

## Safeguard the Future

BY TRISH WILLIAMS

Tomorrow marks the beginning of the 40th Annual National Farm Safety Week. This year the National Safety Council, who sponsors the annual observance, has focused the week's theme on children, with the slogan, 'Safeguard the Future.'

No group of our farm population has greater potential or more to lose by an unnecessary farm accident than do our children. And the future of American agriculture will soon be in the hands of our farm youth, let's work year round to insure these are able hands.

I'm sure it is no mistake that the National Safety Council chose to observe safety week just prior to the fall harvest season. Probably no time of year poses more threat to life and limb than the fall scurry to bring the crops in. Harvesting equipment is designed to roll, snap, and chop whatever is run through the machine, and that is exactly what it will do regardless if it's corn or an appendage.

Most accidents occur in a rushed effort to get the job done. Injuries are of a more enduring nature. Protect and educate children to prevent such tragedies.

I don't think many people would deny that a farm is a great place to raise children. I know I wouldn't trade my years growing up on a farm for anything. Unfortunately, children growing up on a farm are exposed to many more hazards than are most nonfarm children, simply because the farm work place is also their playground.

Farm kids are often exposed to the same dangers as an adult, but they lack the experience and comprehension to recognize and react to these dangers.

One of the best methods an adult has of protecting and educating children from danger is by setting an example of good safe work habits. The adoption of safe work practices at an early age can result in life long benefits.

It's not enough to say 'be careful' in fact that frequently used expression is so very vague, it is little more than a phrase of endearment.

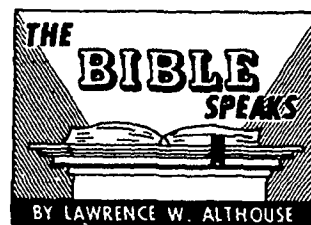
Giving specific instructions on what and how to do something go much further toward encouraging positive attitudes towards accident prevention and safety practices.

Educating children is a major step toward their self preservation, but it is not enough. Eliminate safety hazards on the farm wherever possible. Your child's friends who visit with them on the farm are less aware of the dangers. Keep guns, chemical products, medications, matches, tools and such inaccessible to small children. Make sure shop, grain bins, animal quarters, silos, and other potentially dangerous areas on the farm are off-limits to young children.

They say, the gift of life is the most precious gift given. Then teaching children how to protect that life has to be a lesson of equal value.

Make safe work practices a year round habit.

When you head out to the fields to bring in the crops, take your time. Have a safe harvest, and a long healthy, productive life.



WHAT THE PROPHETS ARE SAYING  
September 18, 1983

Background Scripture: Deuteronomy 18: 15-22; Amos 7:10-15; 5:21-24; Micah 6:8.  
Devotional Reading: Amos 7:1-9.

There has always been one main problem with prophets and prophecy: how do you determine which prophet speaks for God and which prophecy is true?

It may seem to us that the Bible is loaded with prophets and prophecies, but actually they are but a very very small proportion of those who appeared in what we regard as Biblical times. The Bible records for us the names and words of those who in retrospect are regarded as having been authentic messengers of God. With few exceptions, it has not recorded for us the names of those who were ultimately judged to have been false prophets—a multitude by comparison.

How May We Know? Something else becomes apparent: many of the prophets were not regarded as God's messengers during their own time. More often than not, these judgements were made later—meaning: usually too late! Deuteronomy acknowledges this problem: "And if you say in your heart, 'How may we know the word which the Lord has spoken?'—when a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord, if the word does not come to pass or come true, that

is a word which the Lord has not spoken." (18:21,22).

The problem is that we often do not have the luxury of waiting to see if this prophet or that prophet is confirmed by history. For example, two years ago a religious prophet of sorts proclaimed that in November of that year a great natural disaster would strike Florida and it would be utterly destroyed. Inasmuch as we had accepted a speaking engagement in Florida at that time, we were placed in the position of making some evaluation of this prophecy. Of course, we decided to keep the engagement and as I write these words Florida stands pretty much as always. Yet, some people we know heeded the prophecy and moved to another state.

He Has Showed You

Yet, we must remember that God's messengers are not just foretellers of future events. They come to tell us about what is happening in the present, too. Amos came to tell the people of his day what was displeasing to God: "I hate, I despise your feasts, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies." Even more, however, he came to tell the people what God really wanted: "But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream." And Micah's message was just as contemporary: "He has showed you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to live kindness, and to walk humbly with your God."

