

BY CURT HARLER, EDITOR



# Lancaster Farming says...

## Election is no farm popularity contest

It'll be a confused farming community that heads for the polls this Tuesday to vote in the primary elections

Neither the Democrats nor the Republicans seem to have a farm candidate running in the presidential primary Delegates, for the most part, are running uncommitted Farmers may find themselves choosing between the rock and hard place.

On the Democratic side it's fairly easy to narrow the field. Jimmy Carter would seem the logical pick for the Democratic nod He's the incumbent which gives him inside track in the White House race

Jerry Brown made the rounds, attended a few rock concerts and, thankfully, bowed out.

Edward Kennedy's campaign, still rolling along, offers nothing to the farm voter. A Kennedy vote is an urban vote, a big money spending vote.

Carter, billed as a farmer from Georgia, could do better for

agriculture He promised farmers wouldn't be left holding the bag for the Soviet grain embargo. So far he has failed to deliver. But he has options.

He could raise corn loan rates to \$2.35 or \$2.50. He could stop raising farmers' interest rates He could end government sale of soybeans at pre-embargo prices.

Although the embargo may be a factor in November, for now Carter is the farmer's best Democratic choice.

The Republican card is a bit trickier. Ronald Reagan has cloaked himself in the mantle of the most conservative candidate in the race. But behind that cloak seems to be a shallow, uninformed man.

Only a fool would tour farm states and not be up to date on parity. The ex-actor went one better and said he didn't even understand the system.

The parity question isn't an isolated incident. Reagan made major goofs on questions ranging from government spending to the G.I. bill.

It shows either a lack of understanding of the issues or a poor back-up staff, either one of which are undesirable characteristics in a leader.

Reagan has refused to attend the high-level briefings open to all candidates of both parties This allows him to throw darts at others' proposals and plead ignorance when asked specific questions Despite his knee-jerk conservative statements, he hardly seems the man of the hour.

George Bush has said little one way or the other about agriculture But he is a qualified candidate.

If a president were chosen by resume and past experience rather than popular vote, Bush would be the likely contender for the job.

He has a vast amount of experience in the Washington bureaucracy. He has a fine academic background. He has been a major cog in federal government circles for years. Nobody grouses about his age.

His positions are moderate and reasonable. He could beat Carter in

November, an important consideration for a party which can't afford too many more losers.

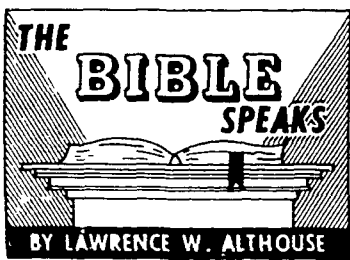
John Anderson's campaign is somewhat quixotic, a sort of Republican version of what Jimmy Carter was doing six years ago. The Republicans deserve a better chance, though, than what Anderson offers.

Others like Howard Baker, Harold Stassen, John Connally, Benjamin Fernandez and Alvin Jacobson are either out of the race of their own choosing or not worth considering.

Bush would seem the likely choice for a Republican seeking an intelligent candidate with a chance of winning later

A thoroughly disgusted farmer always has the option to write-in a candidate, recording a protest vote against the entire field.

However you vote, and for whomever you vote, remember that the winner may represent this nation's farmers through most of the 1980s



### DAY OF THE LORD

Lesson for April 20, 1980

Background Scripture:  
2 Peter; Jude  
Devotional Reading:  
June 17-25

There are two scriptural terms that appear to be similar, yet are miles apart in meaning: "The Lord's Day" and "Day of the Lord" The first of these is a reference to the sabbath day, a day "holy" to the Lord and set apart as a day of "rest and gladness." In the Christian culture of the Lord's Day is Sunday.

But "The Day of the Lord" is something else It is the day when it is believed, God will come to judge the world, "the day of Armageddon," the final struggle between good and evil

Stored Up For Fire  
This month Doubleday is

publishing an interesting and challenging book entitled. POLE SHIFT! — Predictions And Prophecies of the Ultimate Disaster, by John White. Author White has painstakingly researched both ancient records and contemporary scientific findings and come to the conclusion that our planet has probably experienced a number of pole shifts — a dislocation of the North and South poles causing the Earth to flip end-over-end in space — causing ice ages, reversals of the Earth's magnetic field, continental drift, animal extinctions, and other major cataclysms

Some of these, he believes, are reflected in many Biblical passages, particularly the Psalms and the Prophets

The most alarming aspect of this book, however, is White's conviction — shared with many contemporary prophets and some scientists — that, just as our planet may have tumbled in space many times before, so it may do so again — soon! White interprets his sources as pointing to this "ultimate disaster" to take place at the end of this century!

New Heavens! New Earth!  
Some of the New Testament writers also

looked for such a "Day of the Lord" This seemed to dominate the mind of 2 Peter, who said: "the heavens and earth that now exist have been stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of godly men" (3:7) Many are asking today: is ours the day of which Peter and others have written? Some suspect the answer is "yes," others are unsure, and still others remind us that every generation has suspected it might be the last

The Gospel gives neither a clear "yes" or "no" but it does have a message for us Consider "what sort of

persons ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the day of God, because of which the heavens will be kindled and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire! But according to his promise we wait for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells" (3:11-13).

