

National Boys' Club Week

In 1860, the forerunner of the modern Boys' Clubs of America began its work with the youth of pre-Civil War America. The success of this outstanding organization is attested to by the fact that today a staff of more than 6,000 professional youth counselors work in 1,000 Boys' Club located in communities across the United States now provide comparable leadership, vocational guidance and special counseling for over one million boys.

This year, during the period from April 8-14, the nation will observe National Boys' Club Week. The great strength of the Boys' Clubs has always been that they have worked within the community at the local level to meet local problems that they know better than anyone else. There are many examples. One of them is to be found in Dayton, Ohio. There, as in many communities, homeowners complained about the scarcity of workers to do odd jobs, ranging from yard work, car washing and

window cleaning to painting—the time-consuming chores that plague every homeowner. At the same time, many young people, including members of the Dayton Boys' Club, were unable to find part-time and summer jobs. To give boys the chance to do useful work that would prepare them for occupations in later life and to meet a community need, the Boys' Club set up a Job Bank program designed to bring potential employers and boys in need of jobs together. A staff member of the Club coordinated the effort. The Job Bank now offers jobs year-round with heavy concentration on summer employment, and hundreds of boys have had the experience of a successful working relationship. They have gained a first step up the ladder of success in the working world.

A Boys' Club is a community asset of great value. It deserves year-round support. Boys' Club Week is an appropriate time to broaden awareness of this fact across the nation.

Changing Farm Scene

Farm product price rises may mean higher food prices for consumers. They also have another meaning. They are an indication of an assured, abundant food supply in the future.

A business columnist reports that, "The demand for tractors and other types of farm machinery surged when farm prices rose" resulting in a shortage of some types of farm implements. A major farm implement manufacturer has warned his company's dealers to catch up with changing farm methods. He suggested they, "Look at helicopters. A customer with

a breakdown on a \$20,000 tractor or combine isn't going to wait two weeks for you to fix his equipment." He also added that, "the time was not far off, because of the shortage of farm labor, that the farmer would have 80 per cent of his investment in capital (including labor-saving machinery) and 20 percent in labor."

If price rises are necessary to keep the American farmer supplied with the tools of his business and on course toward ever-greater productivity, consumers must accept them or face the dual evil of scarcity plus higher prices—which is the lot of most nations today.

Staunchest Friend

In reality, there has been no real fight against inflation. Government deficits and debt show little signs of abating. The U.S. Congress resists efforts to cut spending, and everyone wants to be the last to get off the gravy train. These upward pressures virtually guarantee that the nation's mass retail distributors will be in for another year of trying to explain to the people why prices rise, how the free market economic system works and the reasons why consumers can expect the fairest possible prices under this system, in spite of inflation.

As has been pointed out again and again, one has only to look at other economic systems around the world to realize that Americans are a lucky people. Especially is this true when comparing the American experience with the plight of people in countries where there are no free markets, no competition and the state rules the marketplace. For instance, in Yugoslavia where the average take-home pay is the equivalent of \$100 a month, the average family spends half of its income on food—compared to less than 16 percent for the average family in the United States. The same distributive efficiency that applies to U.S. retail food distribution and food prices also applies to all other phases of merchandising. U.S. retail merchants in every field are ardent disciples of the high volume, minimum price philosophy of competitive, mass distribution.

This competitive, free market philosophy of distribution is one of the strongest opponents of inflation-bred price rises—for the simple reason that nothing threatens the success of mass distribution more directly than inflationary price increases that price customers out of the market. So when we hear about the fight against in-

flation, we should learn to distinguish friends from foes. The consumer's staunchest friend is the free market system.

Grassroots Opinions

OSSIAN, IOWA, BEE. "Congress' decision to shelve enactment of any welfare reform is a blow to many Americans and an example of Washington failing to govern effectively. For three years now various House and Senate committees have debated various reform bills, including the President's—the present system remaining in effect at least until 1977—is disappointing to all who had hoped for effective reform."

xxx

NILES, ILL., SCRAP AGE. "A garage mechanic in a tiny New Hampshire village has come up with a unique method of keeping customers out of his hair while he works on their cars. Prominently displayed in the garage is the list of repair charges: 'hourly rate, \$6. If you watch, \$10. If you help, \$15'."

xxx

STAYTON, ORE., MAIL. "We got a chuckle from this little editorial item: 'Male New York school teachers are protesting the district's maternity leave program as sex discrimination. Not true. Any man who can qualify is eligible.'"

xxx

"The future of energy is the future of man. Without it, we become nothing. With it, we become whatever we wish and strive to be"—Dr. Glenn Seaborg.

