

Preparing for the Future

Everybody is seeking happiness. Some young people are led to believe that it can be found by some miraculous act. "Smoke grass," they are told, "and you will be happy." More and more young people are finding marijuana provides instant escape from all they find unacceptable around them. "If we could only change the system," such a young person sighs, "life would be carefree and wonderful."

As young people grow toward adulthood, most of them gradually learn and accept the truth that life is more bills than thrills, more self-denial than romance, more being tied down to day-to-day matters than carefree travel. Today's faster communications makes many young people aware that this describes the lives of their parents and some of them rebel against such a future.

But demonstrations and demands for change in the system do not offer much promise of improving the futures of young people today. Food still will need to be grown, products manufactured, services provided, enterprises managed and life's needs financed. It will be the man or woman who knows what he or she wants of the future and has the skills to obtain it who will command happiness.

The men and women of the future will not be those who seek to escape today via drugs but the ones who begin today to prepare for the future they want for themselves.

Few people are better able to help more in planning the future than professional counselors in schools, businesses, and government employment offices. No time

is more appropriate to call on a counselor than now during National Vocational Guidance Week, October 25-31. The week's slogan, "Its Your Future — Prepare For It," is advice we can all take.

In selecting preparedness for the theme of the fifth National Vocational Guidance Week, the National Vocational Guidance Association is emphasizing that if we want the future to be as we would like it, we must prepare for it now.

A challenge flung at old and young alike, the theme points out that the individual must take initiative in locating career opportunities, whether he be a student of an older worker displaced by automation.

While dope may appear at first glance to be an easy shortcut to happiness and a proper way to rebel against what's wrong with the world, we feel sure that nearly every young person today will realize that the easy way is not the right way, it is not the best way, and ultimately it will not be the successful way.

The future, as always, belongs to those who have the courage and the conviction to prepare themselves for it. Those who build themselves today will build the future.

The time will come, as it always has, when the leadership of the nation will pass from the older to the new generation. When that time comes, the world will get better only if the new leaders make it better. And they can make it better only if they prepare themselves today.

The skill and know-how possible through vocational education will be vital in making a good future. We encourage vocational education, for persons of all ages.

Music—For Boss or Cows?

We're not sure what it's worth to the local dairyman, but a recent AP report out of Washington shows USDA officials disagree on the value of music in helping create contented cows that produce more milk.

Federal research shows sudden loud noises may reduce milk output temporarily. One official thinks the main value of music

is to crowd out other noise and keep sound at a constant level.

As for the kind of music that's best, some officials think cows can learn to like just about any kind that pleases their owners.

Which, we think, is getting down to the nitty gritty. If music in the barn helps make the boss content, then the cows will just have to be content with it, too.

Individual and Cooperative

It is widely understood that people working together for a common objective can accomplish more than the same number of individuals working alone.

But while nearly everyone can understand this concept, carrying it out is another matter. Reconciling real and imagined differences to arrive at common goals and objectives and to carry out mutually beneficial programs is often far more difficult than it sounds.

October has been declared Pennsylvania Cooperative Month. Cooperatives are based on this concept of strength in numbers and concerted action.

Obviously, strength of the cooperative concept hinges entirely on the confidence of the persons involved that if they work together they will be successful and upon their willingness and ability to actually work together.

What happens all too often is just the opposite. As the world becomes more complex, requiring more persons to cooperate more closely, individuals somehow conclude that they aren't needed or that they can't influence anything. Once this attitude becomes widespread, the whole cooperative concept is endangered.

The individual and what he wants and believes is still important, perhaps more important than ever before. The following, carried recently in a cooperative publication illustrates the point.

A cooperative may be likened to my typewriter. It is an old model, but it works quite well except for one of the keys. Many times, I have wished that it worked perfectly. It is true that there are forty-six keys that function well enough, but just one key not working makes the difference.

Sometimes it seems to me that my cooperative is somewhat like my typewriter — not all the key people are working together.

You may say to yourself, "Well, I am only a member — one person. I won't make or break the cooperative." But it does make a difference because a cooperative, to be effective, needs the active participation of every person.

So, the next time you think you are only one person — a member — and that your efforts are not needed, remember my typewriter and say to yourself, "I am a key person in my cooperative, and for it to function effectively I am needed very much."



