

Three P's
PERSONAL AND
PRIVATE PROBLEMS

This column will attempt to answer personal and private problems of individuals who submit their questions to the editor. These inquiries to individuals, friends and relatives will cover questions that come up in a living, sound to society; economic, social, health, etc. All correspondence and names will be held in the strictest confidence. All inquiries are welcome, short or long, and may be directed to Three P's, care of The Chowan Herald, Edenton, N.C.

—Walter B. Miller, managing editor

Dear Three P's:
You have written a number of times in your column about the farm support program, which to me, seems to be a glorified handout at the expense of the general taxpayer. The problem seems to be becoming more difficult of solution and the cost is increasing each year. What would like to know is how much is being done for agriculture; whether or not any other industry or element in our economy is receiving such government support, and if the farm support program is in accordance with our constitution.

—Zadok.

Dear Zadok:
This column has commented previously on the farm support program which is costing the taxpayer more and more each year without solving the problem. Many commentators and writers have also written about the problem, as well as members of the Congress.

It is not within the province of this column to list the numerous types of aid given to the farmer by the government; it would take a large book to list them all. However, in a brief way a few will be mentioned here.

In addition to the broad crop support program, the government has set up a number of experimental stations throughout the country in which experimental tests are made as to the best seeds to use for any given crop; the testing of soil to determine its chemical content and the need for fertilizer; the test of various types of fertilizer; develops programs for the proper use of the soil and veterinarian service as to the feeding and care of farm animals. Then there are countless county agents throughout the country whose main responsibility is to aid and advise the farmer in every field of endeavor; soil conservation programs, rotation of crops, insecticides, harvesting and marketing of crops; business advice as to keeping records and tax information. In addition the farmer receives preferential treatment in many ways such as not paying the full gasoline tax for gasoline used in farm operations; he does not have to obtain licenses for automotive equipment used on the farm. Then there are numerous farm cooperatives of all kinds which do not pay taxes on their income or profit. These cooperatives enter into every conceivable type of business and do not pay the taxes that other businesses have to pay. For instance, The Farm Union operates the Grain Terminal Association which takes in \$3,500,000 per year in Government rents on which it does not pay any income taxes, and it has been alleged that it uses its profits on propaganda and political pressure for a continuance of more and more farm support programs, which in turn builds up more surpluses and still more rentals. On the whole it is impossible to evaluate the total cost of all the aid given to farmers and agriculture.

As to other industries receiving aid there are a few but the aid does not approximate anything like the aid to farmers. For instance, in several ways, the aviation industry is subsidized directly and indirectly. It does not build the airports, but government and cities build and maintain these, although they may pay for their use. Then the merchant marine, as a defense measure, receives considerable aid in the construction of ships and other types of subsidy. But none of this aid costs anything like the farm program.

On a comparative basis, this is what would happen if the government decided to help the gasoline and service stations. A survey would be made of say, a one hundred mile stretch of highway between two cities. The survey would show that there were twice as many gasoline service stations as were needed. Then government agents would interview all of the managers and owners and decide to close up one half of the stations in this one hundred mile stretch. As an in-

ment to close the stations the government agent would agree to pay each owner of a closed station \$7,500 to \$10,000 per year and give other concessions. Then the government would convince the remaining open stations that each station needed many improvements. These improvements in a large measure would be paid for by the government and in addition the government would help the remaining stations to form cooperatives in buying all of the gasoline, oil and other equipment. The profits on such transactions would not be subject to income taxes. This, in a small way, is illustrative of what would happen if the government extended the same aid to other merchants as it does to the farmer.

The well known columnist, Ralph McGill, has estimated that there are a million more slum dwellers than farmers, yet, federal per capita expenditures on farm families is \$3,000 per year as against \$84 per year per slum family.

It is a moot question as to whether the farm program is constitutional; that the general taxpayer, through the Government, is paying for the general welfare of the farmer, which is class legislation. Someone should have the courage to contest the constitutionality of this program by seeking an injunction against the Treasurer of the U.S. paying out any more money to the farmer. This would throw the whole problem to the Supreme Court where the whole program would come out in the open and the cost to the general taxpayer. Certainly the general taxpayer is going to continue to foot the bill until some drastic action is taken by the taxpayer himself.

It might be said that the small farmer does not receive anything like the aid the large individual and corporate farm operators receive out in the Middle West and West.

Dear Three P's:

My daughter stands high in her studies in her third year at high school. In addition she does well in the school organized activities. However, in the extra curricula social activities my daughter is being ignored and she is beginning to feel it. What can I do?

—Distraught Mother.

Dear Distraught:
This situation is not unusual where a student stands high in her studies as well as in the other organized activities carried on under the discipline of the school. It is evidence of jealousy on the part of those who control the social affairs and this jealousy is shown by ignoring your daughter. There is no use fighting it, for it is a form of social ostracism. Tell your daughter to ignore this treatment but to continue being friendly with all of the other students. This will prove to the group that your daughter is not a bad guy after all and soon she will be included in the social activities. Do not have your daughter build up any resentment.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Conf'd. from Page 3—Section 2

on God, but also that God is dependent and relies on Christian men and women to lift the motives and goals of state action. This thought, however, leads us to the questions of mo-



SYMPATHETIC REACTION—The antirabies shot being given his pet dog seems to hurt 8-year-old Adolfo Gastel more than anybody. Nurse is Catalina Aguilar at Tijuana, Mexico.

tives and intentions. The motive of the Christian should be his unique and unselfish contribution. It is the love of Christ that reaches out to both the friend and the foe, the rich and the poor, the healthy and the sick, the strong and the weak.

(These comments are based on outlines of the International Sunday School Lesson, copyrighted by the International Council of Religious Education, and used by permission.)

Husbands' Supper At Center Hill Club

Center Hill Home Demonstration Club met Tuesday night of last week at the community building for the annual husbands' supper. The table was loaded with a wonderful variety of foods. After everyone had enjoyed the dinner Miss Pauline Calloway, home economics agent, and C. W. Overman, farm agent, presented the plans for the 1950 Community Progress bread.

get that in history "Caesars" have often been enemies of the church. In our time, they may become more dangerous enemies than in the past.

Monday: Italian spaghetti with meat balls, cheese slices, bread, milk, succotash, butter and pineapple cake.

Tuesday: Corn beef hash with potatoes and gravy, green string beans, cherry pie, biscuits, butter, cookies and milk.

Wednesday: Tuna fish salad on lettuce, salted crackers, dried lima beans, cheese biscuits, butter, cookies and milk.

Thursday: Beef vegetable soup, pimento cheese and peanut butter sandwiches, salted crackers, milk, black chocolate cake.

Friday: Sliced ham, string beans, fruit jello, candied yams, bread, butter and milk.



SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Conf'd. from Page 3—Section 2

Some take the view that Christians should never speak out and criticize the state. However, it has become increasingly clear in the last fifty years that Christians must meet together as Christians and speak to the civil authorities as to what the issues are as seen by Christians. Churchmen will not find in the Scriptures or in their own deliberations detailed programs to resolve the difficult questions that secular authorities must face, especially today. Christian people, however, have a right and a responsibility to consult each other and then to speak out on all or any issue where they feel something must be said. Even if they disagree with the civil authorities, the word must still be said!

We must ever bear in mind that Christians in many lands confront "Caesars" — autocratic military leaders — who are bitterly antagonistic to the church. We are not realistic if we for-

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