

5/9/74

What's Ahead -- Inflation

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if that were  
(come back)

inside of three days would double. You still could not see it. And it would keep on day after day, and in a year there might be enough there that you could see it. But if it kept on at that that rate and it filled one fourth of the jar eventually, the length of time that it took to be from that tiny microscopic thing/would be enough to change it from one fourth of a jar to half a jar and that same amount a more would change it from half to the full. They way our population is increasing we just wonder what is ahead!

Two years ago I took a walk through the hills north of Hamburg, Pa. There as I walked through the hills in midsummer when the ~~hills~~<sup>trees</sup> should all be covered with leaves, I was shocked to find not a leaf on the trees. They were all gone. Because the gypsy moths had laid their eggs in those trees the previous year. They had laid a great many eggs in the trees. The result was that every single leaf in the trees was gone. The gypsy moths which had come out in the form of little caterpillars-like larvae, they were crawling over the trees, hunting for food and finding none because they had used it all up. And the road there, the dirt road was so covered with them you could hardly step without stepping on them. There were just millions of them there. I talked with a forester and he said if they defoliate the trees twice in one season the trees will doubtless die. Well I was there a year later and the trees were covered with green, and the gypsy moths had disappeared completely. Then increased so greatly that they destroyed all the food there was for them and they died off. There is nothing left (of them) there. And I sometimes wonder, Is the future of humanity upon this globe somewhat like that?

We often do not realize the tremendous increase materially that we have had in recent years. Do you know that in the Napolionic wars 150 years ago, the transportation of troops was just about the same rate of speed that it was in the (time) <sup>attacks</sup> the Assyrians soldiers 4000 years earlier!