

A FREE PRESS...THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE!



Sure, it's idealistic. It's also practical. For how can a people govern themselves if they don't know what's going on? Freedom of speech is a mockery unless you know what you're talking about. Your own personal freedom depends on freedom of information. That's why a free and fearless press is one of our Constitutional rights.

We Believe

Newspaper Week, Oct. 7-13, will be met with its share of "so what's?" but for those who like the taste of freedom, it is a time to pay tribute to one of the most important guardians of free expressions.

The importance of a free press to a free and independent people has been emphasized more strongly in recent months than in many a year. Never before has the need to preserve freedom of expression been greater, and the newspapers of our nation have been the bulwark of defense of this freedom.

Newspapermen have been up to a lot lately. "Big stories" are appearing all over the country, as top journalists dig into the muck and dare to peel the wraps off difficult stories. Journalism is proud of these unafraid reporters who are telling what is really going on.

But "big stories" are only a small part of the newspaper world. Little, unheard of newspapers all over the country are doing their share to serve their communities, not only through their pages, but also through the many community-minded, personal activities and services of their publishers, editors, reporters, and printers.

We believe, as a weekly newspaper, that one of our main purposes is to be the "conscience" of our town, and to tell the truth about it, in as positive a way as we can.

This means telling happy stories as well as sad ones. We feel that no newspaper gives a really true picture of its community

unless it tells about the good things people do, as well as the trouble they get into.

At the same time, we believe it is our duty, as well as our right, to tell people what our local government is doing, to solicit support for local governing bodies when they are right, and to point out their mistakes when they make them.

We do not do this to win prizes or accolades. In fact, we're more accustomed to brickbats.

We do it because we believe in the Constitution and "freedom of the press." If we lose this, none of us will be free for long.

Newspapers are written by people, as capable of making mistakes as anyone else. But by the very nature of their job, journalists are bound more than the average person to be very sure of their facts, to dig as deep as they must to get at the whole truth, and to write these facts so that they will not be misunderstood.

By the same token, journalists should bind themselves NOT to write rumors or half-truths, or to allow themselves to be fooled or used by "vested interest."

The press is an extremely powerful thing, and if its freedom is to remain justified, then journalists must make sure that power is not misused.

Newspapers cannot think for people. They cannot always find solutions to problems.

But they do keep readers in the thick of things, and able to cope.

Grassroots Opinion

We should remember, as a Field Enterprises Educational Corporation publication points out, "Children are not born with inherent good taste in their choice of books. They will remember the good ones longer and with greater pleasure than the rest, but they will not choose them without considerable guidance from some adult in whose judgment they have confidence."

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The Journal of American Insurance notes, "The... preference for the clog or platform sole shoe has resulted in a dramatic upswing in the number of women injured in falls. Foot specialists warn that the girl shod in high platform fashion runs a much increased risk of a twisted ankle. The platform shoe is supremely

dangerous," warns Dr. Monroe Jacobs, president, Podiatry Association of the State of New York. Designer Laura Tosato agrees: "With the speed of life what it is today, clogs are dangerous because they don't hang on."

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"You have not converted a man because you have silenced him."--John Morley

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According to a California Taxpayers' Association publication, "New Jersey is the first state to start a public service institute designed to train public officials. The institute will work to train officials at all levels of state and local government to give them the skills and abilities needed to administer government." It's about time!

NOW IS THE TIME . . .

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To Beware of Frost
A mid-October frost should not be a surprise to many folks in this part of the country and should do little harm to farm crops. However, livestock producers with acreages of sudan grass or sudan-sorghum hybrids should beware of frosted forage. We repeat the warning that these crops, after a killer frost, should not be fed to livestock or grazed until they are dead (5 to 7 days), or after being made into silage and fermented for at least 30 days. Frosted sorghums may contain sufficient prussic acid to poison livestock.

