

# From Where We Stand . . .

## Farm Safety Every Week!

Everything seems to have its national week of recognition, as for example, Farm Safety Week will be celebrated July 23-29 this year.

How many farmers, we wonder, will not be around to observe that week because they needlessly neglected sound safety sense between now and then?

It is a simple thing to point out a person's mistake after that mistake has resulted in an accident. Hindsight, being as perceptive as it is, can quickly show us our mistakes. But only foresight can help us avoid them and foresight means using what we already know.

Editors, commentators, and others can talk farm safety until eternity, but talk can't avoid accidents. It is not a lack of information that causes farmers to have accidents with their equipment or livestock. It is usually one moment of carelessness that does that job. One moment of decision in which a farmer lays aside his better judgment and does what's handy.

As a reader pointed out this week, farmers are great innovators — that is, they will try to adapt something they see, or hear about, to suit their own needs. This is good, we think, and it has led to progress in farm production. But it can also be very dangerous if mis-handled.

No . . . talk and constant reminders can't create safety, although they may help if anyone will heed the advice. But, as beauty, safety is in the eye of the beholder. The person who is safety-minded will undoubtedly have a better chance of survival than the one who simply

blunders along like "an accident going somewhere to happen".

Some people seem to have accidents continually. We hear them described as "accident prone". This is simply one way of saying they are people who seem to attract accidents like flowers attract bees.

Others go through life unscathed, seemingly repelling accidents by reverse magnetism, or some other mysterious means.

If the life patterns of those to whom accidents do not seem to occur were studied closely, we'd bet that this ability to avoid accidents would indeed be found to be no accident! It would be a deliberate action — conscious or sub-conscious — that guided these non-accident prone persons through life.

Carelessness can become a habit. But, fortunately, so can safety. A person can develop the habit of avoiding "booby traps" carelessly set by others, and he can develop the habit of not setting up booby trap situations in which he, or someone else, may later be caught.

The nice thing about a habit is that you do it naturally, automatically. So, once you establish the safety habit it becomes constantly stronger and more automatic each time you use it. You learn to immediately recognize situations which could yield accidents, and you guide your decisions accordingly.

So, if you're one who seems to have more than an average share of "little" accidents, look to yourself NOW; don't wait until that one big one gets you in its sights. The time to start thinking safety is right now. Tomorrow could be too late!

## Letters To The Editor

### READER CITES NEED FOR TRACTOR SAFETY

Editor, Lancaster Farming

I'm necessarily making this brief, but that doesn't take away from the importance of the subject

On a beautiful spring afternoon this past week, a local farmer was hauling a load of fertilizer to a field on a farm he had just bought

Being 43 years of age he had some experience behind him but evidently not enough to cope with what happened. That tricycle tractor flipped over on top of him resulting in his death

The report in the daily pa-

per the next day was no more than an obituary. But there was nothing in your paper. I think this warrants more attention than was given to this accident

In your paper you published a picture of a recent innovation which has a lot of engineering skill behind it (Tractor mounting to handle anhydrous ammonia tanks—L F 4/15/67) You know as well as I do that farmers, being the innovators they are, will be attempting this on their own. The first thing they'll do is use what they have. If it happens to be a tricycle tractor, that's what will be used. Now imagine a load like that (two heavy ammonia tanks) on a tricycle tractor

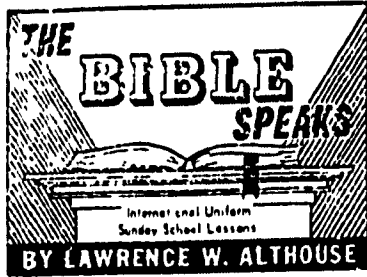
### Earl Hess

(Continued from Page 1)

annual meeting that the Operation EGGspanion program to double the income of PENB is one-third of the way to its goal. The sum of \$101,000 has been raised to date, members were told. PENB's current income is approximately \$340,000

If 101 bats don't come as standard equipment with the applicator tank kits, the whole thing should be junked, or at least, a word of caution should be issued to would-be innova-

Sincerely,  
Charles L. Kocher



## Along the Way

Lesson for April 23, 1967

Background Scripture: Acts 3  
Devotional Reading: Hebrews 11:32-40

A man driving on an expressway grew so impatient at what he considered to be "Sunday driving," that he purposely bumped the rear of the car in front of him to prod the slower driver. Unfortunately for the impatient



Rev. Althouse didn't want to be late.

Few of us have ever seen anyone that anxious to get to church! Yet, perhaps we do know that getting to church and going about our normal religious routine may sometimes get in the way of our living in a Christian manner along the way. This was true of the Levite and the priest who, anxious to be on their way, did not stop to help the man who had fallen victim to thieves on the Jericho road.

Peter and John had a similar challenge one day as they were on their way to the temple for prayer. A crippled man lay at one of the temple gates asking for alms. It was his only way of making a living. What should Peter and John do? If they stopped to help him, they would probably miss the service in the temple. Yet, important as that was to them, they had to stop: this is what the Master himself would do. He never let religious practices get in the way of doing the will of God.

The "will of God." Ah, there's the rub. Apparently Peter and John believed that it was God's will that this man be made whole. How could they be sure? How did they know he wasn't being punished for some special sin?

Perhaps this sickness would lead him to repent or grow in faith or learn humility? Maybe the man wasn't good enough or pious enough to be helped?

### Matter of Compassion

Peter and John, however, would not have been deterred by objections such as these. They had never heard Jesus pray, "If it be thy will", when he asked God to save or heal someone. They had never heard him tell someone that it would be better for his soul to remain sick a while longer. When the blind man was brought to him, they recalled, Jesus denied that it was his or his parents' sin that was to blame. He had never sent anyone away saying, "I'm sorry, you're not good enough or spiritual enough." When someone ill or in difficulty confronted him, Jesus thought of none of these. He saw only people in need and was moved by compassion.

