

Federal 'Help' Unable to Save Farm

OPINIONS on topics in the news:

The worst thing that ever happened to American agriculture was when President Roosevelt convinced farmers that Congress could "Save the Family Farms" with programs and appropriations. Fifty years later two-thirds of the farms are gone, the appropriations have been spent, and the "farm problem" is bigger than at the beginning.

Educators arguing about whether a college education should train a person for a career or for the sake of knowledge is a fatuous debate. If either is neglected the system has come up short and students have been short-changed.

Legislators reply to questions about where Oklahoma's surplus cash went by saying it never really existed. That is true, in a way. There is no such thing as a surplus if that means more money than lawmakers can spend.

Opponents of the death penalty for violent criminals continue to argue that execution doesn't deter killers. It may not stop murder altogether, but in early Oklahoma the horse thief who was hanged never stole another horse.

If tourism is such a great boon to Oklahoma, why can't the state break even on its resort lodges or sell them to somebody who can?

A national magazine headline says "English, Out to Conquer the World." Our language encompasses the globe but we haven't conquered the English language yet. Experts say there are at least 750,000 words in it but that 35 words make up 50 percent of our everyday conversation and 70 words make up half of our everyday writing.

Commentators in Washington continue to ridicule religion and the Bible, especially in relation to the president. Their best hope is that there will be no judgment day.

Administration spokesmen said recently that inflation has been frozen in place. Perhaps they hadn't heard that the Bureau of the Mint is offering to sell Susan B. Anthony dollar coins to collectors at "bargain rates" of six for \$10.