

Freedom Means Abundance

Sooner or later the market price of a product is paid or the product ceases to exist. In the current controversy over the free market versus government controls of such things as prices and wages, the real issue is how far is the U.S. willing to go toward adopting a get-something-for-nothing philosophy.

The folly of such a philosophy has been demonstrated time and again. Years ago the government set out to protect consumers by keeping the price of natural gas at artificially low levels—giving the consumers something for nothing, and many consumers are now getting nothing. The price has been held so low that less and less gas has been produced over the years. A free market would have corrected the situation. Consumers would have had gas although they might have paid a little more for it.

The same relationship holds true in other areas, including food and fiber. The president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, Mr. William J. Kuhfuss,

speaking for some 2 million member families of the Farm Bureau, has emphasized that a free market offers abundance at a fair price, something that no system of controls can do. Mr. Kuhfuss uses beef as an example of how freedom in the marketplace works to the advantage of both consumers and producers.

He says, "The feed grain-beef ratio is the best that it has been for many years. The favorable ratio enables the producer to benefit from feeding grain to beef...the number of cattle on feed has increased 14 percent over one year ago. The future supply of beef will be increased. Pay the price and the production increases with a quick and sensitive reaction. When the supply is plentiful you have a discipline on price."

The Farm Bureau leader has again stressed the fundamental principle that no government edict or control can nullify. There is no such thing as getting something for nothing—whether it is fuel for your furnace or food for your family.

Hunting Season

Small game season opens Saturday, field work is slowing up, and it's a sure bet that some farmers will be spending more time with their shotguns than their tractors in the next few weeks.

Game is expected to be less plentiful this year than other years because of the spring floods. Like a lot of topsoil, pheasant nests and young rabbits were swept away by the rains of Agnes.

Agnes has complicated the hunting season in another important way. Late-planted corn is still standing in a lot of fields. Standing corn attracts pheasants, and pheasants attract hunters.

If you hunt in your own corn field, you're naturally going to be careful. And you'll

probably be just as careful if you're in a neighbor's field. Hunters who aren't familiar with farming practices, though, might not realize how important it is not to knock down your corn. This is a potential source of ill will between hunters and farmers.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission is urging all shooters to get land-owners' permission before hunting. If a hunter does ask your permission to hunt, it would be a good idea to give him a few ground rules. Tell him every trampled stalk is money out of your pocket. If you don't want him in your corn at all, tell him so. Most hunters are reasonable people who'll respect your wishes.

Fact and Opinion

"Environment is the subtle blending of all those things around us," says the Public Service Company of Colorado. "It is the air we breathe, the land on which we walk, the majestic mountain in the distance, the fragrant rose we culture in the garden, the food we eat, the water we drink, the clothes we wear, and much more. The power has been given to a man to change his environment for better or worse. He can mar it, clutter it, pollute it, destroy it. He can beautify it, purify it, fortify and contemplate it in peace and tranquility. No longer, however, can he be indifferent to it. It is our belief that the electric utility companies have in the past and will continue in the future to contribute immeasurably to an improved environment. Ultimately, electric power and gaseous fuel produced cleanly, dispensed responsibly, and used intelligently will provide all with a healthier, more comfortable environment."

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"We have long had death and taxes as the two standards of inevitability. But there are those who believe that death is the preferable of the two. 'At least', as one man said, 'there's one advantage about death; it doesn't get worse every time Congress meets.'—Mr. Erwin N. Griswold, Dean, Harvard Law School.

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If food costs had gone up in proportion to take-home pay, U.S. consumers would have to pay an average of \$286 more per person for food in 1972, according to Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz.

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If you don't exercise regularly, at least take a 40- or 45-minute walk every other day. Those who follow the advice usually

find an increase in their working capacity and decreases in their heart rate, blood pressure and percentage of total body fat. Walking is an exercise that practically everyone can follow without fear of injury or developing excessive fatigue. And if time is your problem, just 10 minutes of jogging each day will produce "unexpected and unprecedented" improvement in your physical condition, suggest studies conducted by a California medical clinic.

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"The greatest dangers to liberty lurk in the insidious encroachment by men of zeal, well-meaning but without understanding."—Associate Justice Brandeis, U.S. Supreme Court.

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"Science and technology, used properly, and used wisely, can be among man's great blessings. They are among the servants of man, and not his master. Used improperly and unwisely, as they have often been used in the past, science and technology can be among mankind's greatest problems."—Mr. A.H. Aymond, Chairman of the Board, Consumers Power Company.

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The author and American statesman, Henry Cabot Lodge, in 1884 remarked, "Of Americanism' of the right sort we cannot have too much. Mere vaporism and boasting become a nation as little as a man. But honest, outspoken pride and faith in our country are infinitely to be respected."

