

—EDITORIAL—

"Build a better mousetrap!"

That is an admonition often given young people all across the land by those who have lived long enough to know the ways of the world.

The bit of wisdom, of course, continues with the promise that if the better trap is built, the "world will beat a path to your door."

One young woman in this community is proving the truth of that philosophy. She is Betty Groff, who has hit a new high in her adventure in good eating.

In addition to entertaining the famous and the critics, Betty now has written a cook book which bids well to bring her added acclaim.

Betty and Abe Groff's success is a well-known story, locally. Most everyone knows how they have used their beautiful farm home and their skills in the kitchen to attract those who love good cooking from just about anywhere you want to mention.

Young people too often think that if they could "just get away", perhaps to the city, maybe to some other town, to a distant state, into a different business or into some exotic type of work - then they would be successful!

But success is where a better product is made. The Groffs are making it right at home - far from the distant glitter; near Mount Joy; along a country road, and - yes, as seen from the road - behind the barn.

They have built something special, something now known far and near and there is now a well-beaten path to their door on Pinkerton road.

A strong voice for conservatism in local government has been muted!

As of January 1, Albert Kleiner is no longer a member of the Mount Joy Borough Council, having been defeated for re-election in the 1973 primary.

A man who has been a member of council since Florin was annexed in 1973, Kleiner has represented well the conservative element of the community in an admirable way.

Knowledgeable, articulate and fearless, he was a constant watchdog of the public treasury. No proposal for the expenditure of money - whether a large or small amount - went unchallenged.

Kleiner, a rugged individualist, with a stance for frugality, conservatism and conservation, probably represented the total attitude of more taxpayers of the community than any other two councilmen.

He represented a large segment of the community as he "spent public money as he would his own money." In fact, because of the deep obligation he felt for maintaining a public trust, he may have been more deliberate with the public's interest than he could have been with that which was totally his own and without answer to taxpayers.

Over the years, Kleiner served not only as a councilman, he was secretary of the body and served as the president.

He became a student of local government and to a great extent his dedication to the office was something of a personal hobby with him. Over the years, he had become well known throughout the entire county as a knowledgeable and dedicated councilman.

Not all members of the community totally appreciated his conservative viewpoint. But, there are few who can help but admire his rugged dedication and tenacious adherence to the principles in which he believes.

His service to the community has been large, has truly represented the people not only of the

The Wonder of BOOKS

By Martha Epler

IN THE PRESENCE OF MINE ENEMIES

By Howard and Phyllis Rutledge, with Mel and Lyla White
Published by Fleming H. Revell Co., 1973

Shortly after the release of our POW's in February, there were many articles in the nation's periodicals describing conditions endured by the captives in North Vietnam.

We read these articles with interest, hoping that one of the returned prisoners would soon publish a personal, in-depth account of his captivity.

Captain Howard Rutledge has done just that.

His heroic story of a seven-year ordeal as a prisoner is moving and compelling. It is a story of struggle against evil mental and physical forces and his victory over them.

Rutledge writes and gives testimony to a renewed and revitalized faith in God as a result of his imprisonment. In fact, herein lies the central message of his book. He believes that if it had not been for the strength that God gave him in his time of trial, he quite literally, would have died. Rutledge, in a sense, had nothing, but gained everything--a new sense of life and a new sense of self.

He found what things are really worthwhile. In his own words, "In spite of my problems in prison, it became easier to thank God for his gifts. It almost seemed that the less possessions I had, the more significant His really worthwhile gifts became to me."

The author confesses to having been alienated from God at an early age. However, it was during the darkest hours of his imprisonment, that he gave his life over to God. It was in a dark, filthy torture room where he was chained for twenty-eight days that he promised to love and serve his Creator. His experience was not unique. A fellow

prisoner once made the cry, "Seek God here! This is where you'll find Him!"

According to Rutledge, many POWs found the confining aspect of prison to be worse than the element of physical abuse. Solitary confinement, used as a means to break the men down, played havoc with the mind. As a result, the men employed various techniques to occupy their minds. Rutledge claims to have built five complete houses, mentally, nail-by-nail. He recalled and reconstructed his past life, but by bit.

Most of all, he claims to have found the greatest satisfaction from recalling, peicemeal, bits of scripture and stanzas from old gospel hymns. Many times his recollections were inaccurate and out of order, but they were his greatest sustaining force.

