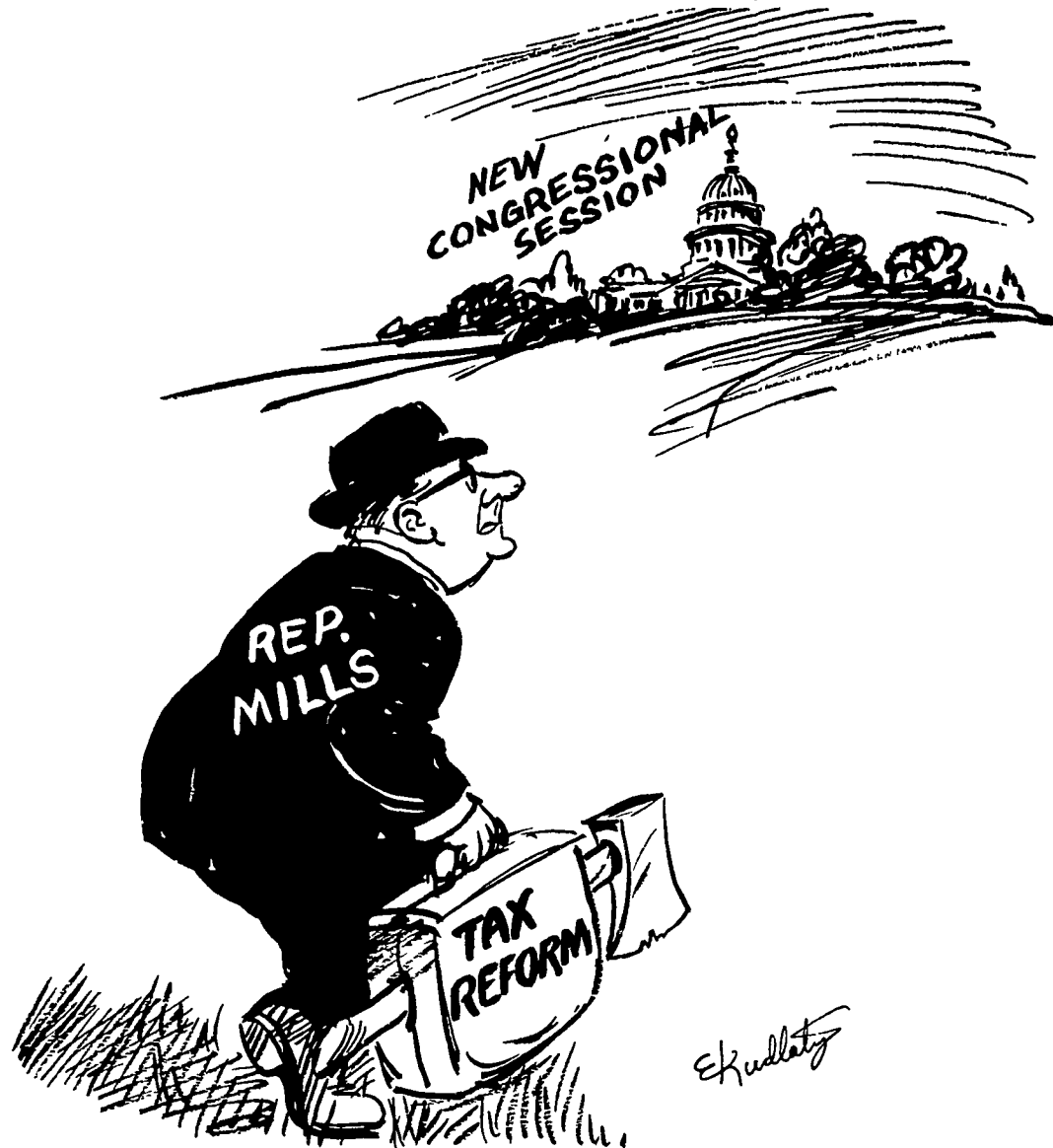


An Old Ax To Grind



Grassroots Opinions

MORA, MINN., KANABEC COUNTY TIMES "Fires from smoking in bed are certain to drop after May 31, 1973 because of a new Commerce Department order making mattresses about 99 percent ignition-proof. Smoking in bed causes a large number of fatalities every year. We have yet to hear of anyone's drowning in a water bed, but we'll bet sea-sickness is not uncommon."

CHESTER, ILL., HERALD TRIBUNE: "It was recently said that 'Too many people quit work as soon as they find a job.' This is a bad situation, of course, but when the first thing that many want to know when they are looking for a job is 'Will I make more than I now get from ADC?' it is high time the government took a closer look at some of its handout programs."

PROVIDENCE, R.I., CRANSTON

HERALD: "Today we have turned into a country of talk, talk, and more talk. Most of the talk is in the form of protest, pointing out our inequities, or selling some particular brand of philosophy. But talk at best is cheap unless it is followed by intelligent resolves."

TEMPE, ARIZ., NEWS: "American business has shown a willingness to cooperate with the spirit as well as the letter of the economic controls, as repugnant to free enterprise as controls may be. Without labor's cooperation, inflation cannot be broken. As costs rise, prices inevitably follow and the spiral goes on toward chaos...It is time for Congress to quit ignoring this state of affairs and supply antimonopoly curbs to labor's unbridled power."