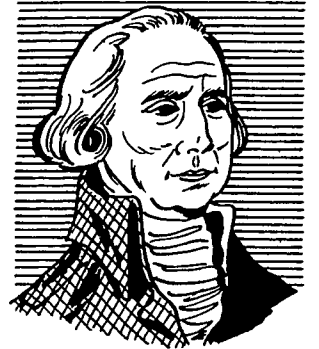
To Feed New Corn Carefully
Some producers may need to feed new corn before it has had a chance to dry out; this can be done with caution. First the amount in the grain ration should start low (25 to 30 percent) and then be increased gradually; also, if the new corn is to be ground, it should be ground often and fed out daily; otherwise, it will heat and mold in the pile or in bags. When new grains are introduced gradually, there is less danger of bloating or scouring of the livestock.

To Care for Young Stock
Dairy herd replacements are expensive to buy and worthwhile to sell; therefore, every dairymen should make a special effort to do a good job of raising heifers. The demand is strong and prices are very favorable. Special pens or sheds for the young stock are advised where they will have a chance for

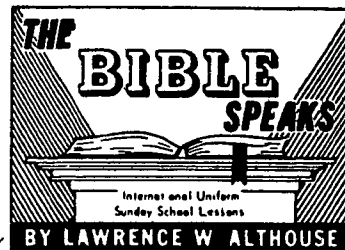
exercise and get plenty of quality roughages. Plans for calf stalls and heifer barns are available at our Extension Office.

To Check Fire Extinguishers
The growing season is almost over and barns are full of the summer's harvest. Fires are costly at any time but especially at the beginning of the winter feeding season. We urge farmers to invest in several fire extinguishers, if they don't already own several, and be prepared to prevent the spread of any fire. Old extinguishers should be checked and serviced in order to be worthwhile. Every member of the family should know the location of this equipment and know how to operate them. Fire prevention is very important and good extinguishers at the right time and place could save enormous losses.

American Viewpoints



"I hold the maxim no less applicable to public than to private affairs, that honesty is always the best policy."
— George Washington
1732 - 1799



WHILE WE WERE ENEMIES

Lesson for October 14, 1973

Background Scripture: Romans 5:1-11
Devotional Reading: Romans 5:15-21

A woman was pleading with her husband to change his mind and invite their estranged son to return home. The father and son had quarreled and the father ordered the son out of the house. The youth could return, he said,

when he admitted he had been in error.

The son, however, although he was willing to return home, still believed that he was right in the dispute and, therefore, refused to admit any error.

The father and son were both adamant and the mother did her best to effect a reconciliation. But the father remained steadfast in his decision: there would be reconciliation only when the youth returned in penitance.

"Worthy" of reconciliation?

The father's stand is familiar to us. Many people are quite willing to forgive another when that person indicates in some way that he or she is penitent. It is as though a person must earn or be worthy of forgiveness and reconciliation. Under this approach our love is conditional upon someone's deserving it.

Once again, as we pointed out last week, this is basically a pre-

christian approach to religion. The basis for love in this approach is a legalistic one. Salvation, reconciliation, the favor of God: all these are dependent upon the worth of the individual man or woman. And that "worth" is determined by certain laws, rules, and regulations.

The whole meaning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, Paul realized, is that we must go beyond legalism and base our religion upon the grace of God. Paul must have startled the Hebrew world with his audacious observation: "While we were yet helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly" (Romans 5:6). Christ's sacrifice was, not for men who because they lived by the law thought they were "good," but for those who obviously were "not good."

The meaning of grace

In other words, Jesus did not wait for the world to repent before he poured out his love: "... while we were yet sinners Christ died for us... while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son..." (5-8,10). Even while we are still sinning against him, Christ offers us his love. We do not have to be "good" first in order to qualify for it. We do not have to meet certain legalistic specifications to grasp it.

Actually, this is what "grace" means: the undeserved love of God. Therefore it is not a "salary" to be earned, but a gift "we are never worthy of his love, but he gives it to us if we will but receive it."

So it is to be also with our love for one another. We are called to give our love, not only to those who are worthy, but also to those who in our judgement are undeserving of so great a gift.

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