

# From Where We Stand . . .

## Accidents Don't Just Happen

Horses once ranked as the number one cause of farm accidents, and bulls ran a close second.

Now the horse has disappeared from most of the farms in the country, and the bull is fast disappearing as a farm animal.

Both have been replaced by technology and mechanization, and we have eliminated two of the major causes of loss of life or crippling accidents.

But in the process of replacing horses with horsepower, we have created other hazards that are potentially more costly in lives and limbs than the horse ever was.

It took skill and management, caution and care, in working with horses and bulls to prevent disfigurement, dismemberment, or death. Today it takes the same care and caution to prevent injury or death while working with high powered tractors and other mechanical equipment.

For many years farming has ranked as the third most hazardous occupation. Only mining, including quarrying and petroleum drilling, and construction have higher death rates.

In general the death rate from farm accidents has followed national trends, decreasing steadily since the turn of the century.

But where the rate on farms was once below the national average, in recent years it has been higher, and the difference appears to be increasing. In 1961 when the national rate fell to an all time low of 50.4 deaths per 100,000 population, the farm average rose to 58.8.

National Farm Safety week, July 21-27 is an opportune time to examine the record and see where farm safety falls down.

National Safety Council statistics show motor vehicles, home and public accidents, the three largest accident categories nationally, hit farm residents about as hard as the rest of the country.

It is in work safety that farming lags behind. Work accidents are second only to motor vehicle accidents among farmers, comprising 31 per cent of the total.

Other industries have developed safety procedures that have made work accidents the smallest of all four categories — accounting for 15 per cent of the nation's accident toll. The same procedures, put to work on the farm, can bring farm safety back into line with the national trend.

A farmer must be many kinds of a craftsman. He often is called upon to be a carpenter, an electrician, a mechanic. He uses fuels, chemicals, corrosive fertilizers, and many kinds of machines.

In most industries, employees' mistakes are noticed and corrected immediately, but much of farm work is done away from direct observation and supervision. Too often an unsafe act, unseen and unrecognized, becomes a habit instead of being corrected promptly. These bad habits must be discovered and replaced with proper methods.

In 1961 over 2,500 deaths and more than 230,000 disabling injuries occurred on the nation's farms. No good purpose was served by any of these accidents.

Over 90 per cent of all accidents in-

volve some human failure — improper attitudes, lack of attention to rules and regulations, and many others.

But these statistics do not begin to convey the grief, loneliness, and pain involved in accidents. They don't even begin to show the financial difficulties caused by the death of a member of a farm family.

National Farm Safety week is not just a time to practice safe work habits for seven days and forget them for the rest of the year. It is a time to examine work habits, to compare methods with those proven effective in other industries, and seek better and safer ways to do our jobs.

Accident prevention is a year-round job. An official week is simply a reminder that emphasizes the importance of that job. Every week should be Farm Safety Week.

Accidents can be prevented. They don't just happen; they are caused!

At least that's how it looks from where we stand.

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## The Family Farm

Secretary of Agriculture, Freeman, said recently, "Each time I hear someone say that the family farm is dying — which it is not — I want to add loudly and clearly, 'let the consumer beware.'"

He went on to add, "If the family farm passes from existence, and it could do so from forces entirely unrelated to the production end of agriculture, then the consumer can expect to pay more for food than he does today. The American consumer should not take for granted, or consider inevitable, the fact that he spends a smaller share of his income to eat better than any people in history."

We should be proud of the family farm which has been the backbone of this county and of the nation as a whole. We should feel a moral obligation, as farmers, to see to it that consumers everywhere know these facts. We must let the consumer know that it has been the farmer's efficiency of production that has brought this phenomenon about, and we must bring the consumer to an appreciation of the fact that he is being subsidized every day by the efficient productive practices on the American Family farm.

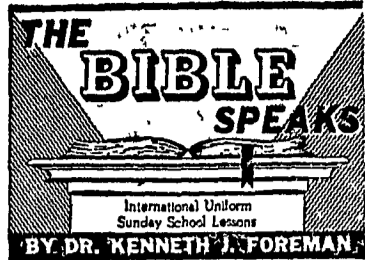
At least that's how it looks from where we stand.

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**Top Money Earners —** Male doctors, dentists, and lawyers were the top earners in the U.S. during 1959, a recent Bureau of the Census report revealed, averaging in excess of \$10,000 for the next year. Next in income came salaried managers in general manufacturing plants, at \$9,156. Median income for all 44 million men in the "experienced civilian labor force" was placed at \$4,621.

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**Fire Losses Climb —** Farm fires cause a record loss. In 1962 damages totaled \$175 million up 7 percent from the year before and \$1 million above the old high set in 1959. A government survey shows each rural fire destroys property worth about six times that burned in an average urban conflagration.



## Where Are You?

Lesson for July 21, 1963

Bible Material: Genesis 3 through 11  
Devotional Reading: Romans 5:12-21

THE Bible might very well begin with an essay on sin; but it does not. It begins with two stories, one of Creation and the next of Sin. Stories, not essays, make up most of the Bible, and this is a good thing. What Christian students of the Bible have been discovering in their re-study of these ancient stories is that the point is: THIS MEANS YOU!



