

# From Where We Stand...

## Actions Speak Louder Than Words

Pollution of man's environment has in recent months become a major topic of national debate. Hopefully, this concern will not prove to be the kind of ephemeral fad to which modern nations seem peculiarly disposed. The problem of pollution will be resolved only through patient and steady effort and by the full cooperation of everyone concerned. Pollution is a national problem, not the exclusive problem of particular individuals or groups. Involved in the pollution question are national values, science and technology, politics, industry, economic preferences of consumers and geography.

That numerous factors contribute to the pollution problem has not prevented critics of the farm industry from exploiting present emotion on the subject. They have latched onto the issue for the purpose of discrediting the farmer as a whole. Their Holy War is premised on the untenable notion that farmers alone have created the pollution problem. It is a narrow vision which sees agriculture as a scapegoat.

The magnitude of the environmental pollution problem can be grasped by considering the sheer impact of the numbers of people and the unavoidable pollution that they create. Some 200 million tons of garbage are generated in private homes every year — one ton per person. Waste presently discharged into bodies of water exceeds five million tons a year. Columnist Ralph de Toledano states the problem succinctly: "... every American contributes his mite even as he drives down to the corner drugstore to buy medication for the ills of pollution."

In a recent address to the National Agricultural Chemicals Association, J. Phil Campbell, Under Secretary of Agriculture commented on the role of Agriculture in environmental pollution. He said,

"There is a great deal of uninformed talk about maintaining nature's balance. . . Mr. and Mrs. American Citizen hear a great deal about water pollution. They read in the press or hear over the radio and T-V that 14 million tons of plant nutrients are applied to soils in the United States every year. From there it's an easy jump to the conclusion that these plant nutrients, washing off into streams and lakes and feeding the growth of algae, are making the water unusable for domestic purposes, recreation, or fishing. Scientific evidence indicates that plant nutrients are quite a minor factor in this development. But rumor has a way of outunning fact."

Water pollution studies made by University of Wisconsin soil researchers found that farm wastes run off — unless fertilizer and manure are applied to sloping frozen ground — pose much less of a pollution problem than city and industrial wastes.

Yes, there is a pollution problem. But,

## Farm News This Week

Top Corn And Tobacco Shown By 4-H Boys In Annual Round-Up — Page 1

Miss Stoltzfus In Guernsey State Contest — Page 1

### LANCASTER FARMING

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to indict the farmer as the culprit is to grossly misstate the issue. Indications are that the farm industry is doing something about pollution, while some of its critics, it seems, have not progressed beyond verbal abuse. At least that's the way it looks from where we stand.

## This Is A Farmer

Farmers are found in fields plowing up, seeding down, returning from, planting to, fertilizing with, spraying for and harvesting if. 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 way, 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 ear shot the pounds of pork he must produce in order to pay for a suit at today's prices.

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 finger nails; a dietitian with a passion for alfalfa, animals and antibiotics; a production expert faced with a surplus; and a manager battling a price-cost squeeze. He manages more capital than most of the businessmen in town.

He likes sunshine, good food, state fairs, dinner at NOON, auctions, his neighbors, Saturday-nights in town, his shirt collar unbuttoned, and above all a good soaking rain in August.

He is not much for droughts, ditches, throughways, experts, weeds, the eight-hour day, helping with the housework, or grasshoppers.

Nobody else is so far from the telephone or so close to God, nobody else gets so much satisfaction out of modern plumbing, favorable weather and good ice cream.

Nobody else can remove all those things from his pockets and on washday still have overlooked; five "steeple," one cotter key, a rusty spike, three grains of corn, the stub end of a lead pencil, a square tape, a \$4.98 pocket watch, and a cupful of chaff in each trouser cuff.

A farmer is both Faith and Fatalist — he must have faith to continually meet the challenges of his capacities amid an ever-present possibility that an act of God (a late spring, an early frost, tornado, flood, drought) can bring his business to a standstill. You can Reduce His Acreage but you can't Restrain His Ambition.

Might as well put up with him — he is your friend, your competitor, your customer, your source of food and fiber, and self-reliant young citizens to help replenish your cities.

He is your countryman — a denim-dressed, business-wise, fast-growing statesman of stature.