Fact and Opinion

"In some dim beginning man created the institution of government as a convenience for himself. And ever since that time, government has been doing its best to become an inconvenience. Government bureaus and agencies take on a life and a purpose of their own. But I wonder if it happens because so many of us - all of us probably - read and hear, and just repeat what we think is a truism - that when a public problem develops, government is forced to step in. That is utter nonsense. Government can hardly wait to step in. As a matter of fact, government is in the position of the fellow who will make a speech at the drop of a hat." Governor Ronald Reagan of California.

xxx

"Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that, but the really great make you feel that you, too, can become great." Mark Twain

xxx

Scrap Age magazine reports, "Standard

Oil (Ohio) has come up with an idea reminiscent of the legendary St. Bernard and his keg. For the last two years the company has operated a fleet of courtesy cars along Ohio's major interstate highways, equipped with gas, oil, water, etc., and patrolling for the motorist in trouble."

xxx

Here's a defensive driving tip from the Portland, Oregon, Traffic Safety Commission: "Leave plenty of elbow room around your car in traffic. A space cushion will leave you room to stop or swerve in case of an emergency."

xxx

"The 'buck' to control spending really shouldn't be passed to the President. If we the people, and our elected representatives in Congress, don't have the guts to raise taxes or cut spending to keep from bankrupting the United States, then that's all she wrote. There is really no one else in a position to do our dirty work for us." Mr. L. V. Hofer

NOW IS THE TIME . . .

Max Smith
County Agr. Agent
Telephone 394-6851



Attend Educational Meetings

One of the really good opportunities farmers and others will have during the winter months is to participate in educational type meetings of many kinds. These are informative, interesting types of meetings providing up-to-date information relating to specific topics.

Technological advances and applications of research work are being applied faster these days than ever before. In order to be fully aware of the changes taking place it is essential to learn about them first from several sources of information. Often times this means separating opinions from facts. Participating in educational meetings provides an opportunity to do just that...get the facts. The immediate weeks ahead should prove quite fruitful in helping make essential decisions relating to the future of individual operations.

Repair Machinery

Proper storage of idle farm machinery and equipment is an important step in preparing for the next crop season. Such good storage reduces repair bills, increases machine life and avoids time loss at crucial periods. It all adds up to saving money.

However, the winter period also is just an ideal time to make needed repairs and check on possible worn parts needing replacement. Carefully observe the condition of the hard operating parts—belts, chains, cylinders, cutting bars, gears, engines.

Manufacturer's instruction manuals, if still available on the machine, offer the very best know-how details and recommendations to obtain the most useful mileage from farm machinery.

Make Early Purchases

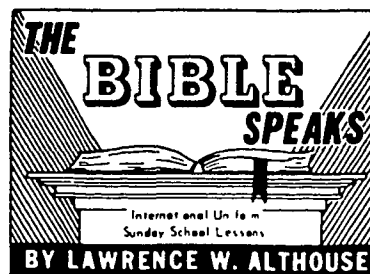
Planning ahead will be most essential for the '73 cropping and growing season. Some essential items, such as seed, will not be in ample supply for all varieties which may be wanted. The fertilizer industry is confident that enough plant food will be on hand by Spring to meet farmers' needs. Agrichemicals, those essential production tools, should also be available in their usual quantity.

Some money and time can be saved by ordering early and taking delivery on such an item, like fertilizer. Take advantage of any discount period which is offered.

Dress Accordingly

When outside on a cold, windy day, it seems colder than the thermometer reads. This condition doesn't mean you're sensitive to the wintertime weather. It merely indicates a personal response to the chill index...how cold it really is.

More weather comments and timely reports now include the current chill index figure—a combination of wind velocity and temperature. The reading given amounts to interpretation of what the outdoor temperature feels like. It gives the temperature...like it is.



COURAGE TO CHANGE

Lesson for January 14, 1973

Background Scripture Ezekiel 1:1-3, 2 through 4, 33:1-9
Devotional Reading Psalm 42

Put yourself in Ezekiel's shoes! He was one of ten thousand people carried away from Judah as captives to the victorious Chaldeans. His was a defeated, dispirited people and great was their humiliation.



Rev. Althouse

He was also alien in a strange land far, far from his promised homeland. The way of life in Chaldea was radically different from anything he had known in little Judah.

From priest to prophet

He was also a man without a job. In Judah, Ezekiel had been a priest. As a priest, his function had been to serve in the great Temple of Jerusalem. Now, however, there was no longer a Temple. A priest without a temple was a man without a job.

We do not know what Ezekiel did for the first five years of exile in Chaldea, but at the end of that period this ex-priest received a call by God to serve as a prophet to the Jewish people in exile by the river Chebar, an important navigational and irrigation canal

of Babylonia. Somewhere along its banks north of the capitol, Babylon, he began an entirely different life.

We must not underestimate the difficulty of transition between the roles of priest and prophet. There was a considerable difference. The priest attained his office by being born into a priestly family, while the prophet was selected by God from among any class or family. The priest served principally at the Temple, while the prophet took his message wherever God directed. The main task of the priest was to conduct the rituals of worship and sacrifice in the Temple; for the prophet the task was to bring the people a proclamation of God's message. The priest was normally recognized by the people as the authoritative religious leader, whereas the prophet was frequently rejected by most. As a priest, Ezekiel had been concerned primarily with rituals and laws; as a prophet, however, he was called to focus on the spiritual condition and ethics of the people.

A "New ball game"

Do you see the enormity of the change to which Ezekiel was being called by God? Doubtless, he would have preferred to remain a priest and do the job he knew best, but times had changed and he was being challenged to change along with them.

Let us also realize that there were no guarantees with this challenge. There is no assurance of success. His people did not listen to the prophecies of Jeremiah. They had been a rebellious people and there was no assurance that they would change. To make this big step, Ezekiel had to have courage.

When we are confronted by "a whole new ball game," we too are called to have the courage to change.

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