Also as the hay and silage crops are stored, and the winter feed program is planned, it is to the advantage of both dairymen and livestock feeders to know the real feeding value of their crops. Testing does not cost the producer, it usually pays him.

To Sow Cover Crops

Fall is a good time to seed open ground to a cover crop until next spring. Crops such as domestic ryegrass, field brome-grass, or one of the winter grains

will make considerable growth this fall, which may be used for pasture, and then the new growth of next spring may be plowed under for additional organic matter. Good management suggests that all ground go through the winter with some type of a vegetative cover.

To Pack Silage

Producers feeding from one of the horizontal or trench silos are reminded of the value of chopping the forage fine and packing it tightly. Good management is very important in handling a horizontal silo if spoilage is to be kept to a minimum. A heavy tractor in the silo during the filling process will press out the air and prevent serious settling. The silage should be tightly covered within 48 hours after filling.