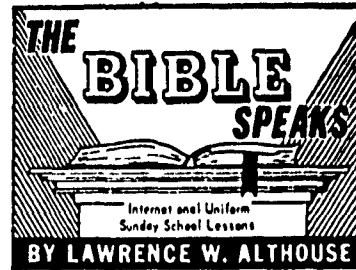
And when he comes in at noon having spent the energy of his hopes and dreams, he can be recharged anew with the magic words. "The Market's Up."

## 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 below normal with daytime highs in the 30's and over-night lows in the teens. Cold throughout the period. Normal high-low for the period is 39-24.

Precipitation may total one-fourth to one-half inch water equivalent occurring as snow or rain Saturday or Sunday and snow again about Tuesday.



## TWO QUESTIONS

Lesson for January 4, 1970

Background Scripture: Genesis 17:9-14, Matthew 3, John 1:19-26, Acts 19:1-7.

Hans Christian Anderson's story of "The Ugly Duckling" is really a parable of life. We see it enacted around us again and again. As children we concerned ourselves very little over the question, "Who am I?" because we were quite sure we knew who we were.



Rev. Althouse

But then adolescence steals upon us and all the certainties of the past fly away. Once so sure of our own identity, we now find that we don't really know.

Thinking he was a duckling — and an ugly one, at that — the hero of Anderson's story felt unwanted and rejected by everyone. No matter how hard he tried, he didn't make a very good duck. But then, one day he began to bloom into a beautiful swan and he found out who he really was. Having discovered his true identity, he found also his true vocation in life.

### "The real me"

Of course, the Danish storyteller was really thinking about people, not ducks. The adolescent years take away our old self images and we enter into young adulthood confused and troubled. Then, as with "The Ugly Duckling," something happens to help us to begin to find out who we are and what we are here for. That is, some of us "find out," while others of us drift along, still searching for the "real me."

This search and discovery for our self-identity is different for each of us. For some of us it comes early and easily. For others, it is a long, hard search. Some do not search at all, content to play roles and wear masks. Yet, there is no more wonderful discovery than for a man to find out who is this "self" that God has created him to become, to find out his mission and niche

in life. One cannot help but suspect that this is the kind of experience that Jesus had when on that day he went to the Jordan River and was baptised by John. Many scholars believe that this is when Jesus truly realized who he was and what he was intended to do. An inner conviction apparently brought him to John to be baptised in the first place. Then, a heavenly voice confirmed it: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." The Baptist also helped to confirm it with his own reaction to Jesus' request for baptism: "I need to be baptised by you, and do you come to me?" and in his later testimony, "Behold, the lamb of God."

### The call

Yes, on that day Jesus received his call to a messianic ministry, but when did that call first begin. This is like asking for the concise moment when a child becomes a youth, or a youth an adult. In reality, the process is long and subtle.

The incident in the temple at age twelve indicates that he already had some sense of call. Throughout his young years, Jesus had become familiar with the messianic prophecies of men like Isaiah. Though long dead and gone from the scene, these men never the less spoke to the heart and mind of this youth concerning his mission.

Jesus found his cell in voices from both the past and the present. So, as he called Jesus to his work, he calls us too, using many means to reveal his will to us. He wants us to find out who he created us to be; he wants us to discover our life task, to know the plan he wants us to follow.

### Signposts everywhere

Too long we have assumed that God called only clergymen and missionaries. He calls all men, though many ignore the call. He puts signposts all around us, yet we may pass them by unnoticed. As he sent John the Baptist to Jesus, so he sends people to us to help bear and confirm our call.

To things we must know as we live this life: Who am I? and What am I here for? Do you know?

(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.)

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 Store Herbicides Carefully

Weed killer chemicals should be given special attention during the winter months. They should be kept away from any seeds or plants because there may be sufficient fumes to do some damage. The emulsion forms of materials should be kept in non-freezing areas for best results next year. Be sure and store the chemicals in the original container in order to maintain identity and application instructions.

### To Eliminate Rodents

The heavy snow cover of recent weeks might easily mean a heavier rat and mouse infestation in and around farm build-

ings. All owners are urged to use poison bait station to eliminate as many as possible along with eliminating all possible nesting and breeding places. Good sanitation is not attractive to rats and will help keep down the infestation.

### To Check Self-Feeders

Many livestock feeders may be permitting too much feed to be thrown out and not utilized; this is one of the common leaks in a feeding program and can increase feed costs. All operators are urged to check their feeders regularly to be sure that feed is not being wasted. Efficient gains of milk production does not permit feed to be all over the ground or floor about the