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"The longer I live, the more convinced I am that material progress is not only valueless without spiritual progress; it is, in the term, impossible."—Mr. Eugene Holman.

NOW IS THE TIME . . .

Max Smith
County Agr. Agent
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To Control Rats

Weather conditions will soon be driving rats and mice from the field into buildings for the winter. Good management does not have any place for these rodents. Farmers are urged to eliminate all possible nesting places by cleaning up the premises, doing some concreting of broken walks, floors, and etc. and not giving the rats a chance to move into winter quarters. Rats are filthy creatures that can do considerable damage to both man and beast. A good sanitation program, along with poison bait stations, will keep down the population. In case of very heavy infestations commercial exterminators can be hired to eradicate the rodents. Don't try to put up with them this winter.

To Protect Water Pipes

Colder weather has arrived and exposed water lines will freeze and give plenty of trouble. Prevention is much easier than the correction of the problem. Pipes may be buried at least 24 inches below the surface or they may be wrapped with electric heating cable to keep them from freezing. These cables work fine but should not be cut or spliced unless done by an electrician, or someone with knowledge of the material; they may be a fire hazard when improperly used. The thawing of water pipes in a blizzard or when temperatures are near zero is very unpleasant.

Prevention practices now will save time and possible damage.

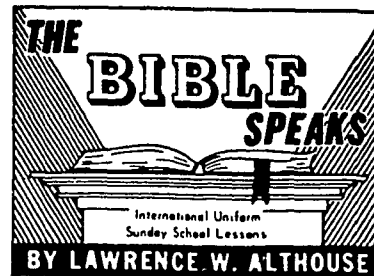
To Be Careful With Silo Unloaders

Observing a heavy silo unloader dangling from a thread-like cable from the top of a silo the other day reminded me of the possible danger of working under this equipment. We are told that the steel cables are very strong and will last for years, but I have known them to break and allow the equipment to fall to the bottom of the silo. Silage feeders are advised to check the condition of this cable frequently and especially when the silo is getting empty and the unloader about to be wrenched to the top again; also regular oiling or greasing is suggested. Serious injury could result if the cable snaps unexpectedly.

To Segregate Livestock

Newly purchased cattle may be carrying a number of infections that can easily spread to the rest of the herd. Prices are high on all types of beef and dairy cattle and special care is needed to prevent serious losses. Cattle feeders should take special effort to keep new cattle from contacting or eating from the same trough as acclimated cattle. Careful observation of cattle several times each day for the first several weeks is strongly advised. Prompt treatment is much more successful than waiting until the animal is seriously weakened. The "Eye of the Master" was never more important.

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LIVING FREE

Lesson for October 29, 1972

Background Scripture: 2 Chronicles 10: 1-16, Romans 13 1-7, Peter 2 11-17
Devotional Reading: Psalms 2.

The early Apostles were often at odds and in trouble with the state. Christians were often considered subversive and some, in order to remain faithful to Christ, paid the supreme sacrifice of their own lives.



Rev. Althouse

Yet despite this occasional conflict between spiritual and secular authority, Christians continued to value the role of governmental authority. No one seemed to be more aware of this than Paul who looked upon the Roman empire as a means through which the will of God was performed in the world.

The blessings of peace

Wherever he traveled, Paul observed that the Roman government had established a just law and order wherever it ruled. It was thus safe for people to travel from one area to another within the Empire without undue fear of harassment. For all its faults, the government of Rome brought peace and order to the world. Therefore, Paul saw the insti-

tution of government as a blessing from God given to man, enabling him to live in a stable world. God desires for his world peace, law, order, and justice, and human governmental institutions are instruments through which God can accomplish this purpose. Because man is not perfectly good, but is a sinner, because he can in his rebelliousness against God cause much misery and harm to others, he needs some sources of authority in this world to help him to live in obedience to God's will. We wish all men would always want to do the right thing, but they don't and so we need governors and government to help us along that line.

No pretext for evil

There are only two alternatives: human government or chaos, order or anarchy. Because of man's moral imperfection, Paul knew that men cannot live together peaceably and justly in the long-run without some kind of structure or government. He had occasion to witness how men can lose their senses in a mob and go out of control when there is nothing to restrain them. Lack of law and order eventually brings out the worst in men.

God has often used men in authority who had not the slightest idea they were doing his will. Thus, even a governor who does not acknowledge God or try to live by his will, may still be used to achieve God's purpose.

Unfortunately, there are always those who feel that they do not need to give any loyalty to anyone but God himself. "We are free!" they remind us. Yet for many, freedom is merely a pretext for evil. To be caught in that bind is the worst kind of slavery or bondage. To be truly living free means to obey God's will wherever we find it.