

# The Unknown Quantity

Forecasters of trends in human affairs are invariably wide of the mark -- for one very good reason. Their forecasts must, of necessity, rest on contemporary knowledge. As, for example, in the days of Columbus who could have foretold the impact of the invention of the airplane or the development of transatlantic jet service? So it is today with the forecasters especially those who understate the role of technology in future development.

A sample of what technology could do is indicated by a report from Brigham Young University where scientists report they have achieved a theoretical breakthrough in the harnessing of fusion power. If these scientists are correct, so the report goes, controlled fusion in the laboratory might well be demonstrated in the next five years instead of in the mid 1990s as expected by most experts. In terms of everyday life, what are the implications of this theoretical breakthrough? It is said

that, if fusion reactors can be perfected, their benefits to mankind will be legion. The National Observer notes these benefits include no radioactive waste or pollutants to befoul the environment, cheap production of hydrogen gas which can replace natural gas and fuel zero pollution automobiles, much safer power plant designs than the old fashioned fission reactors and an inexhaustible inexpensive super-powerful, light weight fuel supply making possible such things as more practical interplanetary travel. There could be the possibility of interstellar travel that could put the stars within reach of man and open a frontier without end.

Forecasts of the future that entertain such views as these are not pipe dreams. They reflect the frontier of scientific thinking that has always made a shambles of forecasting the future twists and turns of mankind's existence on Earth.

# All in How You Slice It

Imaginative but ambiguous names for meat such as "His-and-Her Steaks," "Paradise Roast" or "Charcoal Steak" are fast disappearing into oblivion, thanks to a most welcome new, standardized identification-labeling program.

The voluntary program, implemented on a nationwide basis among meat retailers, reduces the number of names for various retail cuts of beef, pork, veal and lamb from over 1,000 to approximately 300. It is a shopper's dream come true, especially for the young consumer unfamiliar with the subtleties of the meat counter or those new to an area who in the past have so often been confronted with a vast array of meats bearing regional names which sounded delicious but still failed to describe what was being purchased.

According to the National Live Stock and Meat Board, the majority of meat labels should now show: (1) the species of meat, (2) the primal area, or part of animal from which the meat was cut, and (3) the recommended retail name. An example would be a piece of meat identified as species "Beef," primal cut "Rib" and the recommended retail name, "Eye Steak," with the label reading "Beef Rib-Eye Steak." That same cut of meat used to be known by such diverse names as "Delmonico Steak," "Beauty Steak" or "Spencer Steak," in different parts of the country and often in different stores in the same town.

The system of uniform meat labeling will eliminate confusion and make better buying decisions possible for the consumer. That is good news any way you slice it.

# Worth Your Life

It might be a slight exaggeration, but not much, to say that since gasoline has become such a scarce item, every driver who has not bought a small car has at least thought about it. This being the case, it is of special interest to note that studies have shown serious injuries are "considerably more prevalent" to drivers not using seat belts in compacts than in heavier, full-sized cars. And this holds true whether the small car is involved in a collision with a larger vehicle or another of its own size. Use of seat belts cuts the risk.

As ever-greater numbers of drivers turn to the small car, the use of seat belts will be of unprecedented importance in helping to hold down both the number and the severity of injuries resulting from accidents. If you are one of the many now driving a small, lightweight automobile and

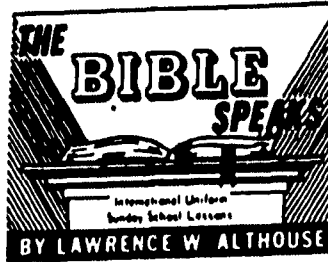
don't want to be caught dead sitting ON your seat belt, it is time to buckle up. It could be worth a lifetime to you.

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"The thread of energy runs through so many areas of human endeavor that it creates not only a conflict between various people, but leads to difficult problems of fairness and equity within each thinking person's spectrum of concerns. What is at stake is a whole diversity of value systems which exist, at least in people's minds, as independent and unrelated areas of human concern." - Mr. Marvin R. Gustavson

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LIME SPRINGS, IOWA, HERALD "Even if the cost keeps going up indefinitely, education will never become as expensive as ignorance."



## VESTED INTERESTS

Lesson for May 12, 1974

Background Scripture: Acts 18 through 19

Devotional Reading: 2 Corinthians 10:3-8

The Chamber of Commerce of Ephesus swung into action in an attempt to alert the people of that city to the growing movement known as Christianity. A river was distributed to the general public. This is what it said: Citizens of Greater Ephesus!

Wake up! Wake up!