Whether this is "at hand," as some believe, or "far off," as do others (myself included), the challenge, as we wait for the "new heavens and a new earth," is to live with holiness and godliness



## NOW IS THE TIME

By Max Smith Lancaster County Agricultural Agent  
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### TO PRACTICE STRICT SANITATION

Livestock and poultry producers must make a special effort to prevent contagious diseases. Many of these infections are brought home by the owner, or with the purchase of new animals At the present time there are several infections that can be spread very easily from farm to farm

In this part of the country where the density of livestock and poultry is so great, producers should be very alert to the possibility of spreading the diseases. When returning from other farms, or public places, different clothes and foot wear should be used. Stray dogs, cats, and wild birds should be controlled as much as possible. New purchases

should be segregated and tested before mixing with the home herd or flock

In many cases vaccination should go along with the very strict sanitation practices. Every producer is urged to give attention to the prevention of diseases through good management and the use of good sanitation practices.

### TO BE READY WITH SPRING WORK

Adverse weather conditions have delayed spring plantings on many farms. There is little to do but to

wait until the ground is dry enough; it might be necessary to change some plantings to other crops if the delay is much longer. However, it is suggested that farmers be ready with all equipment and materials so that the work can progress rapidly when the ground is fit It may be only a few days at a time when we can do the planting.

The grower that plans ahead and has everything ready to go, is the one who will get the crop in the ground. Those that have to

make repairs, or go to pick up materials and seeds when they should be planting, are the ones who may suffer with poorer crops.

### TO ERADICATE JOHNSON GRASS

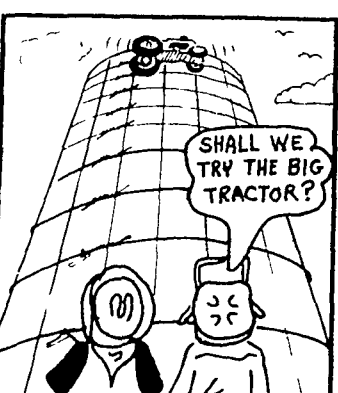
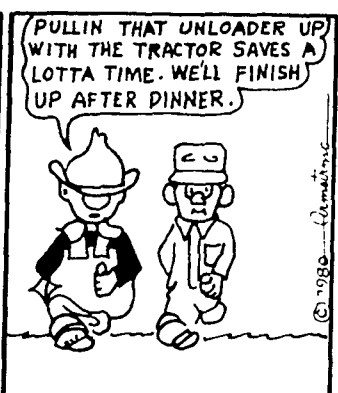
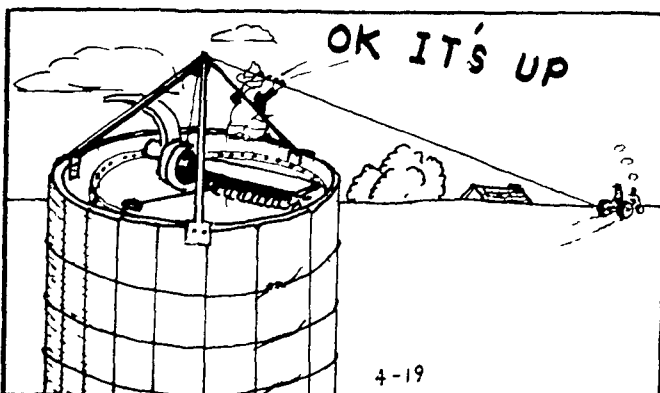
I'm aware of the increase in the number of farms with Johnson Grass infestation. This sorghum-type weed is very aggressive and will take over a field in a few years. There are two methods that give best control. The one is to disc the area several times this spring, during early May, and then spray with Eradicane between

May 20 and 30th; then disc in the Eradicane and plant. This means delayed corn planting. There is little use to work in the Eradicane before late May.

The other method is to spray the growing Johnson Grass plants with Roundup when they are in the boot to early-heading stage. This would be in fields after winter grain harvest; this herbicide will go down through the plant and kill the massive root system. I do not know of any success with

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### RURAL ROUTE



### By Tom Armstrong

## Farm Calendar

Saturday, April 19  
Delaware State Holstein Convention, Harrington, Delaware.  
MD State Beekeeper's Spring Meeting; Anne Arundel Community College; Arnold, MD.  
Dairy Day at the Baltimore Orioles; Orioles vs. White Sox; 6:30 p.m.  
MD-PA Polled Hereford Sale; 1 p.m.; Frederick

Fairgrounds; Maryland.  
Lancaster County 4-H clubs tour New Bolton Center; 10 a.m.  
Twin Valley Alternative Energy Fair all day at the High School.  
Monday, April 21  
Berks County sheep meeting; County Ag Center; Bern Township; 5:30 p.m.  
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