

DANGER!



Fields after field of corn in Southern Lancaster County and much of Chester County looks like this. Down and hopeless looking

Often, the fields look fine from the outside, with the first two or three rows standing tall and strong. But the insides of the fields look like they've been struck by a giant eggbeater.

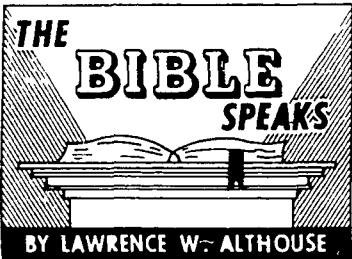
In a way, they were. Hurricane David was the villain here last week, when his dying gasps passed over the area. His brother Fred is due along any day, now and he may add his own little footnote to what has been a largely successful growing season.

Nobody can afford to leave corn lying out in the field to rot. Driving through southern Lancaster County last week, we saw a number of choppers out in the fields, making game efforts to get the downed stalks into the headers.

They were plugging up. Whole roots were being fed into the blades and stopping the machines dead in their tracks.

It takes no imagination at all to see the danger lurking in this field of corn. A plugged chopper is an invitation to tragedy.

It's been said before, but we'll say it again. If your harvester is plugged up, please, please shut the engine off before you try to unplug it. Arms, legs and even lives have been lost because this simple rule has been ignored.



WHO'S IN CHARGE?

Lesson for September 16, 1979

Background Scripture:

Isaiah 5:1-7;
Matthew 13:44-46;
21:33-46.

Devotional Reading:

Matthew 13:24-30.

As the ancient Hebrews answered questions about the nature of God with narratives of what God had done, so Jesus taught about both God and the kingdom of heaven with stories which we call parables. Jesus was not given to theological definitions and systems, but his parables tell us so much more about God and his kingdom than any abstract statements could ever convey. The reality of God always lies far beyond the power of human thought and words. Yet, at the same time, Jesus found this reality reflected in the common scenes of daily life and his stories were intended, not to

tell everything, but only as much as the human mind could grasp.

The Kingdom Is Like . . .

The stories he told helped people see these great truths in picture-form. Thus Jesus invited his disciples to "see" in their minds' eye the picture of a man who found a treasure in a field and then sold everything so that that treasure might be his. Jesus was saying, in effect, if you can understand how that man felt and why he did what he did, then you can understand what the kingdom of heaven means to you: it is the most valuable, most important of all the realities of your life.

In Matthew 21:33-41 the story is more involved, but no less revealing. The "householder" is obviously none other than God Himself. The "vineyard", "winepress" and "tower" are like the earth which God has placed at our disposal. The "season of fruit" reminds us that the earth is not just ours to enjoy, but we are expected to make it fruitful, to be productive. The "servants" whom he sends to the "tenants" (us) are his messengers, such as the prophets. The treatment of his servants — "beat . . . killed . . . stoned" — reflects the way people have usually responded to his prophets

and spokesmen. The "son" of the householder, of course, is Jesus and the treatment accorded him reminds us of his passion and death.

To Other Tenants

But the point of this parable is a warning "When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" (Matthew 21:40). The tenants thought that they could do whatever they pleased, for the owner, it seemed, had gone away and wouldn't be back. But the whole point of the story is

that the owner is still in charge and will return. And the fate of the tenants is dark indeed: "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons" (21:41).

There are lots of things about God and his judgment that are hard for us to grasp and fully understand. But one thing that the parables of Jesus remind us and make perfectly clear is that nothing can be more fatal than for us to forget that God is still in charge.



NOW IS THE TIME

By Max Smith, Lancaster County Agricultural Agent
Phone 394-6851

TO CLEAN PASTURES

A careful check over pastures can be time well spent. Trash, broken glass and wire may produce bad udder and foot injuries. Take time to pick-up and bury this debris. Nails sticking through boards may produce serious puncture wounds in feet. Old farm implement; should be hauled away.

Farm animals seem unable to resist stepping through old disks or harrows, often with painful results.

A magnet may be a big help in picking up nails and bits of wire. They should be buried with any old bottles and tin cans.

One old paint bucket may furnish enough lead to kill half a dozen cows. They like the taste of lead paint so much that they will struggle with each other to get as much as possible from an old paint can.

Fertilizer and fertilizer

bags are deadly; especially those containing nitrates. Cows will eagerly kill themselves eating it.

In spite of our laws, we still have a few people who will pitch a bagful of junk out of their cars. Cattlemen and dairymen must be ever mindful of this and try to remove this material before their animals get to it.

TO APPLY LIME

Apply lime now. Early fall is a good time for applying lime.

For land to be seeded to

legumes in 1979, now is the best time to start correcting soil acidity. For lime to work properly it must be applied well in advance of a new legume seeding. And it must be well mixed with the soil.

If your going to plow down sod next spring, then apply lime now. Next year this land will be turned under for corn, and the following year it will be filled again and seeded down. By the time it is planted to legumes, the soil acidity will be corrected.

Also, keep in mind that heavy lime trucks can ruin a

wet field in the spring. The soil is usually drier this time of year, and little or no soil damage will occur.

The amount of lime needed is determined by soil analysis.

TO CHECK VENTILATION SYSTEMS IN POULTRY HOUSES

Understanding the principles of the basic fan laws are critical to understanding our ventilation system — and why we should not do some things and why some things cost us money. There are three basic fan laws:

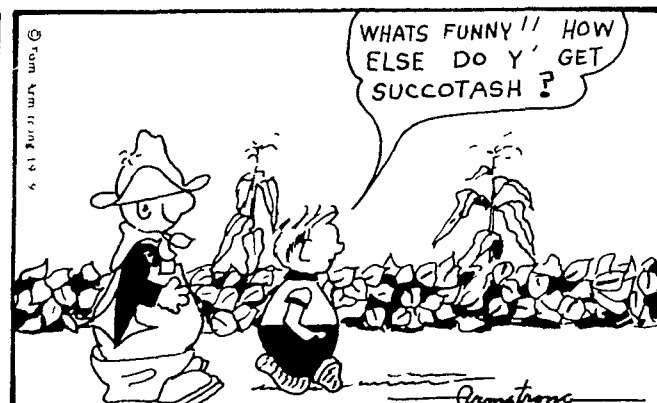
LAW 1 — "As we vary the speed of a fan the volume of

air varies in direct proportion." It is a one to one ratio — if we double the speed of a fan, for example, we can double the capacity of air. We can do this by changing pulleys, but do not do this as the fan systems are designed as received by you. Law 2 and 3 will explain.

LAW 2 — "As you vary the speed (volume) of the fan, the pressure varies by the square." In other words, if you would double the speed of the fan, by changing a pulley, the pressure would go up four times. The reverse is also true — if you

(Turn to Page 34)

RURAL ROUTE



Farm Calendar

Today, September 15
4-H District Horse Show at Lancaster Riding Club
Monday, September 17
Elizabethtown Community Fair begins and continues through Saturday
Beaver Community Fair opens at Beaver Springs,

Snyder County.
Wednesday, September 19
Solanco Fair opens, see page 118 for details
Elizabethtown 4-H, and FFA swine show at 7 p.m.
Saturday, September 22
National Hunting and Fishing Day