

## Bigger Corn Crop Planned

How will farmers react at planting time this year to the Southern Corn Blight of 1970 and the market conditions which stemmed from the blight?

That has been an important question facing the nation and farmers for many months.

Now early indications are beginning to arrive. U.S. studies reported this week by the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service show production in many major crops is expected to be up.

Farmers indicated, as of January 1, that they intend to plant in 1971 in comparison to 1970 six per cent more corn acreage, five per cent more barley, seven per cent more soybeans and 17 per cent more sorghum.

This would be offset somewhat by a six per cent decline in wheat and three per cent drop in oats.

This early report suggests that some farmers who fear the blight again this year are turning to barley, soybeans and sorghum as an alternative, or partial alternative, to corn.

But the report also suggests that other factors, probably including the high price of corn, are keeping farmers interested in maintaining and even increasing corn acreage.

It should be noted that it's much too early to tell what farmers actually will do. Maybe if farmers in some states, such as Indiana, which were hit hard by blight can't buy resistant corn seed, they'll change their plans and turn to other crops.

The overall projections, however, indicate at this point an abundance of feed supplies in 1971 and may point to an easing of the cost pressures which were an important factor in farm income in 1970.

## Know Your Safe-Ability

Climbing a tree is quite easy and probably safe for an agile youth. But injury odds go up should a creaky old-timer try the same feat.

A dazzling display of sheer physical driving skill is relatively simple for the car-minded alert young person with quick reflexes and keen vision. It's tougher when one is slowed by age, illness or alcohol.

In other words, we have differing abilities and limitations which must be taken into account in what we do and how we do what we do, warns the National Safety Council.

A man who fails to make full or best

use of his abilities or exceeds his limitations is more apt to suffer an accident.

At the same time, in order that he can use his abilities and honor his limitations to prevent accidents, a person must have sufficient knowledge and information. He must know what is hazardous and how to handle or avoid it. A motorist must know the rules of the road as well as how to physically perform the driving function. Each of us should know what we can and cannot do safely.

When it comes to your safety — what you don't know can hurt you!

## A Poem for Farmers

In recent months, it seems all the economic news has spelled higher costs and lower returns for farmers.

Key farm income makers such as eggs, broilers, pork and cattle have all taken substantial price reductions, probably because of a combination of over-supply and sluggish demand.

Meanwhile, there have been strikes followed by strikes leading to higher wages and prices for basic things which farmers need to continue production.

We actually believe the worst is probably over. There are many indications that farmers are beginning to correct the over-supply situation and that demand may be beginning to pick up. Generally, things appear at their worst just when they're beginning to get better.

There are many other problems the farmer faces today, too, such as higher taxes, encroaching urban areas and their demands and restrictions on land use, waste disposal problems, pesticide controls and others.

We think farmers can and will solve — already are solving — these social and community problems, too, just as they have always solved production problems.

But as the farmer goes about his business of doing all the many things necessary to meet his problems, pay his costs and still have enough left over to provide for his family, we know there are times when he wonders if it's all worth it, if he can and should continue to make the effort. We're

sure that most farmers will conclude that farming remains a good way of life; like any other way of life, farming has its faults, but over the long run, the good always outweighs the bad.

We think a poem by Albert L. Mason entitled "Rural Ego" goes a long way toward capturing the condition of farmers today at the same time that it gives a spark to make the world look a little less formidable. The poem, which was distributed at a recent meeting of the women's committee of the Pennsylvania Farmers Association, is as follows:

So you're a farmer! Bless your soul!  
Stand up and brag a bit!  
God help the city fellows,  
If we farmers ever quit!

Though I succumb to writing rhyme,  
I wish to make it plain,  
I've always been a farmer,  
And with luck I'll so remain.

Too long have we been humble  
And turned the other cheek  
We should be proud, not arrogant,  
But let's not be too meek!

You feed the world! you clothe the world!  
Yours is the golden fleece,  
Our western world's ace in the hole,  
Its catalyst for peace.

Your business is creator  
Of jobs throughout the land;  
Three out of ten who are employed  
Depend on your good hand.

Success means you're proficient  
In a score of different skills;  
You're a specialist in management  
And community goodwill.

You're mechanic and a plumber,  
A carpenter and "vet".  
With sleeves rolled up and boots on  
You keep going when it's wet!

