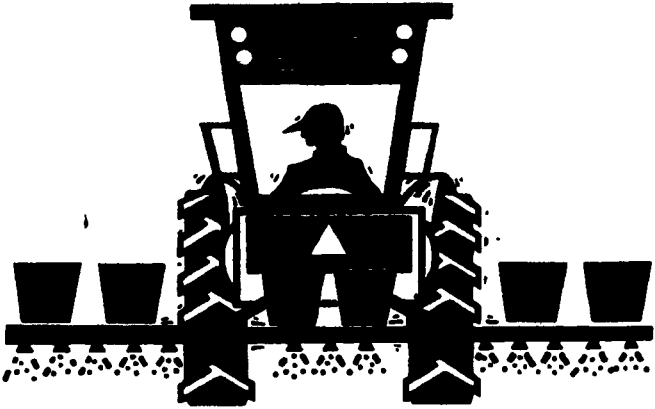




# OPINION

## Sow The Seeds Of Health



### PRACTICE SAFETY

### So, Sow Safety!

Once again next week, September 17-23, the nation will observe Farm Safety and Health Week. The theme this year is "Sow the Seeds of Health: Practice Safety."

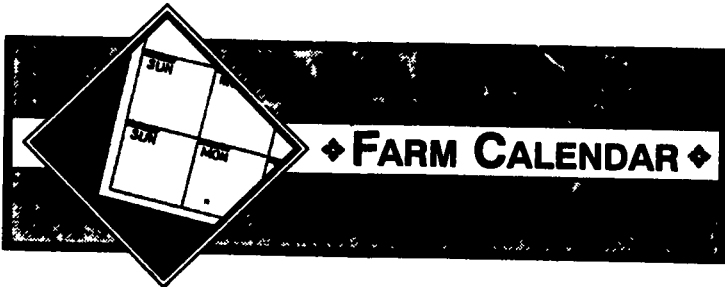
Everyone associated with farming knows that safety, like seeds, needs to be sown or spread through education, and continually developed and nurtured through habit and diligence to harvest good health. The good news is that farming is becoming safer, but the bad news is that we still have a long way to go. In the 1960's, the death rate was about 60 per 100,000 workers. Now according to the National Safety Council, it's 35.

To ensure this decline continues, everyone in farming needs to take a personal and active role in identifying hazards, adopting safer work practices, and reducing risks on a regular basis.

Of course, it is not possible to eliminate all risk in our lives. We have learned to accept this. But it is sobering to realize that many fatal or serious incidents that occur on farms are associated with routine activities like driving a tractor or handling animals.

Little things can be done now. It's time to inspect tractors and farm machinery for proper functioning of emergency marker lights and properly installed SMV emblems. Never stand between a tractor and towed farm wagon when pulling the hitch-pin on a slope. Block the wagon's wheels to prevent drifting. And never ask young children to inspect grain or silage levels in bins and silos.

Every farmer knows you reap what you sow. So, sow safety as one of your farm's major crops this year!



- Saturday, September 16**  
 N.J. Organic Country Fair, Pennington, N.J., thru Sept. 17.  
 Lancaster Farmland Trust Annual Membership Picnic, Gene and Karen Garber's Farm, E-town, 2 p.m.-7 p.m.  
 Butler 'Sale Of Stars', Farm Show Grounds, Butler, 11 a.m.  
 Adams County Farm-City Festival and Farm Open House, Getty Acres Farm, Gettysburg, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.  
 Biosolids Ag Field Day, Ephrata Wastewater Treatment Plant, Ephrata, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.  
 Pa. Draft Horse and Mule Association Annual Fall Clinic, Windward Farms, Manheim, 8:30 a.m.  
 'Caring For My Woods' Workshop, County Office Building, Montrose, 9 a.m.  
 Mercer County Country Tour, thru Sept. 17.

- Sunday, September 17**  
 1995 National DHIA Lab Manager's Workshop/Management Seminar, Cherry Creek Inn, Denver, Colo., thru Sept. 19.

- Gratz Fair, Gratz, thru Sept. 23.  
 Beaver Community Fair, Beaver Springs, thru Sept. 23.  
 PennAg Convention, Valley Forge  
 (Turn to Page A27)



**Editor,**  
 At a time when area dairy farmers are suffering the worst financial crisis since, maybe the depression years of the late 20s and early 30s, one would think all farm organizations and Members of Congress would be putting their "shoulder to the wheel" in an attempt to develop a realistic Dairy Act, that would be geared to correct the financial inequities being faced by dairy farmers. Congressman Bernie Sanders



## Now Is The Time

By John Schwartz

Lancaster County Agricultural Agent

### To Be Alert For Silo Fires

A number of silo fires have occurred throughout southeastern Pennsylvania in recent weeks.

Fires are caused when crops are too dry when ensiled. By ensiling crops under 40 percent moisture, you are increasing your chances for a silo fire.

At higher moisture levels, the moisture in the crop will help conduct heat to the top of the silage mass and to the outside walls where it is dissipated. If the silage mass is large, as in a large silo, it is more difficult for the heat to dissipate.

If the heat cannot dissipate fast enough, temperatures may build up to a level high enough to cause spontaneous combustion. As the heat intensifies and breaks down the silage, flammable gasses are formed. When temperatures reach the ignition point in the presence of oxygen, these gases will ignite.

