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10-9-51

GERALD R. FORD, JR. - MICHIGAN

MR. SPEAKER - The following editorial from the Christian Century Magazine is well worth reading. I recommend that there is some excellent advice which the Congress might do well to follow.

"Paging through the September 10 issue of LIFE, we came on an arresting full-page picture in reds, yellows, purples and blues. It showed a bulldozer pushing 3,200 car-loads of apples - the purples were the wrappers - into a seven-acre hole at the city dump in Yakima, Washington. Well, you say, haven't we all seen similar pictures - oranges rotting in great heaps in Florida and California, wheat piled in the streets of Kansas and Nebraska towns, potatoes being dyed and fed to pigs or doused with kerosene and burned? Yes, we have. And, that's the point. This sort of thing goes on every year, and it is wrong. It is a despising of the goodness of God and a mockery of the needs of our fellow men. Yes, we know about the law of supply and demand, about labor costs and transportation costs and dollar shortages and currency blockades. With all these factors operating, we don't criticize the growers who destroy their gluts. But if there were enough true statesmanship at Washington and the headquarters of the United Nations, they wouldn't have to do so. If this nation can spend \$60 billion a year to cope with world unrest by methods that come straight out of our cave-man past, we can spend a hundredth part of that sum to cope with the same unrest by methods which come out of the New Testament. And we



can find in the U. N. an agency to see that the food we have and don't need gets to those who need it so desperately. Church peace commissions and interchurch committees on international affairs have been having a hard time finding where to take hold of the problem of world concord in such a way as to make their efforts count. May not these gluts of unneeded and unwanted food offer one place to take hold? It might surprise some government leaders to learn that there is a Christian conscience about destroying food while millions are hungry. But if the church representatives pushed hard enough, their servants in government would do something about it."

