It must be nice to follow the Bell Wether. Just tag along blindly and do what "They" do. I guess you call it a "Me Too Soul". Many times it doesn’t make you take time to actually find out what really is involved in the subject at hand. It would be nice if people took the time to turn the old apple around and around, to see how many worm holes are there. (Old days, of course) Cause now there ain’t no worm holes. At least, that’s what some people think. To me it is a shame of what has been done to "Right or Wrong". The trend is to stretch the truth, to fit one’s own desires. Have you ever noticed how many "Me Firsters" there are; how many liberated souls have come to the front, who think they have a right to play God? To put their trust in the Almighty Dollar? No matter how it is made it’s even at someone elses expense? To gain power anyway they can. So maybe it’s time to ask one question: "Is it Right or is it Wrong?" Not "Is it partway right or is it partway wrong?" Where have our values gone wrong? From where I sit it is still, "is it right or is it wrong?" I am old and soon will be at the Pearly Gates. I hope Saint Peter will ask me in. So I’ll stick to the idea ask and ask myself, "Is it Right or is it Wrong?" AS BEST I CAN.
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THE OLD MAN WITH TWO CANES

Why does an old man use two canes?

For the privilege of walking of course.

Why do people seem to ask why?

My best answer. They should be thankful to be without.

So the next time don't ask "do you need another?" Just thank God you can do without.

To me it is a privilege to be able to navigate. There are many that can't do just that.

So if you see someone that nature dealt a short hand.

Thank God you are as good as you are.
The Future is ahead.
Yesterday is gone.
So what you have left is ahead.
Don't live in the past.
Accept gracefully that which is good.
Those that came before us had talents.
Don't overrate yourself.
History is certain to take care of that.
The headstones say only you were here.
They produce no bragging rights.
Don't take yourself too seriously.
The world got along before you came, and
And will still be here when you are gone.
Do what is right and just.
If you make a mistake admit it.
Don't get the idea anyone is perfect.
Not even Dear Old You.
It is hard to make impressions.
For others than you.
Don't think you can change the world.
And you are smarter than the rest.
Use what is good from the past.
Use the experience of people before you.
For many people were wise ahead of their time.
Just be yourself.
That's all you can do.
If you have anything to offer that you think is new,
Look back in the years.
In many cases, it is not new,
Just a twist of what was tried before.
'Tis not a sin to have differences.
Just a good healthy discussion sometimes will clear the air.
Nobody is right all the time.
Though you seem to think so.
Just remember the other guy has a brain.
There are in this world of ours many uses
of the talents people have.
It takes all the trades to make things go.
There are many ways to acquire knowledge.
The books and schools are but one.
To learn from nature is something to behold.
For locked in the secrets of nature are things no mortal can do.
SUBSIDY FOR LABOR

What Workers Got

Wage Hour
40 Hour Week (recreation)
Unemployment
Retirement Programs
Health Programs
Workers' Compensation
On Job Training
Paid Vacations
Escalation Wages
Fringe Benefits
Day Care

Farm Subsidies

1. Corn Hog
2. Range Cattle
3. Sugar Beet (politics killed industry)
4. Feed Grange (allotments 50%)
5. Soil Conservation
   Ditches Leveling
6. Some Disaster Payments

Other Subsidies: CRP Reserved Lands, Range Lands, Great Plains, Honey Wool

What Has Subsidies Brought: More government control
  Farm - Grains now are on the world market but farm costs are USA

Looking Back We Have:

Sold hogs - $2.70 cwt Pueblo
Sold hogs - $63.00 cwt Brush
Bought yearling steers - $15.00 H.
Sold fat cattle in Denver $4.85 cwt
Grew beets - $3.75 Ton
Hired man $50/month & house
Hand Labor $.15/hour
Borrowed Money - 25%
Had grain delivered to bin $.50 cwt
No Retirement Programs *

In my opinion the years 1935 - 1940 about the only time agriculture had fair exchange with costs of machinery, gas, oil, cars, clothing, taxes, living in general. Inflation (is) the cruelest robber of all. Inflation went out of farm land before anyone. Most high costs stayed.
WHAT REALLY STARTED IT ALL

Drought created shortages of water. Wells were dug to replace surface water.

Loose groundwater statutes groundwater districts

3 day 4 day Rules & Regs.

Tributary non tributary water there is no such thing. In my opinion, water has to come from somewhere and drains out at lower elevations.