NOW IS
THE TIME . . .

Max Smith
County Agr. Agent
Telephone 394-6851



To Check Grain Fields

There is some indication of winter-killing in local fields of winter barley and wheat. We have observed many areas in some fields that have not started to grow; in fact the plants are straw-colored and may be dead. Growers are urged to inspect their fields frequently to see the extent of the damage. If the stand has been thinned below 75 percent, it may be best to till and plant another crop. Spring barley or wheat are not recommended in this part of the state.

To Manage Dairy Herd

New growth in pasture and small grain fields has already started. Milk cows will produce "grassy" flavored milk if not handled properly. On any lush new grazing areas, the cows should be taken from the pasture for at least four hours before milking. Also, the barn should be well ventilated at all times. Off-flavored milk may be rejected by the milk hauler resulting in heavy loss of income. The herd should be exposed gradually to the new pasture and only after a feeding of hay or silage.

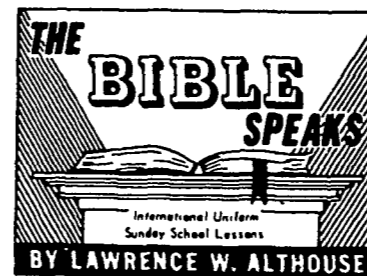
To Plow Down Manure

Spring is here and soon many barns and manure storage pits

will be cleaned out. Over the years this type of activity gives rural Lancaster County a natural "fertilizer flavor." With a growing interest in the environment and air pollution producers are reminded of the need to plow down or incorporate the manure into the soil as soon as possible after spreading. This is also a good practice to conserve more of the fertilizer value. As manure storage becomes more of a problem and field application attracts the interest of non-farmers, the idea of getting the manure into the soil quickly after spreading gets to be more advisable.

To Store Supplies Safely

At this time of the year some producers may have fertilizer, seeds, and chemicals on the farm in storage. These needs should be kept dry, out of the reach of children and livestock, and separate from herbicides. Weed killers may reduce the germination of seed if kept in the same storage room. Fertilizer should not be stored on concrete or the ground floor. Excess seeds should not be fed to livestock. Pesticide and chemical safety measures should be considered at all times.



LOVE'S
"HOW MUCH?"

Lesson for March 25, 1973

Background Scripture: Psalms 103:8-14, Hosea 11:1-9, John 3:16-17, Ephesians 1:3-10
Devotional Reading: Lamentations 3:22-26

"Do you love me?" asks the wife for the eight hundred and fifty-first time in their marriage. For the eight hundred and fifty-first time her husband answers: "Yes, dear, you know I do."

Then follows the customary question: "How much do you love me?" Once again, as many times before, the husband is stumped. How can you tell someone how much you love them? What words can serve as adequate measures?



Rev. Althouse

Deeds instead of words

Actually, few of us are able to answer "how much?" with mere words. The extent and limits of love seem to defy our poor attempts at verbalization. Phrases like "with all my heart," "eternally," and "deepest love," seem weak and empty.

It is only when we can translate these words into deeds that we can begin to communicate the depth and strength of our love. In the musical, "My Fair Lady," Eliza Doolittle sings, "Don't speak of love, show me!" Love is one of the most dog-eared, misused

words in the English language, but loving acts always bring fresh meaning to expressions of this emotion.

So it is with the love of God. The Bible speaks of his love, but usually the scriptures record more of his loving acts than his words about love. Actually, the Hebrews seldom spoke of God in abstract terms like "love," "truth," "beauty," etc. In the Old Testament, God's nature is known by what he does. If they thought of him as a loving God, it was because they had experienced some tangible evidence of his love, some concrete expression of it.

"So great is his steadfast love . . ."

If the Hebrew were to ask, "How much does God love me?", he would be answered, not with words, but would be pointed to God's loving deeds. Though they deserved great punishment, God demonstrated his love with his gracious forgiveness.

When we get to the New Testament, however, we find an even better measure of God's love for his children: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16). To man's age-old question, "How much do you love me?", God gave a once-and-for-all answer that tells it all: **Enough to sacrifice my own Son on your behalf.**

When we see God's love demonstrated so graphically, then the words used to describe his love become more meaningful: "For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him" (103:11). Yet, it is still the acts themselves that are the only adequate answers to love's "how much?"

(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.)