

Uncle Ab From Abington — March 2, 1977

By Jim Jones

Man has yet to duplicate th' soil which is the startin' point of all life. If a feller will go out onto th' land in th' spring an' lift a handful of fresh-turned earth, smell it and let it run thru his fingers, he is touchin' th' closest thing to th' Master's Robe that can be found.

All growin' things spring from th' soil, in some form an' all return to th' soil when their time here is up. By compostin', plowin' under crop residues, fallen leaves an' animal manure, man is makin' a good attempt to put back into th' soil th' natcheral plant foods that God put there in th' beginnin.

With the growin' concern over food supplies, it is th' duty of all who can, to raise as much of their own food as possible an' take care of th' soil they tend in th' best way possible so crops can be grown in th' future.

Heard the other day 'bout a feller who burned off his stubble each fall after harvest --sed it made fer easier tillin' and plantin' in th' spring. What a waste. We plows our piece of ground each fall, turnin' under all stubble an' stalks. By April when we are ready to start workin' th' ground again, very little crop residue remains, It was all broken down into organic matter over Winter by soil organisms an' is now ready to feed th' year's plantin.

We have seen a yearly improvement in crop yields an' moisture retainin' power which we feel is due in part to proper management of crop residue.

We are judged in the Great Beyond by what we does here on earth. If th' tillers of th' soil ARE the chosen of th' Lord, then we should act th' part an' do th' best job we are capable of doin. Th' stalks an' stubble are a gift from God too. We should make good use of it.