



Henry Hagy (on tractor) a neighbor of Shenk's manned a tractor which worked steadily throughout the week

replacing beams and wood for a new roof on Shenk's machine shed.



A number of neighbors and volunteers worked diligently to restore portions of the Shenk house which were torn away by the tornado.

A porch connected to the house was ripped away by the winds and partially damaged the walls of the house.

## Storm damage

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of the two had leaned-in slightly toward the larger which might have caused problems had the storm lingered.

Bender and Shenk both related that boards from the buildings had been found on Sunday and Monday in nearby fields, stabbed into the ground at weird angles. "It was if someone deliberately threw them (boards) into the ground with a strong force," Shenk related.

Much of the rubble from the property found its way into the nearby corn fields and pastures. Clean up had begun on Sunday but litter as far away as one-half mile could be seen.

### Mobile Home Never Touched

Along with the farm property a mobile home sets near the Shenk house, but was never touched by the storm.

"We can't believe that it went without harm," Shenk said, "It isn't even tied down."

George Wilson, who lives in the mobile home, explained his reactions during the tornado. "I was standing outside and heard a very strange noise."

"It sounded as if a freight train were coming straight for us," Wilson noted. "I saw the cloud and tried to beat it by driving out the lane."

Wilson was unharmed although his car received serious damage when the tornado passed him.

Henry Hagy, a neighbor of Shenk's and a minister, was getting ready to deliver a

sermon at a church when the storm struck. "My children said a tornado was coming and I told them it was a mistake that I hadn't heard of any."

"But then the storm hit and the children reported seeing huge fireballs as the funnel picked up and twisted the power lines."

### Neighbors Come to Help

As soon as entrance could be gained to the property on Saturday evening, the electric company serving Shenk's area, was on hand to restore temporary lines.

"The crews worked hard on Saturday evening and Sunday morning until temporary lines were ready," Shenk noted.

Soon after the electricity had been restored, Shenk's neighbors and friends began filtering in to restore some semblance of order.

"I didn't know where they would start," the farmer noted. "I guess from their expression neighbor did their, but they dug in and really gave it a try."

On Monday, almost 90 volunteers showed up to work at the property with the Mennonite Disaster Committee bringing in a quantity of food and beverages. Also several of the Mennonite churches of the area brought in food for the workers and the Shenk family.

"We can't express just how much we appreciate all the help we've been given," Mrs. Shenk stated. "It makes us feel good to know that other people care enough to help like this."

While the neighbors were a

boost in moral for the Shenks and Benders, Shenk noted that the hospitality of the strangers was astonishing to the families.

"We just couldn't believe how the people we didn't even know came to help," Shenk stated. "I've been given checks and donations and I don't know how to thank everyone."

Shenk, who was severely injured in an accident three years ago, expressed his appreciation to those who helped. "You know there is a saying that goes, you always

shout your criticisms and whisper thanks, but this time I want to shout my thanks and forget the problems."

"I can't help crying at times but this is something you can't know about until you've experienced it."

Clarence Weaver, a neighbor, was in charge of the work crew which was in the processing of rebuilding the damaged barn and sheds early in the week.

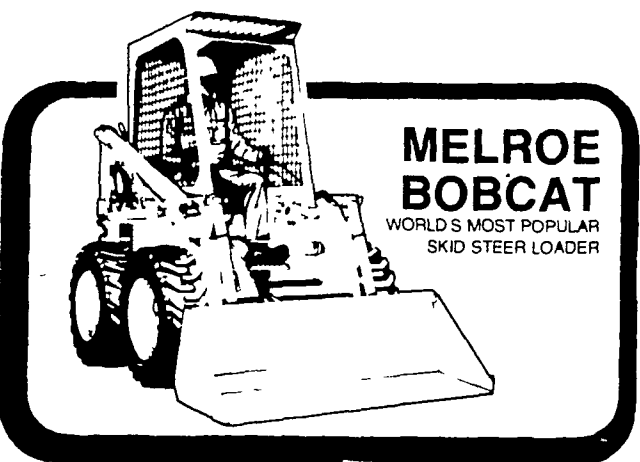
"We realize there was much damage and decided that your help was needed," he explained. "We have had

about ninety volunteers helping and hopefully we'll get the job done."

### Damage Yet to be Calculated

Damage to buildings in the Brickerville area were estimated at \$400,000 early in the week while the devastation in the Annville area is expected to far exceed that figure. And although the storm was relatively short lived (about 1 hour) it left much destruction in its path physically as well as emotionally.

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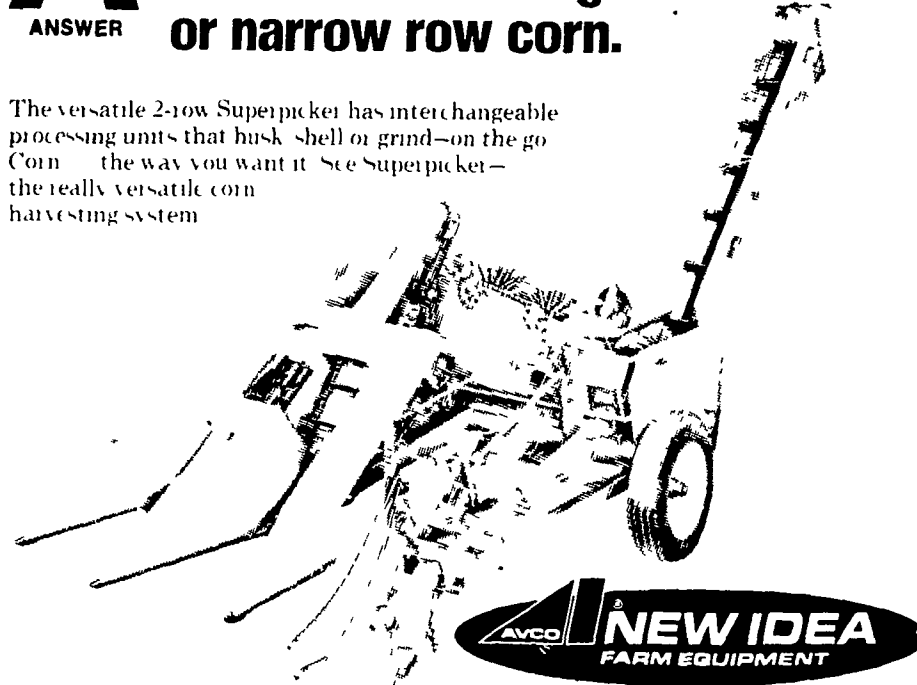


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Ephrata  
farmers  
meet Oct. 21

A meeting of the Ephrata Young and Adult farmers will be held on Tuesday, Oct 21, in the ag classroom at the Ephrata Senior High School beginning at 7 45 p m Corn picker trouble shooting and measuring field losses will be the topic of the meeting All interested farmers are urged to attend and bring friends with them