

From Where We Stand...

Problems Seem A Little Less

What will anthropologists of the future think when their "digs" unearth tons of cans, cars, bottles and tires of the current generation? According to Richard D. Vaughan, director of the Bureau of Solid Waste Management of the U.S. Public Health Service, "in 1920 an average of 2.75 pounds of waste was collected daily from each person in the U.S. Today, this figure has grown to 5.3 pounds, and it is estimated that by 1980, the per capita waste collection will be eight pounds a day. From New York to San Francisco, cities are running out of disposal space. One year's rubbish from 10,000 people covers an acre of ground seven feet deep. . ."

It has been estimated that Americans, in a typical year, throw away 48 billion cans, 26 billion bottles, more than 30 million tons of paper, four million tons of plastics, and 100 million rubber tires weighing a million tons. Also, it is estimated that by 1980, Americans will be discarding 10 million vehicles a year. In a similar vein, even though "noise pollution" isn't as dramatic as smog, environmental-health specialists agree that the daily decibel diet of noise constitutes "a physical as well as a psychic hazard."

"A recent survey showed that the average decibel reading for a New York City street corner at rush hour is 95; many medical experts believe that continuous exposure to any count above 85 can cause hearing loss. Moreover, a Federal study has estimated that the environmental din is doubling every 10 years. At that rate, physicist Vern Knudsen has predicted, the down-town areas of the largest U.S. cities will eventually become as deadly as the ancient Chinese noise tortures. . ." One Citizens' anti-noise ad reads: "Noise pollution won't kill you. It can only drive you nuts or make you deaf."

As farmers, we are privileged to have open fields and meadows and maybe even a back wooded thicket on our farms where we can stop the tractor for a few minutes and be alone in the quiet of nature to refresh the body, mind and soul. We have our problems as farmers, that's sure. But when thus alone with our Maker, our problems seem just a little less than the guy's problems who must live on the street corner at rush hour. At least that's the way it looks from where we stand.

Dear Consumer . . .

We know you're concerned about higher prices. We are, too. The wife just bought new shoes, clothes, pencils and notebooks for the back to school crowd. Whew!

But about those meat prices . . . you've been looking for some answers. We'll answer first by asking a question. How much more money does your husband make now

than he did in 1951? Unless he's a pensioner or unemployed, we'll bet it's no less than 65% more and possibly as much as 150% more. It's none of our business, you might say, and you're right — we really don't mean that you should tell us. We just want you to stop and think about it yourself. Of course, generally speaking, it is our business because it affects our business in two ways:

(1) part of that wage — only about 4½% of it, actually — goes for the purchase of the products of our industry . . . beef, veal, pork, lamb, sausage, etc.

(2) each increase in your husband's salary is reflected in higher prices people in our industry must pay to stay in business and to care for their families.

How much more do you think the husbands of the ladies on the nation's farms and ranches are making today? Once again, it's probably none of your business . . . but in general terms it is your business because it affects what you pay for meat products. You may not believe it — but we've got the figures to prove it — the livestockman is making no more today than he did in 1951. Earlier this year, he finally got back to where he was in the early 1950's insofar as income from sale of his meat animals is concerned. Which means after nearly 20 years he is once again realizing something like a reasonable return on his investments. And even now those prices are moving downward again.

For your sake as well as his, Mrs. Boycotter, we hope those prices don't slide back to where they were. If they do, it's a lead-pipe cinch many livestock producers will give it up and pursue less uncertain endeavors, rather than go through another period of financial drought. If that happens, this industry's record-breaking production of meat products would reverse itself. Beef, pork and lamb would become scarce food items, simply because there wouldn't be that many people willing to take the risk of producing at a loss. And then meat prices would really get high.

If the farmer-rancher isn't getting the big slice of the meat price pie, then who is? Is it the meat packer? With net profits of less than one percent . . . hardly! The meat retailer? Most of what he gets, over what he pays, is devoured by labor and equipment costs. No, he's not the culprit . . . not at his 1-2% profit.

We have read some newspaper accounts quoting you, Mrs. Boycotter, as saying you think the big profits must be going to some "middle-man." You are dead right, ma'am. And do you know who that middleman is? It is inflation! It is the cost of everything, including your husband's wages, that's driving up the cost of everything. Everything!

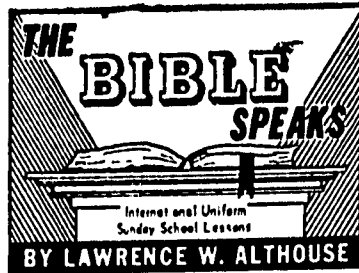
No one likes to pay more for anything! And when meat prices go up, they are more noticeable because grocery-shopping is a frequent thing, and bless you, meat is a favorite food of yours! But, in the spirit of fair play . . . how about taking a look at what you are paying for other goods and services . . . and how much more you have of the good life than you had 20 years ago? Meat is part of that good life . . . as one of the more enjoyable necessities. You could boycott it right into the luxury category. We don't want that and we don't think you do 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 near normal with daytime highs in the 70's and over-night lows in the 50's. Cool Saturday with some moderation thereafter and cool again at the end of the period.