Another valuable lesson we learn through Rutledge is a renewed appreciation for each other as human beings. The author writes of his days in "solitary." Here his only contact with other Americans was the coded message sent by fellow POW's--tapped out by brooms and by sandals going down the hall! (The prisoners were forbidden to use verbal communication under penalty of severe torture.) Through their clandestine methods, however, they did communicate and share most intimately. There was "survival through community" and their motto became "unity before self." If a lucky prisoner received a package, he requested its contents be shared fully with his fellow prisoners.

Perhaps the most emotionally charged portion of the book involves the time

area of the community from which he was elected but of the entire borough.

Albert Kleiner's voice and his manner of leadership will be missed in the council chamber and those people of the community who are of a conservative bent have lost a fearless champion.

NEW BOOKS AT LIBRARY

Pearl's kitchen
Do with me what you will
Strawberries in the sea
As we are now

Maigret and the bum
But I wouldn't have missed it for the world!
I never danced at the White House
Trial and terror: short stories
of fact and fiction

Trouping: how the show came to town
The Christmas mouse
The Baron and the arrogant artist
Inspector West at home
The curious affair of the third dog
Theophilus North

Pearl Bailey
Joyce Oates
Elizabeth Ogilvie
May Sarton
Georges Simenon
Peg Bracken
Art Buchwald
Edited by Joan Kahn

Philip Lewis
Miss Read
John Creasey
John Creasey
Patricia Moyes
Thornton Wilder

Over The Back Fence

by Max Smith



The proper insurance coverage on real estate and personal property is one thing that has needed frequent attention in recent years. We suggest that all property owners take a look at their coverage and be sure that it will cover the replacement cost. In many cases the coverage is only to cover original building costs. This will surely not be enough if the building has any age to it. Your local insurance agent has no doubt made this suggestion a number of times during the past decade and it might be time to take another look. At this time of the year barns are full of livestock, supplies, and in some cases, farm machinery and adequate coverage is essential. Don't be caught with a serious fire and only enough coverage to cover the original construction costs.

Even though we are in the dead of winter according to the calendar it is not too early to be giving some thought to the ordering of seed supplies for the coming

of the prisoners' release. Rutledge describes with dramatic detail, the sensations he felt before and during his homecoming.

The last few chapters of the book are written by the Captain's wife, Phyllis. She describes her ordeal as a wife of a POW and the years that ran parallel to his captivity. Also we must mention the illustrations in the book. They are most unique - and probably most accurate - as they are done by a fellow POW, Gerald Coffee.

"In the Presence of Mine Enemies" is a book to read, consider, and ponder. Ironically, it is true that through the author's weakness came his greatest strength!

growing season. This is always a good practice but this year due to the possible scarcity of some varieties, it is very much in order. The cost of the inputs is just as high with poor quality seed as it is with good certified seeds. Order now when the chances of getting the kind and amount of seed needed is much better than later in the spring. Local seedsmen will also appreciate early orders so they can satisfy the customer and relieve the spring rush. It is our thought to deal with local, reliable seed dealers rather than go for the bargain with a stranger. Certified seed from a reliable dealer might be a bit higher at the start, but in most cases will give more profitable and more satisfactory results.

Again, we are aware of some serious infections and losses among our livestock population due to contagious infections. In this area with high livestock numbers and considerable traffic of both man and beast, it takes really careful management of keep down these infections. Farmers themselves must be very careful and use strict sanitary measures at all times. Be sure that you do not bring home the infection on your own footwear or clothing. Also, be careful when adding new animals to the herd or flock and keep the new ones segregated for several weeks. Wild birds and stray animals may also be the cause of spreading infections. These animals should be kept to a minimum and out of all buildings, if possible. When the buildings are infected with some diseases such as IBR (red nose) in cattle, then the operation should be conducted under the guidance of the local veterinarian. Good sanitation is very important in modern livestock production.

The spring lambing and farrowing season is approaching for some livestock producers. The importance of having good facilities for these new arrivals is very profitable in most cases. When born into cold barns and pens many of the little creatures will get chilled, and then develop scours or pneumonia. Most modern farrowing barns have this problem under control with supplemental heat. However, many sheep producers may not have such good conditions. The electric heat lamp will save new-born animals by making the pens warmer and dry.

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