NOW IS THE TIME . . .

By Max Smith
Lancaster County Agent

To Manage Cattle Quietly

Cattle buying is in full swing throughout the area and many strings of cattle are arriving in the local feedlots. Proper care the first two weeks is very important. The cattle should be moved with a minimum of stress and excitement, they should be permitted to rest for the first week and be fed only roughages with little grain. Plenty of fresh air or an outside exercise lot is recommended. The feeder should inspect his herd several times a day for sick steers and segregate them at once. Animals treated at the beginning of their infection will respond quicker and suffer less weight loss than to wait several days to see if they will recover without medical aid. The eye and close attention of the master is very important.

To Control Internal Parasites

Since the source of feeder cattle for this area is largely from the states south of us, it is very important for feeders of calves

to check for stomach worms at the beginning of the feeding period. With yearlings or older stocker cattle the worm problem is less severe. Many calves are carrying heavy worm infections when they arrive in the local feedlots; these cattle will make poor gains and poor feed conversion unless the worms are eliminated. Feeders are requested to check with their local veterinarian regarding control.

To Make Soil Tests

Next year's fertilizer needs can well be determined this Fall by making a soil test before the ground freezes. With the information on the particular field, fertilizer orders may be placed with some price advantage. Tests made this Fall will be just as good as those made next spring. The important thing is to take a representative sample of the field and do a thorough job of preparing the sample. Soil tests should reveal the needs of the soil and make better use of the fertilizer dollars.

ARE YOU A RELATIVE?
Lesson for November 1, 1970

Background Scripture: Acts 2:44-47, Galatians 6:1-10, Ephesians 2:19-22, Colossians 3:12-17, 1 John 1.
Devotional Reading: Ephesians 2:14-22.

Ephrata, Pennsylvania is a pleasant town on the main highway between the cities of Reading and Lancaster in the heart of the so-called "Pennsylvania Dutch" (German) country. Perhaps you have read of or even visited the famous "Ephrata Cloisters," the restored historical site of the pre-Revolutionary War religious community.

A Reputation For Trouble

Rev. Althouse: During the Revolutionary War there lived in Ephrata two men who were well-known to everyone in the town. One of them was greatly liked and highly respected. He had suffered a great deal of injury and difficulty from the second man who was notorious for his meanness and worthlessness.

It was a great relief when the second man enlisted in the Continental Army. Perhaps he would finally amount to something, they thought. Instead, however, he got into as much trouble in the army as he had in Ephrata. In time, he committed a very serious offense, was arrested, convicted, and sentenced to be hanged.

The people of Ephrata soon learned of the disgraceful conduct of their townsman and his scheduled execution. Some said it would be a good thing for both the town and the army. No one seemed to be able to manage much sympathy for the man who had caused everyone so much pain and trouble.

Attend The Church of Your Choice Sunday

"My deadly enemy"

No one—except the man who had every reason to hate him most. The respected citizen who had so been wronged by the man set out and walked some sixty miles to Washington's headquarters. When he arrived at the camp, of the Continentals, he requested an interview with General Washington. The interview was granted and the man pleaded for the life of the convicted soldier.

Although the General listened carefully and with much interest, when the man from Ephrata had finished his appeal, Washington expressed his regret that he could not grant the man's earnest request. Not only had the man committed a serious crime deserving the sentence of death, but the maintenance of discipline in the army required that the sentence be carried out.

Noting the sincere disappointment in the man's face, General Washington asked, "Are you a relative of this man?" "No," replied the man sadly. "Then are you his friend?" asked the General. "No," answered the man, "that man was my deadly enemy!"

He who had received only injury and abuse was prepared to give kindness and mercy in return. Why would any man do this? Do you think it was because he suddenly developed a strong liking or affection for his former enemy?

To restore the trespasser

No, the answer is more to be found in Paul's admonition to the Christians at Galatia: "Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness" (Galatians 6:1). The natural response to one who has wronged us is to respond with bitterness, but Paul calls us to follow the example of Christ who, though he was abused and wronged by many without just cause, continued in his concern for the souls of those who had wronged him.

"Are you a relative?" Washington asked. "If I call God my Father as I know he is the father of all other men, I must answer, 'Yes!'"

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