

We're 18 This Week!

This issue starts LANCASTER FARMING's 18th year. In the months and years ahead, we hope to continue serving as the area's principal spokesman for farm, agribusiness and rural interests, and to that end we pledge our continued enthusiasm.

LANCASTER FARMING today serves more farm families than ever before. This is

a testimonial to the strength of agriculture here in what has traditionally been one of the state's and the nation's strongest agricultural areas.

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank our advertisers and subscribers, and that army of people who make our job so much easier by keeping us informed of upcoming events and happenings in America's Garden Spot.

Farm Price Controls

Continuing inflationary pressures leave little prospect that wage and price controls will be dropped anytime soon. Instead, in spite of the dislocations they entail, many are calling for more and tighter controls. Little foresight is needed to visualize a rash of proposals for bringing farmers under the blanket of price ceilings. The results could be catastrophic to the nation's food supply in view of rising farm costs.

In the words of Mr. William J. Kuhfuss, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, "Inflation has raised the high cost of farming to a record level—the index of prices paid by farmers, interest, taxes, and wage rates is now 428 percent of its 1910-14 base." Farm production expenses in the first half of 1972 were estimated, by the

farm leader, at an annual rate of \$46 billion—about \$2.5 billion above last year's level. Mr. Kuhfuss once again reiterates the basic principles at the root of inflation. He says, "Inflation is a serious threat to economic stability in our economy today—not only for farmers but also for all citizens, and most economists recognize that government spending in excess of income is the primary cause of inflation. Price and wage controls are not an effective means of controlling inflation . . ."

The persistence of Congress and politicians in ignoring these principles and the habitual practice of bragging to the home folks—the voters—about how much money has been pried out of the federal treasury for local projects represents the work of charlatans, not the efforts of devoted statesmen and public servants.

Real Cost of Food

When the chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisers reported a short time ago that the average worker's ability to buy food had increased in the past year, he exposed himself to the inevitable blast of criticism from consumers acutely aware of one cold fact. The prices of many things are higher today than a year ago. But, the President's Economic Advisers spoke the truth when they reported that most consumers are better off.

As columnist John Cuniff puts it, ". . . American families spend a lower percentage of their disposable income on food than they did a year ago. This has been the case year after year since the end of World

War II. Twenty years ago in 1952 the American family spent 23 percent of take-home pay of food. The percentage fell to 20.7 in 1957, to 19.3 in 1962, to 17.4 in 1967, to 15.8 last year. It continues to fall." Mr. Cuniff also pointed to a fundamental characteristic of American life—the desire to constantly improve in every way—from the cars we drive to the food we eat. Just as today people look for better cars than they did in the days of the model T, they also look for better cuts of meat and more prepared foods. But these cost more. Irritating as it may sound to the hard pressed housewife, we eat at a relatively lower cost today than ever before—and we eat higher on the hog.

Common Sense on Diet

Most of us have an inborn strain of common sense that comes to our rescue when we're up against judging courses of action that closely affect our way of life and state of health. This is becoming evident once again—this time in the field of nutrition.

In the initial stages of the diet-heart controversy 10 or 15 years ago, saturated animal fats and cholesterol were widely pictured as the culprits in the coronary disease picture. Commenting on this early period and subsequent developments, Dr. Roy M. Kottman, Dean of the College of Agriculture and Home Economics, The Ohio State University, observed: "Today, more than 15 years after nationwide publicity caused cholesterol to become a word to be feared in many households . . . growing numbers of medical and nutritional scientists are concluding that

heart disease is probably caused by a complex of factors, many of which may be as yet unidentified, and that the indictment of saturated animal fats appears not only to have been premature, but quite probably incorrect."

One very good thing came out of the controversy. It sparked an immense amount of activity in the field of human nutrition research, much of it initiated and carried on, directly or through grants, by various elements of the food industry. New knowledge of nutrition comes everyday. But so far nothing has changed what has always been sound advice for the normal, healthy person. Keep your weight in the normal range, eat a balanced diet—including the four basic food groups—avoid food fads and follow your physician's advice should modification of any part of your diet be necessary for a specific medical problem.

Grassroots Opinions

GLASGOW, MO., MISSOURIAN: "'Come home—all is forgiven' may have been all right for the prodigal son, but—grant amnesty (Webster says it means full pardon) to those who escaped military service by taking up residence in another country? No way!...how must the boys feel who harkened to the call of duty and went

to serve their country in a war in which no one actually believed, when those who escaped via the over-the-border route are welcomed home with open arms? It may seem a little uncharitable, but we simply cannot see amnesty for draft dodgers. If they chose to abandon the United States, let 'em stay where they went."