A little band of subversive atheists is plotting the downfall of our glorious religion of Artemis. Called "Christians" and led by a man of Tarsus named Paul (alias Saul), this group has already undermined the faith throughout much of the province of Asia. They have blasphemed Artemis and our idols, saying, "God's made with hands are not gods." They attack, not only our religion, but also our city of Ephesus, home of the temple of Artemis and one of the seven wonders of the world. Our city is known as the center for the manufacture of the Artemis statues. What will happen to our religion throughout the world if it is learned that the people of her own city are forsaking her? Who will want to some and see our magnificent temple if this subversive group is allowed to continue? Let us crush this movement now. It is the religious and patriotic duty of every citizen of Ephesus to join in the struggle to defend all that we hold dear.

In the public interest, Your Chamber of Commerce

A second communication was sent to all the businessmen of Ephesus. Added to what was said in the public notice was news of the alarming drop-off in sales by silversmiths and a warning that this constituted a threat to all merchants. "The banks, the hotels, the market, wineries, sacred prostitutes—all will suffer! Merchants, join us in stamping out this menace to our livelihood!"

Bad for business

Of course, no such communications were ever distributed in Ephesus because there were no Chambers of Commerce in those days. Still, we can be sure that the merchants of Ephesus reacted in a way not unlike that noted above. Christianity was bad for business when that business was based upon human exploitation.

The clash, of course, need not have been inevitable. The merchants of Ephesus were little concerned about Paul's theology—until he announced that Christ makes all idols worthless. If Paul had just kept quiet about the silver statues, he probably could have continued in his work undisturbed.

This is no less true in our own day. Christianity is still constantly in conflict with the vested interests of many communities. It does not seek to offend at times because the values of the

## NOW IS THE TIME...

Max Smith  
County Agr. Agent  
Telephone 394-6851



### To Beware of Alfalfa Weevil

A number of fields are showing rather heavy feeding of the alfalfa weevil; in some cases nearly 100 percent of the plants are infected. If this is the case, or with even half of the plants being eaten at this early stage of maturity, some insecticide spray may be needed. In recent years there has been very little infection and few producers had to spray, but this spring it appears that we have more infestation—and some protection may be needed. Growers are urged to respect the time between spray applications and harvest which varies with different materials. Check the alfalfa stand several times a week to evaluate weevil feeding.

### To Cut At Proper Time

The forage crops are growing and with more high temperatures they can mature rather rapidly this time of the year. Growers are urged to cut their crop at the peak of feed nutrients rather than to wait for maturity, or cut by the calendar. Established stands of alfalfa should be cut in the bud to early blossom stage, red clover in the early blossom period, and all grasses at heading time. Whether the crop is to be used for hay or silage the proper stage of cutting is the same for best feeding values. Due to unfavorable weather when many of the stands are at the above maturity, some growers favor the plan of putting all or most of the first cutting into the silo where more feed nutrients can be harvested. Conditioning and wilting is strongly recom-

mended for best stage quality.

### To Control Weeds

Weeds continue to be a major problem on farms and gardens. Weeds must be controlled for the crop to get the light moisture and food. Chemicals are very common on crops but the herbicide should be applied at the bud stage and at the correct timing. Most all weeds are controlled when small. Pre-emergence sprays are difficult to kill. Mechanical cultivation is used and should be exercised and get too close to the plant and cut off the feeder roots. Do not let weeds get a head start because they will reduce yields.

### To Recognize Livestock Comfort

Good management suggests that the comfort of the animals be considered as well as the comfort of man. In times of extremely hot weather, and in this area of high humidity, every effort should be made to provide fresh air, shade, and fresh water at all times. Animals in confinement may have automatically controlled ventilation to provide maximum comfort. In other barns cross ventilation might be needed to keep the air moving. If animals are outside, they should have access to shade. Extreme heat without shade could cause severe losses. Fresh water is always needed liberally by both man and beast in hot weather. Concern for animal comfort is needed for top production.

# Farm Calendar

Saturday, May 11

9:00 a.m. - 7th annual alumni meeting of the College of Agriculture of Penn State University, Ag Administration Bldg., PSU. Registration - 8:00 a.m. to 12 Noon.

10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. - Maryland Sheep and Wool Crafts Festival, Carroll County Agricultural Center.

Tuesday, May 14

7:45 - Ephrata Adult Farmers meeting, Topic—"Legislation and the Farmer." Speaker - Harry Gring, Ephrata Senior H.S. Ag Dept.

Thursday, May 16

6:30 p.m. - Regional meeting of Adult Farmer Instructors, Vo Ag Room Ephrata Senior High School.

Saturday, May 18

10:00 a.m. - Blue Ball Lion's Club Community Sale, East Earl Twp. Bldg. Lancaster County Poultry Assoc. Cook-Off, Northern Lebanon High School.

### COURTHOUSE SQUARES



gospel are radically different.

Is Christianity "bad for business" with the vested interests of your town?