So also were Peter and John moved by compassion to stop on their way to church and heal a crippled beggar. Yet, we might ask, if God wanted this man whole, then why didn't he just heal him without stopping these two men? Why must we ask for God's help if he already knows we need it?

Peter said, "Look at us." We often think of prayer as getting God's attention; in reality it is a matter of giving our attention to him so that he can do with us what he desires. We pray, not to persuade a reluctant God, but to submit ourselves to his will, which, Jesus made clear, includes wholeness of mind, body, and spirit.

### Waiting For You

Furthermore, we must expect to receive something. This is all that faith really is. Instead of some mysterious gift of mind over matter, it is a trust in Jesus Christ. Too many try to "have faith" by gritting their teeth and clenching their fists. It is more a matter of letting go of ourselves and letting God take over.

The man asked for alms but was given something much greater. We ask for help and often fail to realize that he has answered our prayers by sending someone to help us. Perhaps today as you go about your daily work, there is someone asking God for help, someone who unknowingly is waiting for you to stop along the way.

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## Now Is The Time . . .

By Max Smith, Lancaster County Agent

### To Inspect Alfalfa Stands

Due to the lack of much extremely cold weather this winter, the alfalfa weevil seems to be getting a very early start, growers are already reporting damage on plants that are 5 to 6 inches tall. Growers are urged to inspect their fields frequently to know of the extent of the infestation and when to apply the first sprays. If the weevil are feeding nearly a month ahead of normal cutting time, serious damage will result until insecticides are applied.

### To Aim For Maximum Output

Today's farmers are forced to strive for maximum output from all of their farming operations. As the planting season approaches, every good cultural practice known should be used to get all possible net return per acre, or per animal unit. Farmers are urged to plan each operation carefully and take the time to do the job right, the cost will be nearly the same and the return should be much higher.

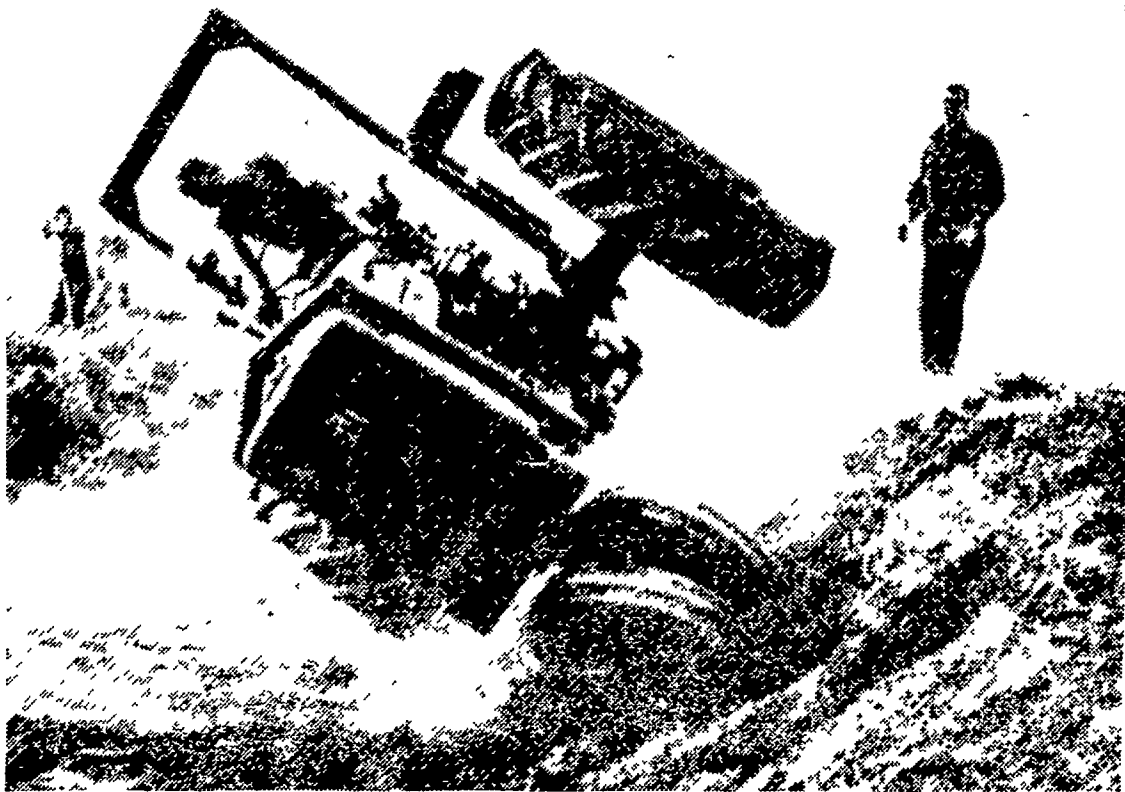
### To Check Corn Planting Rates

Corn growers are advised to take time to be sure they are planting enough kernels to give the desired stand of mature plants per acre. Most plant populations are based upon the mature stalks per acre and not

on the kernels dropped, allowance should be made for some not germinating, insect and bird damage, and other natural causes of plant mortality. Corn for silage should be planted 4 to 5 thousand plants per acre thicker than for grain purposes.



SMITH



TESTING PROTECTIVE FRAMES at International Harvester Company includes deliberately rolling this tractor over, and electronically measuring the impact on the frame and the effect on the operator. In this case a dummy is used instead of a person. Information is shared with the industry through the Farm and Industrial Equipment Institute in an effort to make the safest possible equipment.

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Air pollution is becoming so dangerous that someday doctors will probably advise their patients to stop breathing it.