

The Ol' Hoosier Farmer — November 23, 1977

By Jim Jones

We is now approachin' a most dangerous time o' year, namely that time when we has to decide what to git folks fer Christmas. Usually leave a lot o' that stuff up t' th' good wife but she always comes aroun' an' sez, What does we git fer so' an' so. (she don't talk like that, jest me) Wal, I sez, don't know, guess have t' think about that a bit. No you don't sez she, Yer thinkin' takes forever an' we ain't got that long. Wal, I sez, what do you think we ought'er do? If I knowed, I wouldn't ask you she sez, so git busy an' come up with a good idear that don't cost too much.

So now begins several weeks o' serious meditatn'. An' much discussin' with th' good wife. Mostly on my side since she still insists it's my problem. How about a framistat I sez. No good, she sez, you got them one last year. Wal, how about a dinglewopper, I sez. Cost too much, she sez. He never spends that much on you. Tis th' season to be jolly, I sez, an' fergit th' price an' enjoy th' givin. It ain't th' principle, she sez, it's th' money. Wal now, I sez.

So that goes on an' on fer a while more, Really gits a feller down. Sorta takes th' joy out o' everything.

Now comes a time to be alone, lookin' thru catalogs, studyin' store winders, wonderin' what to do. Modern folks calls it meditatn'. Some stands on their heads to do it. I don't. Couldn't if I had to.

At this time, this is where we is. More on that later after I figger's out what to do.

Got th' corncobs in an' about ready t' make a batch o' corncob jelly. Leaves purty well cleaned up an' a bunch o' them tilled under th' small garden fer fertilizin'. 'Bout time to clean th' gutters fer th' last time. Got several projects fer indoor work this winter includin' settin' up some plant shelves fer th' good wife fer her collection o' house plants, refinishin' a room an' so on. Supposed t' keep me out o' trouble.

Wal, time t' git thinkin' about th' Christmas problem. Guess it don't do much good t' worry bout it none since it seems t' work itself out. One day a flash o' genius will descend an' all will be answered. Hopefully. Ain't had a flash o' genius since married th' good wife.