Don't let the world shortchange you!  
Stick out your chest and shout!  
Your business is dynamic!  
Milquetoastism is out!



## NOW IS THE TIME...

By Max Smith  
Lancaster County Agent

### To Protect Farm Babies

This is the time of the year when many pigs and lambs are being born; these little creatures need some protection for the first few days, if they arrive during very cold weather. Heat-cd pens or the use of heat lamps is strongly recommended. Dry and warm quarters are very important for the first few days. Extra time spent on the herd or flock at this time of the year will increase net returns.

### To Make Mistakes On Paper First

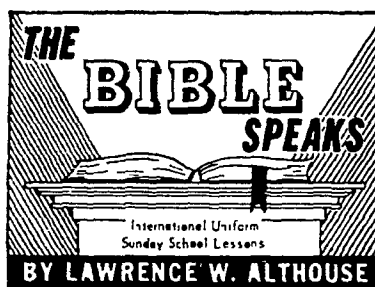
The construction of new buildings, or the expansion of existing structures, requires very careful thought and planning. Merely to become larger is not the answer in many cases. Good management and planning must be applied regardless of the size of the operation. The larger the enterprise, the more costly

will be the mistakes. We urge all producers to thoroughly study and evaluate the plans and building details, so they can be put into practice with a minimum of change and error. Talk with others and with subject matter authorities before going too far.

### To Obtain Legume Seeds

Recent weather conditions give little encouragement that the time to broadcast clover and alfalfa in winter grains is just a few weeks ahead. However, late February and early March broadcasts have given the best stands. Growers are urged to take delivery of the kind of seed desired so they will be ready to broadcast when weather conditions permit. Certified seeds of adapted, high-yielding varieties are strongly recommended.

## For Full Market Reports Read Lancaster Farming



### "HURRYING THE CHICKEN"

Lesson for February 7, 1971

Background Scripture: Luke 11 5-13; 18 1-8.

The late Emmett Fox used to tell a story about a city boy who was spending his summer on the farm. His hosts had a fine time showing him around the farm, pointing out the sights he had never seen in the city where he lived.



One of the sights they showed him was a hen sitting on a nest of eggs. They told him that some day soon a little chick would come out of each egg. The little boy was delighted with this prospect and every morning he would race to the chicken coop to see whether the great miracle had yet occurred.

### No signs of change

Days went by and the little boy became disappointed as nothing happened in the chicken coop. The eggs looked exactly as they had when he had first seen them. They bore no signs of change whatsoever. So his faith in the expected miracle began to wane. Finally, after many fruitless days of watching, he gave up altogether, deciding that he had been deceived.

The next day, by sheer habit and no longer in anticipation, he went to the coop and was amazed to find that the miracle had taken place: the nest was alive with little chicks. How amazing it seemed that all this had taken place overnight. Yesterday the eggs had looked the same as always, but today the eggs were replaced by fully-developed baby chicks!

Appearances, of course, had been deceiving to the boy. The eggs appeared to be the same

every day, yet all the while wonderful changes were taking place inside them. The miracle was growing right before his eyes, but he couldn't see it.

### Is God punctual?

In "My Fair Lady," Professor Higgins sings, "Why Can't A Woman Be Like A Man?" There's a sense in which our prayers must often sound as if we're saying, "Why can't God be like a man? Why can't he do things our way? Why can't he pace himself according to our schedule? Why isn't he more punctual?"

This may sound presumptuous, yet isn't this what many of us feel deep down? "God, I asked you to help me last week, and I still am in the same situation." "Lord, I've been asking for three years for you to change my husband, and he's still the same."

The two parables in Luke 11 and 18 are not meant to compare God to an indifferent neighbor or reluctant judge. Rather, with these two stories, Jesus is saying that if these two all-too-human men will respond to a man's patient persistence, how much more are we assured of the eventual response of a loving God!

### How long? How long?

Many of us are like the unhappy army draftee who was being drilled under a hot, scorching sun on a sultry day. The rookie and his comrades were neither enthusiastic or adept at what they were doing. A passing officer was startled to see the rookie drop his rifle. "How long have you been in the army?" he demanded of the rookie. The man looked wearily at the officer and replied, "All day, sir."

We all know of time when "all day" seems to be an eternity, but we must remember that it is not. Let us not "hurry the chicken," but patiently and persistently await the answer which God will give in his own good time.

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## ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE SUNDAY

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