

## “Grassroots Opinion”

CLIFTON FORGE, VA., REVIEW: “One of the horrors of modern living that some think they may be able to put up with is the fantastic rise in the price of onions. Since last year the price of onions has quadrupled. You could buy two pounds last year for around 29 cents. This year one would cost nearly twice that. For most Americans, it already takes about all their money to buy a hamburger for lunch. Now they will have to say ‘hold the onions.’ We have a feeling that not too many tears will be shed.”

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REDWOOD FALLS, MINN., GAZETTE: “The tragic part about . . . Watergate . . . (was) that the people being questioned . . . (could have been) guilty as sin but . . . (were) tried, convicted and sentenced through the media without benefit of trial. Whatever happened to the old innocent-until-proven-guilty concept? Even in the Old West they used to give the varmints a ‘fair’ trial before they hung ‘em”

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BROWNFIELD, TEXAS, NEWS-HERALD: “Thanks to the rapid mail service these days, you can now buy a greeting card that’s guaranteed to be right whenever it’s delivered. It’s a St. Easter Thankmas card.”

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FARMINGTON, ME., FRANKLIN JOURNAL AND FARMINGTON CHRONICLE: “Once upon a time there was a small gray mouse—he was a wise little fellow in some respects. He knew where the best corn was stored, he knew the coziest nook for a nest and he took pride that he was an up-and-coming member of his group. There was however one area where the little fellow failed—when a controversial subject arose he found it more to his liking to let a friend get his point across all the while he stayed in his comfortable niche munching away on the tasty corn. No one need ever know that he was out of tune with the world! Unfortunately there are people with the same failings as the mouse. This is the reason many questions are not answered and issues are not resolved. It is necessary that persons involved face the issues themselves and not choose a ‘designated hitter’ to do their work for them. Oftentimes the main issue is missed entirely when such tactics are involved.”

MONTROSE, CALIF., LEDGER: “There are a lot of sincere people worrying because there soon might not be a national bird—an inspirational symbol of our country. And there are some who are worrying that there soon might not be a nation for the national bird. Look at the eagle on the Eisenhower (a base metal sandwich), and check the claws. They are all clasping the olive branch of peace. The older dollar—the real one that was mostly silver—depicted the national bird with one foot holding the olive branch, and the other a bunch of arrows—to be used, just in case . . .”

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ELK POINT, S.D., LEADER-COURIER: “Most countries of the world use the metric system for measurements. The notable exception is the United States and it probably won’t be many years until this country does. It is actually a much simpler method than ours and it will be a great advantage especially with companies who engage in foreign trade. There are many other advantages as well. The bad feature about it is that we will all have to educate ourselves to a new system of measurement.”

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ST. LOUIS, MO., LABOR TRIBUNE: “The . . . battle of the budget waged between the Congress and the Administration should draw public attention to the urgency of establishing coordinated planning and control of federal spending. The nation can no longer afford a congressional appropriative process that resembles a gang of criminally inclined youths racing through a jewelry store. If both Congress and the Administration fail to live up to their fiscal responsibilities, national bankruptcy seems to be the ultimate alternative. And that usually requires a dictatorship and would end our freedom under representative government.”

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BELTON TEXAS, JOURNAL AND BELL COUNTY DEMOCRAT: “In the face of all the current food shortages, many people in Washington still favor curtailment of production, big subsidies, price supports, etc. We simple-minded folk say to let things alone for a while and see if the law of supply and demand will work again like it used to.”

## NOW IS THE TIME . . .

Max Smith  
County Agr. Agent  
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**To Visit Farm Show**  
The Pennsylvania State Farm Show opens Monday in the old Farm Show Building at Harrisburg. In spite of gasoline conditions, show officials are making plans for a normal round of activities and huge crowds of people. Due to limited parking facilities near the Farm Show Building, officials are suggesting that folks attend the show other than Wednesday and Thursday, when the largest crowds have attended in past years. Active farmers are urged to attend, not only to see livestock and modern machinery, but to attend some of the meetings and banquets in their line of work. Urban families can learn more about animals and food production by taking their youngsters to the Farm Show.