Dr. Foreman

The name Adam means Man, and the name Eve means Life. There is something very suggestive about this. Anyway, if we think of these stories as only legends out of the dim past, just stories to tell around campfire and hearth, we misjudge them. If we argue about when all this was, and should we take these stories literally or as parables, we are still off the beam. What we need to do is take the stories to heart.

### Anatomy of sin

One great thinker in the Christian church has said, Everybody's middle name is Adam. What he meant was, the story of Adam is the story of every man. The story of Adam's sin is the story of Everyman's sin. The cause, the course, the cruelty, the consequences, and the cure of sin are all here. But the central fact about sin, the really dreadful thing about it, is brought out by that fateful question that God puts to Adam, frightened Adam, silent Adam, hiding from the God whose questions must be answered.

Where are you? God asks. Now it is not hard to see that this question was not asked out of God's ignorance. God knew very well where Adam was, he knows where we all are. God asks the question to make Adam think: he had lost contact with God. God should not have had to look for him. He should have run joyfully to meet the God who had done him good and not evil. Instead, he is in hid-

ing, friendless, useless and afraid? Sin cuts us off!

That is essentially what sin is: being cut off. Adam was now separated from his Maker, out of harmony with him. He had given up trying to do what God wanted him to do. God's interests are no longer his interests. The likeness to God (about which we were thinking a week ago) is beginning to grow dim, so that not long after that,—and right on up to now—there are descendants of the first man who look so cruel and are so wicked that any one in his right mind would say, If that's the image of God, I don't want any part of it. Adam was cut off in other words not only from God but from himself, his best self. Further, he was cut off from his wife. The story in Genesis tells of the joyful words of welcome when Adam sees Eve for the first time. Paradise, for both of them, is complete only when the other one, the loved one, is there to share it. Now all is changed. Adam's only word about his wife is—"The woman Thou gavest me, she gave me the fruit" . . . It's all God's fault for sending Eve, or it's all Eve's fault for tempting him, it couldn't be his own fault, oh no! When you get to the point where you won't take responsibility for your own acts, when you blame everyone but yourself for your sins and your troubles, then you have really broken off relations with the human race.

### The solemn question

The first question God asks of man rings like a solemn warning bell in the heart of every one some time or other. Where are you? You are here now, at this moment; but you are wherever you act, you are wherever things happen—or fail to happen—because of you. Someone perhaps might have believed in God if it had not been for you. You are there in that person's despairing cynical mind. Where are you? Results of what you say, what you do, never stop with the saying and doing. Like stones thrown into a pond they create ripples that spread to distant shores. If an old man could realize all the evil that he caused during his lifetime, the burden of it would be overpowering. Yet there is another and a happier side. God's question, Where are you? reminds us that God does care what we do. He does not easily give up. He seeks men in their dark hiding places. If He demands obedience and punishes suffering, and He does, it is a sign of hope; for it shows that God takes human lives seriously. He is not content to let men go.

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## Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH

### To Sharpen Lawn Mowers

Hot, dry weather has brought a lull in the mowing on many local lawns; this might be a good time to get the knives and blades sharpened. The rotary mower is very common but many times is used with dull blades, this means that the grass is beat off rather than cut; a brownish-looking lawn a few days after mowing will reveal this condition. Keep the blades sharp and prevent damage to the grass blades.

### To Top-Dress Strawberries

New plantings of strawberries should be well cultivated to control weeds and be fertilized about two times during the first summer, once in June and again in August, this will encourage a maximum number of runner plants. Use a straight nitrogen fertilizer and a small handful around each plant.



MAX M. SMITH

### To Share Irrigation Water

With two dry seasons in recent years the irrigation of farm crops is receiving maximum attention. Farmers who have the water supply will certainly benefit from this practice. However, it is important to remember that when a stream runs through a farm, the water does not all belong to the farm owner, he is entitled only to HIS SHARE of that water. With large creeks or rivers this is not very difficult to determine; however with small streams this is a very difficult determination. Good common sense and be-

ing a good neighbor might be the solution.

### To Destroy Canada Thistles

Farmers should set a good example throughout the county by controlling such noxious weeds as Canada Thistles; land owners who are not actively farming are also expected to control these weeds. However, we notice that far too many farmers do not prevent these weeds from going to seed. Why this neglect of weed control? The young plants should be sprayed or mowed before blooming, and ones now in bloom should be mowed and burned.

### Check Before Investing

Before investing in a range with automatic heat control for surface units and burners, make sure you can get good service, advises Helen Bell, Penn State home management extension specialist. The unit or burner needs checking when the range is installed in your home. This is necessary even though the control was checked at the factory.



### Lancaster Farming

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P. O. Box 1524  
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Offices:  
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Lititz, Pa.

Phone - Lancaster  
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The feller who thinks he is  
a wit is usually half right.