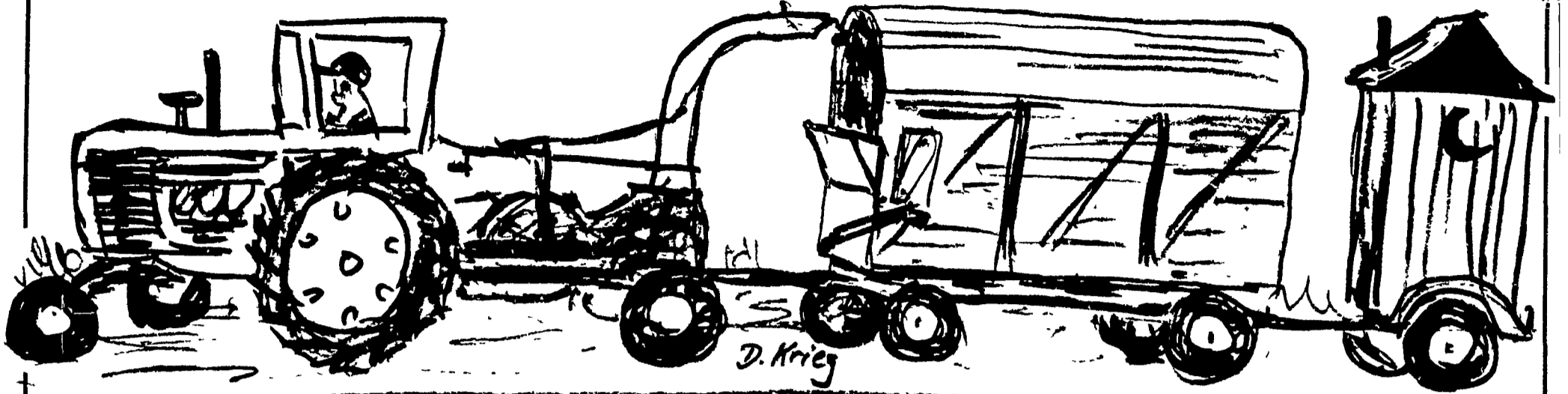


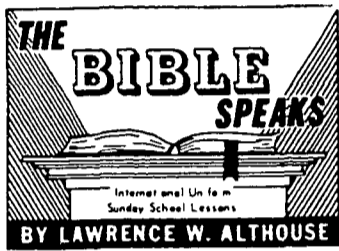
EDITORIAL COMMENTS

By DIETER KRIEG



According to the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA), farmers must provide toilet facilities within a five minute walk for their employees. Well, some farmers have fields so big or so far out in the boondocks, that a

five-minute walk wouldn't be adequate. So, pictured above is a possible solution to the problem



HELP WANTED

Lesson for August 1, 1976

Background Scripture:
Psalms 1:1-3; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Nehemiah 8:1-8; Acts 8:26-39; 2 Corinthians 3:1-3.

Devotional Reading:
Psalms 119:105-112.

Do you remember that when tensions arose in the early Church between the Greek-speaking Christians and the Aramaic-speaking disciples, seven of the former were appointed to relieve the apostles of the duty of "waiting on tables?"

Among those seven were Stephen, the first Christian martyr, and Philip Stephen, of course, was martyred, not for waiting on tables in the Christian community, but for preaching a pointed sermon before the religious authorities.

Sent by the spirit
Neither is Philip remembered in the Church for waiting on tables or any

other kind of administrative work in the Christian community. Appointed to relieve the Apostles of menial tasks, Stephen and Philip made their marks as preachers and teachers. In fact, these two are better remembered by the Church than many of the Apostles.

It was all carefully planned that the seven Hellenists should take over the food and money administration of the Christian community in Jerusalem. "But," says the writer of Acts, "an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Rise and go toward the south...'" (8:26). God could not be limited by the narrow

planning of the Apostles.

So it often is in the churches today. We may think that preaching and teaching is limited to just a chosen few, but God cannot be limited to our narrow plans. Sometimes he chooses the most unlikely people to communicate the good news of Jesus Christ.

"Do you understand...?"

We can easily identify with the Ethiopian. His position in this story is quite similar to where we often find ourselves. For one thing, he is conscientious in his desire to know the will of God. He reads the scriptures under the assumption that there is something in them that can

be vital to his life.

Furthermore, however, he is having great difficulty in understanding what he is reading. Despite the sincerity of his approach to the scriptures, he is baffled by much of what he reads. Sincerity doesn't seem to make them any clearer to him.

Often, that is where we find ourselves: we try to read the Bible because we are certain that it is necessary for our spiritual lives, yet often we simply don't understand what we read. The words and ideas seem alien to us. Like the Ethiopian, we ask: "About whom, pray, does the

prophet say this...?" (8:34). Often, we too want to exclaim: "What is this writer saying to me?"

So, the Ethiopian asks that most important question of Philip: "How can I (understand), unless some one guides me?" We can share his sentiment, because often we are in that same boat.

A man was won to Christ that day because someone who was appointed to wait on tables helped him to understand the good news of Jesus Christ. May Philip's tribe increase!



NOW IS THE TIME...

