

# LIFE on the farm

By DIETER KRIEG



Last Saturday turned out to be one of the nicest days of the year. A friend had called earlier to ask if I could help him fill silo.

Well, can fish swim? Does Jimmy Carter want to be President? Do bees like honey?

You bet I'll help fill silo!

Life on the farm has admittedly taken on a different light during the past 2½ years that I have been away from the everyday chores. But nevertheless, silo filling has been a job I've always looked forward to. And so starts the most recent episode of my life on the farm.

Happy to be aboard a 4020 again for the first time since last Spring, I fired the tractor up and aimed the trailing chopper towards the nearest two rows of corn. With the power-take-off shaft engaged, the razor-sharp knives began to spin at 1000 revolutions per minute. The tractor thundered at full power, the chopper hummed, and within another few seconds a stream of silage flowed into the wagon.

Within 10 minutes the wagon was full, and my friend, Bob Wenger, came speeding across the field with an empty one. After just one load it was all routine again. Familiar work, familiar surroundings, familiar satisfactions I felt right at home.

The scents of diesel fuel, greasy machinery, chopped corn, and naked soil touched my insides. The rumbling of the tractor and chopper was music

to my ears. The tall corn was a pretty sight and harvesting it was a satisfaction even though I had nothing to do with planting this field. Row after row, load after load, the work continued interrupted only by a flat tire and lunch. Eventually there were just two rows left. The other side of the field became clearly visible through the stalks.

Approaching the end of the field, I continuously adjusted the spout, allowing the silage to pile up evenly at a rate of 1000 pounds per minute.

Soon it was time to pull back the throttle, lift the corn head, disengage the pto and shut down the tractor. The wagon was filled to capacity. There was no empty one to hitch to. I could see Bob up on the silo. (That's him on page 1.) Across the fields came the words "I plugged the pipe."

"Must have loaded that last one too full," I thought to myself, as I jogged towards the three tall silos - each one 20 feet in diameter and 60 feet high. "Can I help with something?" I hollered up to him. "Yes, disconnect the pipe from the blower," he answered.

After some banging and prodding, we finally had things cleared. But we couldn't put much more silage in because this 20 by 60 was filled to the gooseneck - which is why the pipe had clogged.

Those last two rows would have to wait until after milking.

## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

In the interest of professional journalism, and with the true spirit of editorial responsibility in mind, I request that you print this letter in your editorial section. No one, since Christ, has been faultless, and there are two sides to every story. In telling only one side of a story or in pointing out only certain things you are not technically lying, but you are suspect ethically and morally.

I am referring to your "series" of editorials and stories attacking Jimmy Carter, of course. While you repeatedly assure us readers you won't support Carter because you've already made up your mind, you have not mentioned reasons telling us why farmers can't support Gerald Ford. As long as you can only "report" items Carter said or allegedly said not favorable to farmers, why don't you remind us of the negative

farming positions taken by Ford and the previous administration?

Ford did the following negative things for farmers: (1) impounded funds for conservation measures (the money was finally released after a court battle initiated by farmers proved the withholding was illegal); (2) placed an embargo on grain, costing American farmers important dollars; (3) continues to cost each and every farmer money, since according to the latest U.S. Department of Agriculture statistics, the farmer's share of the food dollar fell 2.4 per cent in August from the previous month and 9.4 per cent from the previous year. This figure is the lowest since December, 1971; (4) continues to permit far too many imports, especially those from countries with much less stringent inspection procedures and requirements.

Why is Dieter Krieg so

upset with California labor laws? I don't like them either, but I fail to see how they apply to our family farms. I'm a farmer, and I generally only hire some day labor during busy season. But, a law's a law, and if California passes the legislation, we must abide by the rules. We should all abide by the rules of our great country. Labor unions may contribute to higher prices, but they certainly don't effect my family farm labor situation. And in Pennsylvania, we are a state of family farmers.

Ford is not a farmer. Never was. Earl Butz, secretary of agriculture is not a farmer. The Carter family has been in agriculture a long time. Jimmy does really know something about "dirt farming". Why do our agricultural journalists and "prosperous farm leaders" always tell us not to vote for farmers? Aren't farmers



## THE GUILTY JUDGE

Lesson for October 2, 1976

Background Scripture  
Romans 1:16 through 2:11  
Devotional Reading  
Psalms 53

I can see that we're going to have to get rid of the maid, said a suburban wife to her husband. "I just caught her trying to steal those towels you lifted from the hotel in Miami!"