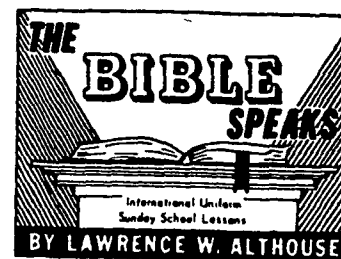
**To Adjust Insurance Coverage**  
Building costs have been on the increase for many years. Fire insurance policies may need to be rewritten in order to cover the cost of replacement. To cover the original cost of a building is not enough; the coverage should keep in mind the replacement costs. The time to make this adjustment is before the fire—not afterwards. Local property owners are urged to contact their insurance agents and discuss the amount of coverage on current buildings and personal property. At this time of the year, most barns are full of feed and hay supplies, and many contain farm machinery. The coverage should be sufficient to cover the loss in case of fire. Don’t delay your insurance adjustments.

**To Order Seed Supplies**  
Even though it is the dead of winter according to the calendar, it is not too early to be ordering the farm and garden seeds needed this spring. Supplies may be limited and many adapted varieties will give better yields than some that you may have to take later in the spring. Seedsmen will also appreciate the early orders, in order to get their work organized. Certified seeds are still strongly recommended and worth the extra investment. Also, it is best to buy from a reliable seedsman that will give service and adjustments. The “bargain” buy from a stranger could be the most expensive transaction.

## American Viewpoints



“A national debt, if it is not excessive, will be to us a national blessing.”  
— Alexander Hamilton  
1757 - 1804



### THE EMPTINESS

Lesson for January 6, 1974

Background Scripture: John 6:25-48

Some time ago I saw in the display window of a local bakery the most delicious-looking piece of pastry. It was covered with icing, fruit, and several kinds of syrup. Just looking at the pastry made me extremely hungry. The longer



Rev. Althouse

I stared at it, the greater grew that great void in my stomach.

#### Insatiable appetites

I tried resisting the impulse to buy the pastry for two reasons (1) rich pastry isn’t on my diet, and (2) I had already eaten a good desert at my last meal. My stomach said “yes,” and my mind said “no.”

I walked back and forth before that pastry window several times before, weakening, I entered and bought one. With great anticipation I took my first bite. It was good, but somehow it wasn’t nearly as good as I had thought and when I finished I felt somehow a profound sense of disappointment. There was still an emptiness unfilled.

So it is with many of the things with which we attempt to fill that void. The narcotics addict is but one of many who are hungry—desperate to fill the void within. For some it is the bottle, for others it is the addict’s needle, but an even larger number of people strive to fill the emptiness with bright and shining things.”

— success, power, work, speed, sex, etc. Yet the appetites seem insatiable and impossible to satisfy.

Bread is often referred to as “the staff of life” in recognition that it is the universal symbol for sustenance. Whether it be the unleavened, cracker-like wafers of the primitive tribes or the soft white bread found on most American tables, bread is a basic food. It represents man’s attempt to provide for himself and his family the food necessary for life.

#### “Not by bread alone . . .”

Yet, Jesus said that “man does not live by bread alone,” and it is true: there is an even more vital hunger than for bread or any material food. Man’s problem is that he too often tries to fill his deeper, spiritual hunger with a material nourishment.

In John 6 we see Jesus speaking to this directly: Do not concentrate on physical nourishment and satisfaction which lasts only a short time. Seek the spiritual nourishment which only God’s Son can give; that “food” lasts for ever. The men had missed the deeper meaning of the feeding of the five thousand. Jesus is capable of filling men’s deepest needs.

Jesus had stunned them with his miracle of feeding five thousand people. Even more startling was his claim and promise: “I am the bread of life; he who comes to me shall not hunger.” (6:35) Far greater than his power to fill men’s stomachs was the ability of Jesus to fill that even greater spiritual emptiness within.

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