Rain may total one-half inch or more as showers and thunder showers about Tuesday.



THE EDIFACE COMPLEX

Lesson for September 21, 1969

Background Scriptures: 2 Samuel 7:1-29; 12:1-23; 1 Kings 1:32-37; 2:1-4, 6:1-38, 8.
Devotional Reading: 1 Kings 8:22-30.

In the reign of King David, worship was one of the most important unifying factors in the nation. Their worship of the one God brought closer together these people of various tribal backgrounds. There are some today who observe that worship in America today often seems to be one of the causes of our national disunity. Even in this day of increasing ecumenism among Christians, we still have difficulty in coming together for common experiences of worship.

We are often like the man who said, "We will each worship God in our own way: you in your way and I in God's way." Perhaps we are too preoccupied with determining which is the "right way" to worship God. This was the very question which the Samaritan woman raised with Jesus at the well. In his answer, Jesus indicated that place and form are always secondary to the spirit and sincerity of the worshipper.

Priorities

King David wanted to build a temple in Jerusalem as a means of unifying his nation under God. But God told him that the temple could come later. A central place of worship did not guarantee a unified people. The place of worship would not be nearly so important as the spirit in which the nation worshipped. This must have disappointed David for, like us, he had somewhat of an "ediface complex." As any churchman knows, it is always easier to raise money for a new church building than for an expanded program. In the new nation of Israel, however, David was to concentrate on program and the temple, he was assured, would

come later. It is natural for us to have our preferences in terms of where and how to worship. Yet, perhaps all of us could afford to give up some of our rigidity on this subject. The experience of John Wesley is instructive for us. He had been born into a religious home, his father an Anglican priest. So John had received a good preparation for the Christian faith. Yet his soul was restless and he was constantly searching for new insights.

"Strangely warmed"

On May 24, 1758, he went to a service of worship in the magnificent St. Paul's Cathedral in London. There was nothing special in this service — its features were dictated by historical Anglican usage — but the closing words of the anthem seemed to speak especially to him:

O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him there is plenteous redemption.

And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities, (Psalms 130:7,8)

Later that same evening, Wesley attended a meeting of Moravians on Aldersgate Street. He had first come into contact with these German Christians on a voyage to Georgia. He had found that in the midst of the most terrifying storms at sea these people exhibited a remarkable faith in God's providence, singing their hymns with joy while others on the ship cowered in fright.

God's touch

Thus, on the night of May 24, 1738, John Wesley, a priest of the Church of England, sat in a meeting of humble Moravians and while reading Martin Luther's "Preface to the Epistle to the Romans," had a unique spiritual experience. Writing of it in his diary, he said: "At about a quarter before nine . . . I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ — Christ alone for my salvation."

He had found what he was looking for and two entirely different kinds of worship had prepared his heart to receive it. There was for him no one "right way." In the beauty of the Anglican service and the simplicity of the Moravian meeting, he had felt God's touch.

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NOW IS THE TIME . . .

By Max Smith
Lancaster County Agent



To Beware Of Frost

The mention of possible frost is already in the weather forecast for the high areas of our state. In a few weeks most of the state will be exposed to lower temperatures and killing frosts. Livestock producers should become acquainted with the results of a killing frost on their forage crops. With the common pasture grasses, it will make little difference; with legumes such as alfalfa or clover frost will not make them poisonous but increases the danger of bloating; with sudan grass or the sudan-sorghum-hybrids there is danger of poisoning when consumed fresh after a frost. Handle crops carefully at frost time.

To Control Millepedes And Beetles

During the late summer and fall a number of nuisance insects may appear around the home; at the moment we have had millepedes and ground beetles; later on we may have clover-

mites and box-elder bugs, all of these will do little damage but are a nuisance. Control may be attained by spraying several times a week with sevin, chlordane, lindane, or diazinon. No permanent control known at this time; repeated sprays should reduce the problem.

To Handle New Corn Carefully

The corn crop is ripening rapidly and already we notice corn pickers starting to harvest this big crop. No doubt the ears are still high in moisture and to crib the corn in this condition without extra drying with heat or air may result in severe molding. If this new corn is to be fed, it should be ground daily to prevent heating and molding. Those with facilities for storing high-moisture ground ear corn or shelled corn have the advantage of early harvesting at this time of the year. Don't be careless in storing a good corn crop so that it will come out heated and moldy.

Farm News This Week

Solanco Fair Dairy Show
Has Best Quality Ever — Page 1

Hereford 4-H Steer Named
"Billy" Takes Fair Show — Page 1

Randy Ranck's Hogs Top
Solanco Show — Page 1

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