We may not always be able to discern prophetic predictions of the future until it has become the present. But when we hear voices talking to us, like Amos and Micah, about what God really wants from us—justice, righteousness, kindness—we need not wait to know what God has raised up a prophet in our midst.

## NOW IS THE TIME

By Jay Irwin

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### To Be Aware of the Century Farm Program

The Century Farm Program is aimed at recognizing the efforts of Pennsylvania's farm families which have preserved the traditions and the rural heritage of the pioneer farm.

The program was initiated as part of the Nation's bicentennial observance in 1976, but is being continued for its value in promoting the ideals of the family farm and the importance of farming to Pennsylvania's economy.

To be eligible for certification as a Pennsylvania Century Farm, a farm must have been owned by the same family for the last 100 consecutive years, and a family member must currently reside on the land. In addition, the farm must consist of ten or more acres of the original holdings or gross at least \$1,000 a year from the sale of agricultural products.

We encourage you to participate in this program that is administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

Applications are available at the County Extension Office.

### To Secure Wood Supply

Many homeowners are planning to use more wood for heating their homes this winter. This is a national trend resulting in a strong demand for all kinds of wood. Prices are also reflecting this increased demand. Woodlot owners might be in a position to do some tree culling and thinning and realize some extra income from the area. It's not too early to be getting this wood on hand or to do some cutting. Since dry wood will give better results than green wood, it will be best to have the wood supplies cut and drying before cold weather arrives. As I have traveled the county in recent weeks, I have noticed more and more wood piles in rural areas. Wood is a renewable natural resource and deserves our attention in production as well as marketing for fuel saving purposes.

### 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 principles:

(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, we can double the capacity of air. We could do this by changing pulleys, but DO NOT do this, as the fan systems are designed as received by you. Principle 2 and 3 will explain.

(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 restrict the inlets, raising the static pressure, you slow the fans down.

(3) "As you vary the speed (volume) of the fan, the power varies by the cube". So if you were to double the speed of the fan, it would take EIGHT TIMES the power to do it. Power in this case is electricity—so you can see fan

## Farm Calendar



- Saturday, Sept. 17**  
Delaware Valley Old Time Power and Equipment Association antique exhibition at Washington Crossing State Park, N.J. Continues tomorrow.  
N.E. Pa. Sheep Show and Sale at Harford Fairgrounds.  
Bradford Co. 4-H County Council at 8 p.m. at the Extension office.
- Sunday, Sept. 18**  
PEMA meeting at 4 p.m. at the Warren Miller residence, Columbia.  
Pa. Brown Swiss state meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- Monday, Sept. 19**  
Eastern Bradford ABC Committee at 8 p.m. at the Extension office.  
Milk Marketing meeting at 8 p.m. at the Joe Terry Civic Center, Montdale.
- Tuesday, Sept. 20**  
Pa. Dairy Princess Contest sponsored by Atlantic Dairy Association. Reception at 5:30 p.m., and banquet at 6:30 p.m. at the Marriott Hotel, Harrisburg.
- Wednesday, Sept. 21**  
Ephrata Fair opens. Continues through Saturday.
- Thursday, Sept. 22**  
Wayne Co. Extension annual dinner meeting at 7:30 p.m. at Bethany Methodist Church Hall.
- Friday, Sept. 23**  
Subra Sellabration Sale at 7:30 p.m. at Troy Fairgrounds.  
Pesticide update training at 8 p.m. at the Bradford Extension office.
- Saturday, Sept. 24**  
Agricultural Export Seminar at the PDA regional office in Summerdale from 2 to 5 p.m.
- Sunday, Sept. 25**  
Pa. Maple Tour, NE Pennsylvania. Continues tomorrow.
- Monday, Sept. 26**  
8th annual Home Gardener's School at Cook College, Rutgers.

motors burning out if you change pulleys or a shutter sticks shut creating too much back pressure. Give these fan principles some thought, for efficient ventilation and even in some cases, the safety of the birds and the building.

### To Stop Fertilizing Trees and Shrubs

During this time of the year we should not be applying any fertilizer to rose bushes, trees or shrubs. The season's growing period is about over and the new growth should have a chance to harden before cold weather arrives. When we fertilize during the fall we encourage new growth, which will be tender, and will winter-kill in very cold weather.

It is best to wait until spring to apply any plant food to these types of plants. Mulching is a good thing to preserve moisture and control weeds, but keep the fertilizer in the bag until 1984.

### Otis