NOW IS THE TIME . . .

Max Smith
County Agr. Agent
Telephone 394-6851



To Protect Cattle Against Respiratory Infections

Shipping Fever and IBR are two infections getting more common on many livestock and dairy farms. A new vaccine which can be sprayed into the nostrils of cattle offers safe protection from IBR and shipping fever; within four days of administering the nasal vaccine cattle have good levels of protection, and protection against IBR lasts for at least two years. Shipping Fever vaccines usually do not offer solid protection for more than one year. Normally all animals over four months of age should be vaccinated. During outbreaks of IBR, veterinarians have found it better to vaccinate all animals in the herd regardless of age. Cattle owners are urged to give this vaccination method some consideration. Prevention is much better than any attempted cure.

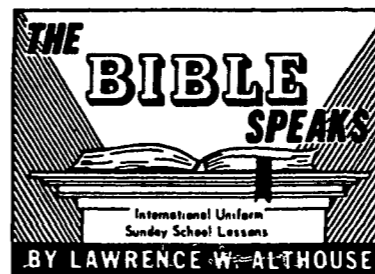
To Use Care With Antibiotics

There are many types of vaccines and drugs being used on various species of livestock; all of them serve a definite purpose when administered properly. They have proven to be beneficial in saving animals and in efficient production. All livestock owners

are urged to be very careful in following the directions of the manufacturer when using these antibiotics. In many cases there are withdrawal periods in which the milk or meat of the animal is not to be used. Quality food production must be attained and farmers must exercise special effort to assure the consumer of a safe food product. Follow the instructions and regulations accurately. There is no other way.

To Inspect Electrical Capacity

As cold weather approaches new demands are made on electrical systems to supply power for space heaters, additional lights, brooding equipment, and many other uses. Having to replace fuses, or reset circuit breakers often, or if the lights flicker when a pump or the refrigerator motor starts, means the wiring system may be overloaded and needs checking. These signs are warning that the wires may be overloaded and may become too hot and a fire hazard. To replace a fuse with a larger one is only creating more of a fire hazard. If electrical systems show these symptoms, consult with a local power official or an electrician.



CROSSES AND DRAGONS

Lesson for November 26, 1972

Background Scripture: Micah 4:1-4,
Matthew 24:3-14; James 4:1-10.
Devotional Reading: Psalms 67

This past summer in Norway I saw some of the famous Norwegian "stave churches." These churches, entirely constructed of wood, are both picturesque and historically interesting. They were built over a thousand years ago shortly after the Norwegians were converted from paganism to Christianity.



Rev. Althouse

One of the significant features of these churches is the use of both pagan and Christian symbols. Though there are crosses, are also an abundance of carved dragons heads. Behind this strange mixture of pagan and Christian is the fact that the Norwegians were not converted to Christianity by any great revival of the spirit, but by the sword. They were given the choice to either embrace Christianity or die. They chose to become Christians.

Hearts ruled by dragons

Therefore, though they confessed Christ in their worship, the dragons still ruled their hearts and these people continued to plunder and pirate until all Europe came to fear the name: Viking! Their conversion to Christianity had little effect upon their

love of battle and glorification of warfare.

Actually, we should not find that hard to understand. We too have the same ambivalence on this subject of warfare. We celebrate the birth of Christ with shouts of "Peace on earth!" and we worship him as the Prince of Peace. Yet, at the same time, we continue the curse of warfare and conflict. Despite our confessions of faith, it seems the dragons still have a firm grip on our hearts.

From coveting to killing

One of the reasons for this inconsistency is that greed and pride are often stronger than our desire for peace. One of Abraham Lincoln's neighbors in Springfield, Illinois, one day heard a commotion in the street. Opening the door, he found Lincoln and two of his boys wailing loudly. "What's the trouble?" the neighbor wanted to know. "Just what's the matter with the whole world," said Lincoln. "I've got three walnuts, and each wants two."

Lincoln was right; the trouble between his two children was nothing less than the trouble between most men and nations. The writer of the Epistle of James warns us:

What causes wars, and what causes fighting among you? . . . You desire and do not have; so you kill. And you covet and cannot obtain; so you fight and wage war. (James 1:1,2)

Take a quick survey of the wars and conflicts taking place throughout the world today: James' analysis would be valid in almost every one. It is only a short step from coveting to killing.

(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.)