Max Smith
County Agr. Agent
Telephone 394-6851

TO CLIP PASTURES

Permanent pastures do need frequent mowing and the second one is due this summer; the first one should have been made late in May or early June. By this time the growth has matured and the old grass is dry and not very palatable. By clipping every four to six weeks during the summer the weed growth will be stopped, the area will look more attractive, and the mowing will encourage the new growth of grass from the roots. Most pasture land in this part of the state is not fit for other crops, but this does not mean the land cannot be made productive; good pasture means forage for both meat and milk production. Annual applications of a complete fertilizer in the spring and meeting lime requirements every 3 to 5 years will help most areas, along with this frequent mowings during the growing season, will add to the returns from the area.

TO CONTROL APHIDS

Longer periods of hot, dry weather usually experienced during July and August mean more trouble from insects such as aphids; currently they are attacking tobacco plants, and the new growth of both flower and

vegetable plants. Sprays using Sevin, Malathion, or Diazinon will usually control them quite readily. Also, we are aware of both the Japanese Beetle and the small green rootworm beetles working on plants and especially the silk of both field and sweet corn; we doubt if these will do much damage at this time and not worth the expense of spraying on large area. In the garden frequent applications of Sevin will protect corn ears. The possible harm could occur if the beetle eat off the silk before pollenation takes place.

TO MAINTAIN FISH BALANCE IN PONDS

Too many farm ponds are over-stocked with fish, and especially with bluegills. In the original stocking effort most ponds have been stocked with black bass as the main fish, and bluegills to furnish food for the bass. As a result of very rapid reproduction, the bluegills have increased more rapidly than the bass can consume and we end up with too many fish in the body of water. We urge pond owners to encourage the fishing of the bluegills as well as some of the bass. Too many fisherman go for the large

bass and do not bother with the smaller bluegills; if this happens year after year, the pond gets over-populated and not any of the fish have enough food to grow or to reproduce. Remove the bluegills at every opportunity; if all of the fish are small and stunted, it may be best to drain the pond and start over again.

TO SELL STEERS AS THEY GRADE

The cattle feeding enterprise is in trouble at this time and prices are depressed. To make the situation worse, the number of cattle on feed is high and it appears that it will take some time before we see much improvement. I'm aware of many cattle now being held in the feedlot waiting for a better market; I hope this desire is realized but feeders should face the fact that it may not happen soon enough for them to move the cattle. When cattle reach the desired market grade (Choice in many cases) it is most economical to move them at that time. To keep them on feed longer means less efficiency in the

20 to 27 percent mark-up USSR selling US wheat

Editor's Note: The following is reprinted from the National Farmers Union's 'Washington Newsletter', dated July 9, 1976.

The Soviet Union has made a healthy profit on its international grain transactions, according to an analysis of the USSR's annual report on foreign trade. Russia has continued to export grain to its regular customers despite its need to buy grain from the US. The foreign trade reports show that in 1974, the Soviet Union purchased about 7.1 million tons of grain, principally from the US. In the same year from domestic or imported stocks, Russia exported to

its normal customers a total of 7.0 million tons at an apparent profit of about \$125 million.

Interestingly, the Russians bought 1.3 million tons of US wheat at 77.4 rubles per ton in 1974. The same year, the USSR sold 5.2 million tons of wheat to other countries at prices which averaged 93.2 rubles per ton, a mark-up of about 20 percent.

Russia in 1974 paid 55.2 rubles per ton for 2.6 million tons of US corn. In the same year, USSR sold 782,100 tons of corn to other countries at 70.3 rubles per ton, a mark-up of 27 percent.

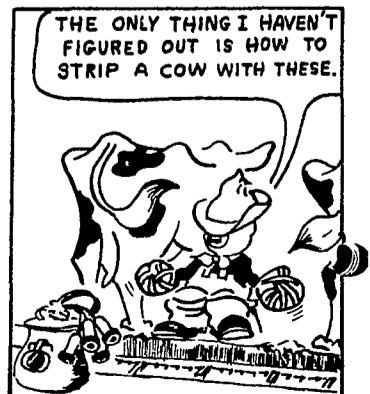
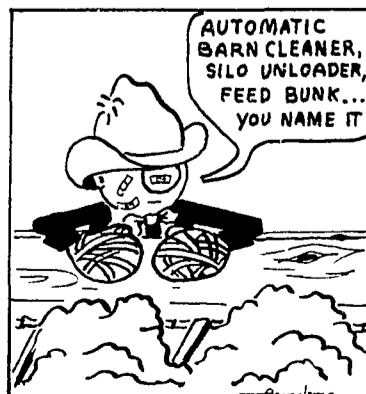
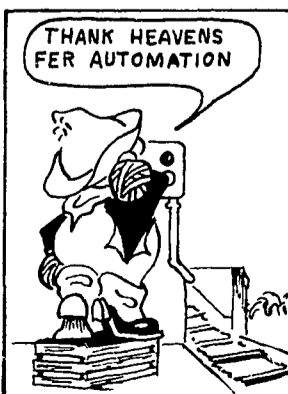
Farm Calendar

Monday, Aug. 2
Lancaster County Poultry Association board of directors meets at 8 p.m. in the Farm and Home Center.

Tuesday, Aug. 3
Chester County Holstein Day at Jefferson Yoder farm, Elverson, intersection of Routes 23 and 345.

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RURAL ROUTE



By Tom Armstrong