Exchanges.

Development of groundwater was a way around buying decreed water. State finally said all waters surface and groundwaters - same. Legislator did not stand up and be counted. Wouldn’t help get re-elected.

Looking for loopholes in the statutes to take advantage of legal maneuvering.

US claims to water right wilderness areas.

Water determination Act ’69, Water Courts; nobody can spend what’s needed.

THINGS THAT HAVE AFFEC TED THE WATER BUSINESS

1. People
2. Droughts
3. Pumps - shallow deep wells
4. Developers - no water supply
5. Transmountain Diversions
6. Use Reuse
7. Federal Projects
8. Economy
9. 40 Hour Week
10. Recreation - Desires
11. Environmental Organizations
12. Politics
13. Legislation
14. Computers - Assumptions
15. Cities building up large reserves
16. Parks Golf Courses Trees Lawns Shrubs
17. Seems that water is to be used for everything but growing food
18. Think case of have nots people foreign to Colorado’s priority system thinking water should belong to their desires
19. Great and growing cities doctrine
20. Compacts with other states
Precise and neat as could be.
Showing the control that the bold Pilot
Had of such a flying machine.
Truely a friend of the farmers.
That he lived to serve,
A family man, a friend that was true.
The man that flew out in the Blue.
The friendly buzzes he would do showing you he knew you were there telling you "How do you do".
So I know on the twentyeth of June
This man was at the controls of the Yellow Plane.
Only God knows what happened,
The plane drove into the ground,
And Jerry finished has earthly stay.
But I know his soul flew on to the great beyond.
Where all brave pilots have a home
To watch the earth from above
The one great place at home he would be.

A Friend,
Frank Minenski
In September of 97 we had a few late cantaloupes. Mom and I really enjoyed them for breakfast. I went to the patch myself to get a last supply. Somehow I tripped on a cantaloupe vine and fell. Had a hell of a time getting up, but finally made it.

In a few days my right hip started giving me hell. Went to the hospital in La Junta. The doc gave me a cortisone shot, kinda let up. Next time it did not do anything.

We went back up to Dr. Milt Waldron. He x-rayed and said the spike in my hip had broken. I clicked when I walked. Dr. Waldron said the hip could be fixed. His outfit had hired a CU specialist for such major surgery.

Dr. Pfiffer was the man, but before such surgery my heart should be checked out.

In January 1998, Dr. Sellers catheterized my heart. Found I had about a third of a spark plug left. Dr. Sellers would not let me come home. Dr. Anderson, a heart specialist, showed us what was up. I underwent a second open heart surgery. First one was in 1976. Had to stay in the hospital and go to extended care.

The nurses on the ninth floor, heart patients, were a fine bunch of people. A gal from North Carolina, Pam, was sure great. She married an Air Force Cadet on June 5, 1998. They deserve the best.

Extended care was something else. Since Colorado Springs is a military town, sure was a lot of them from foreign countries. Most were fine people. Of all the hospital stays I have ever had on this trip government with its nose in health care was very evident.

The Medicare Insurance seems to get the U.S. in the health business. Most doctors don’t seem to be able to live with such payments. So, even with senior citizen insurance, insurance is added. I do have a great respect for the wonderful things doctors can do.

Since I have been a farmer all my grown-up time, my great wish is to price some of these high-powered MDS food. To me food comes to each and everyone just to survive. And farmers do have to have good minds without a doubt. These people that use the great earth to produce food just seem to be the forgotten people. Let them sell on world markets and buy at prices here in the U.S.A.

The open heart surgery was very successful. Dr. Schmucker said I was as good as I ever could be - go for getting my hip fixed.
May 6th was Hip Day. The pain was excruciating. On May 8, the doctors decided I had had a heart attack. Sure did drain all the sap from my body. Spent two weeks in the hospital before coming home.

The one conclusion I have come to is doctors should run hospitals, not government agencies, despite medicare insurance. I do believe something should be done about medical costs. Somebody had to lasso the doctors ever rising big bills and take a look at hospital costs. There are many souls that do not have medical insurance paid by someone else.

In my opinion, more greed has shown up among doctors and lawyers and insurance. Sure they are valuable assets, but some at outrageous prices. One thing for sure, they seem to value their know-how above all. The more educated most are it seems to put them in a class all by itself.

Others help make the world go around also to be sure.