That little slice of life illustrates the double standard under which many of us operate in our daily lives. We condemn in others the sins which we easily rationalize away in our own lives. The same sin appears differently depending upon your perspective.

### Judging Another

The author of a recent novel about a great train robbery in nineteenth-century England points out a persistent attitude that prevailed in those days and still is current today: that crime and social evil is performed primarily by a distinct "criminal class" of people. Today we speak of "the criminal-type." It is assumed that crimes are committed by sinful people and that the rest of society - for the most part decent and law-abiding - should be protected from the "criminal element" by isolation and harsh punishment.

Criminological studies have demonstrated the fallacy of these assumptions with statistics of "white-collar crime" that is largely undetected and unpunished. The criminal system in our society is designed to detect and apprehend mostly the petty criminal. If a man breaks into your house and steals fifty dollars, the recompense if he is caught is predictable and substantial. But if that same man juggles the firm's books in order to avoid several million dollars in taxes, retribution is most uncertain.

Yet, although our society focuses upon only one strata of criminality, it pervades the whole society and is an everpresent potential and often reality in each person's life.

### Condemning Yourself

This should not come as a surprise to us because this is the view we find in the Bible. All men, not just some, are sinners in the sight of God. There is no person who in some way does not rebel against God. If we do not realize this, it is usually because we fail to see ourselves and others objectively. We see the speck in someone else's eye and completely ignore the log in our own eye.

It is for this reason that the New Testament warns us against sitting in judgement

qualified or "smart" enough to serve as our leaders?

Dieter Krieg tells us why we can't support Carter. I've given four factual reasons why we can't support Ford. Who should we support?

Sincerely,

Walter B. Loncosky  
Danville, Pa.



## NOW IS THE TIME...

Max Smith  
County Agr Agent  
Telephone 294-6851

**To Invest in Livestock Equipment**  
Both dairy and beef cattle producers need to have proper equipment to handle and move their cattle. We are aware of the great stress and excitement caused in too many cases when animals are forced into trucks without chutes and loading ramps. Also, the reduction of injuries to market animals will soon pay for the new equipment. We would suggest that producers should have cutting gates with a narrow chute and headgate, this is very im-

portant in treating and implanting animals. A loading chute will save pounds injuries, and many dollars in the value of a carcass. I've heard butcher and packers remark of the loss to the farmer when market animals are bruised or injured. Good equipment will pay for itself in a few years.

### To Breed Dairy Cows And Heifers

Local milk prices usually reach a low in May or June, then climb to a peak in the

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## Farm Calendar

**Sunday, Oct. 3**  
Bedding Plant Conference, Hershey Motor Lodge. Educational programs of this Ninth International Conference get underway Monday, conclude on Wednesday.

**Monday, Oct. 4**  
Farm Families for Ford dinner meeting. USDA Secretary Earl Butz is guest speaker. Reception at 5:30, dinner at 6:15, Penn Harris Motor Inn, Camp Hill. For reservations, please call 717-

of others. "Judge not," said Jesus, "that you be not judged" (Matthew 7:1). The Apostle Paul expands upon this, saying: "Therefore you have no excuse, O man, whoever you are, when you judge another; for in passing judgement upon him you condemn yourself, because you the judge, are doing the very same things" (Romans 2:1). Just because our sins are hidden and subtle does not make them any less objectionable than those that are obvious. We may hide them from ourselves and others, but we will not be able to deceive God. There is no one more vulnerable to the judgement of God than he who judges his fellow man.

232-9949 by lunch-time today

American Rabbit Breeders Association Convention, and Show, York Fairgrounds, today through Friday.

**Tuesday, Oct. 5**  
Hunterdon County (N.J.) Soil Conservation District supervisors meet, Hunterdon County Extension Center, 8 p.m. Inter-State Milk Producers District meeting, York County, at the Airville Fire Hall, 7:15 p.m.

**Wednesday, Oct. 6**  
Manheim Fair begins, lasts through Friday.

Lancaster County Conservation District board meeting, Farm and Home Center, Lancaster Manure management field day and demonstration, 9:45 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Marvin Peoples farm, McAlisterville R2, Juniata County.

Unionville Community Fair begins, Unionville, continues through Saturday.

**Friday, Oct. 8**

Hog sale at the Manheim Fair begins at 7 p.m. Lamb sale is at 8 p.m. and the beef sale is at 8:30 p.m.

Carnival night at the Hunterdon County Extension Center at 7 p.m.

## RURAL ROUTE By Tom Armstrong