### To Know How To Fight Silo Fires

Silo fires usually are very well developed by the time you first notice them. The first signs maybe burned-out silo doors or smoke escaping from the top of the silo.

These fires are very dangerous to fight. The techniques used to fight them are very different from other fires and are very specialized.

With this in mind, there are a few things you should *not* do:

- *Do not* climb up the chute of a burning silo. The steps may have lost their hold on the door due to damage caused by the fire. This could result in you falling down the chute.

- *Do not* stand on the roof of a burning silo. Flammable gases could be trapped beneath the roof. The slightest movement could

ignite them, causing an explosion that would shoot you through the air like a missile.

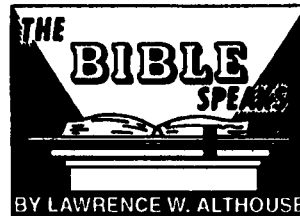
- *Do not* add water to a silo fire. Water provides the oxygen which the oxygen-starved, hot silage needs to ignite. Also, as water contacts very hot carbon, such as a hot mass of silage, it forms two very flammable gasses, carbon monoxide, and hydrogen.

- *Do not* walk on top of silage. It could be nothing more than a thin crust covering a burnt-out dome. If you break through the crust, you could fall into a hot, burning pit and have no way out.

If you suspect a problem, do not take chances. Call your local fire department for assistance.

### To Test Home Water Supplies

If your water supply is from a well or spring, you should test your water annually for coliform bacterial contamination.



BY LAWRENCE W. ALTHOUSE

GIVE WHAT YOU HAVE  
 September 17, 1995

GIVE WHAT YOU HAVE  
 September 17, 1995

**Background Scripture:**  
 Acts 3:1 through 4:31  
**Devotional Reading:**  
 Acts 3:18-26

Have you ever passed by someone in need regretting that you didn't have what the person was asking for? It can be a frustrating experience if we feel moved by the person's plight and want to help. So, we pass by giving nothing.

This could have been the situation with Peter and John when they went up to the temple at the hour of prayer. A man lame from birth was lying in the Beautiful Gate asking for alms. (That's not a term we use much today; instead we would say the man was "begging.")

There is a lot of intense concentration indicated in this passage: Peter directed his gaze at the beggar, told the beggar to "Look at us," and the beggar "fixed his attention upon them, expecting to receive something." Maybe that's why something wonderful happened here — each participant gave his full attention. They really looked at each other. This was no encounter of the fleeting glance or distracted attention.

### EXPECTING SOMETHING

The beggar expected to receive something from Peter and John, but Peter plainly told him, "I have no silver and gold. . ." That could have been the end of the encounter right there, but Peter went on to say, ". . .but I give you what I have; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth walk!" The man wanted money, but Peter and John didn't have any. Instead, they could have given him a sermon, a tract, their "best wishes" or a little sympathy.

At first it looked as if the beggar had chosen the poorest of prospects. It appeared as if Peter and John had nothing to give. But they gave him something infinitely better, the command to do what the man had been unable to do since birth: "Walk!" Peter and John thus remind all of us who follow Christ

Although most coliform bacteria do not cause illness, they are easy to test for and may be used to indicate the possibility of disease causing microorganisms in the water supply, such as salmonella or hepatitis.

If your water tests reveals contamination, there are three treatment methods available to you: chlorination, ultraviolet disinfection, and iodine disinfection.

Shock chlorination of the well may be sufficient to solve the problem. Continuous chlorination could be installed if needed. Ultraviolet disinfection kills the organisms by exposing them to ultraviolet light.

Iodination is an effective method of disinfecting water supplies, but there is concern about the health effect of drinking iodized water for long periods of time.

*Feather Prof's Footnote:*  
 "Excellence can be yours if you use your imagination to explore the possibilities."

that we often have far more to give than we realize. We have the promise of God's grace the example of Christ's love. We can share that with anyone.

You and I may not be able to make a lame person walk, but that doesn't mean we can't minister to someone else's brokenness. That doesn't mean we have nothing to give. For more than a decade I conducted a weekly service of healing and wholeness at my parish in Mohnton, Pennsylvania. Many desperate people came and were helped by the ministry. Some of these people mistakenly regarded me as the healer. I was not. When they were helped and healed, it was Christ who was the healer. At best, I only introduced them to the healer. I could give them only what I had to give.

### BY WHAT AUTHORITY?

A man who had been lame from birth was healed so that he could walk. But, instead of celebrating the man's healing, the religious authorities were upset by what Peter and John had given the lame beggar. Instead of "Praise the Lord!", they said to Peter and John, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" (4:7). All too often the churches have asked the same question. Instead of rejoicing over the wonderful deeds done in Jesus' name, they have questioned the doers' credentials.

Peter was just as incredulous as we are today: "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a cripple, by what means this man has been healed, be it know to you all . . . that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth . . . this man is standing before you well" (4:8-10). Peter and John did not heal the cripple, but Christ did. They merely introduced him to the Healer. That's all they had — no money, no stature, no power of their own — just an introduction to Jesus Christ.

And that is something we can all give to help in healing the brokenness of others.

**Lancaster Farming**  
 Established 1955  
 Published Every Saturday  
 Ephrata Review Building  
 1 E. Main St.  
 Ephrata, PA 17522  
 —by—  
**Lancaster Farming, Inc.**  
 A Steinman Enterprise  
 Robert G. Campbell General Manager  
 Everett R. Nowawanger Managing Editor  
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