

## Free Help For Safety Problems Offered

RALEIGH—Farming can be a healthful and wonderful way of life, but not too many people realize that it is the third most dangerous way of earning a living.

According to the National Safety Council, only construction work and mining rate as being more hazardous than farming. In 1974, the council reports, there were 190,000 job injuries and 2,000 work-related deaths on American farms.

"We are working hard to help North Carolina farmers and their employees make farming safer," says N. C. Commissioner of Labor Avery Nye. "Our state OSHA consultants are providing farmers free and expert assistance, suggesting to them many proven ways of avoiding farm accidents and injuries."

"No farmer who requests our help need fear the consultant's visit will trigger an inspection," declares Commissioner Nye. "The consultant goes there to provide him free help with his safety problems, just as the county farm agent of the Soil Conservation Service people are there to suggest ways of helping him make a profit from his farming operations and to maintain and improve his land."

The need for increased emphasis on farm safety is underlined by the fact that the death rate from farm

accidents increased 2 per cent between 1962 and 1974. This happened at the same time that the death rate for all industries was dropping 19 per cent.

The number of farm workers declined by around 50 per cent between 1953 and 1973 as farms became larger and farm work became increasingly mechanized. It is believed that the two per cent rise in the farm accident death rate may be due largely to increased mechanization. About one-fifth of all farm injuries involve machinery.

Coverage of agriculture by the Occupational Safety and Health Act of North Carolina began in April, 1974, with issuance of standards for migrant labor camps. Other standards deal with pulpwood logging, storage and handling of anhydrous ammonia, high-visibility tagging of slow moving vehicles using the public roads, agricultural machine guarding, and roll-over protective structures on tractors and other equipment.

Most OSHA standards apply only where a farm employer-employee relationship exists. The rules apply on farms where there are as few as one seasonal employee. They do not apply where only a farmer of members of his family work the farm. However, observance of

the safety standards will save lives whether the OSHA rules apply to the farm or not. A recent survey in 20 states showed that 85 per cent of deaths resulting from farm tractor accidents were those of family members, not hired employees.

Other OSHA standards eventually will affect all farmers, since they set manufacturing requirements for new equipment, such as roll bars.

Getting the word on safety standards out to North Carolina's 125,000 farm operators is a big problem, but the Labor Department is working on this closely with the Agricultural Extension Service. Literature on the OSHA safety rules can be picked up at any AES county office.

OSHA agricultural consultant Ralph Dudley, in charge of implementing farm standards, soon will be organizing training sessions and seminars across the state. Leading farm organizations and the N. C. Department of Agriculture also are helping spread the word on farm safety rules.

"I think most farmers I have talked to realize the wisdom of these regulations," says Dudley. "They tell me about the farmer down the road who lost his hand, or got his pants leg caught and was killed. Most farmers who've been on the job any length of time have had 'near misses' with their equipment and know you can't play around with these hazards."

Labor Department administrators know that effective application of OSHA to agriculture is going to take time and lots of work by their small inspection and consulting staffs, and be associated groups who are lending a helping hand. But in the long run, they believe farm safety can be made as effective as it is in North Carolina's non-farm industry, where injury rates are 18 per cent below the national rates.

## Home Loan Applications Show Increase

Requests for GI home loan appraisals and loan applications continued to reflect increases in April, the Veterans Administration reported today.

Regional offices across the country processed 64,473 appraisal requests, the highest monthly total since March, 1972. The requests were 17 per cent above the previous month's total. Appraisal requests during the first 10 months of fiscal year 1976 totaled 504,175, a VA spokesman said. This is 13 per cent higher than for the same period in FY 1975.

GI home loan applications in April totaled 35,818, the highest monthly total since May 1974. The 303,423 applications received during the first 10 months of FY 1976 were 12 per cent higher than the corresponding period in FY 1975.

## Social Security Information

By Lee Wallio  
Field Representative  
Lost your social security card? You can get a duplicate by notifying any social security office.

You can usually get a duplicate card faster if you've kept a record of your social security number and give it to us when you report your loss. Your duplicate card will have the same social security number on it. Your social security number is yours alone and remains the same for life.

A social security card is issued with two parts, perforated so the card itself—the smaller part—can be detached and carried in purse or wallet. The card you carry is the part you show to an employer to be sure he correctly copies your name and social security number into his records.

The remaining larger part should be kept in a safe place as a permanent record of your social security number.

People's earnings from jobs covered by social security are credited to their social security number to build retirement, disability, survivors, and Medicare protection for themselves and their families.

People should apply for a social security card several weeks before they need the number for a job.

The Elizabeth City Social Security Office is located at 111 Jordan Plaza, telephone 338-2161. The office is open from 9 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Monday through Friday.

The man who refuses to take a rest until he gets sick, usually gets sick.

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"IN GOD WE TRUST"
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When God gave Moses the Ten Commandments they were largely **NEGATIVE** appreciate God's feeling for us! For if you were privileged to rewrite the Commandments would you choose to make them **POSITIVE**? You **MUST**... polite political name for that kind of prying of it!

Truly, every "thou shall not" inspires earnest believers to find their own rightful expressions of conviction and commitment. Our secular Law with its protections of our moral freedom does not restrict into more constructive channels, more fruitful aims.

Never does the Law say "Thou shall go to Church every Sunday." It does say "Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy". **REMEMBERING OUR SPIRITUAL NEEDS IS THE ESSENCE OF FREEDOM!**

Sunday Psalms 119:25-29	Monday Lamentations 3:19-24	Tuesday Psalms 23:1-6	Wednesday Proverbs 27:10-12	Thursday Luke 10:8-12	Friday Matthew 24:34-39	Saturday Jeremiah 28:12-14
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## Sunday School Lesson

### THE SPREAD OF THE CHURCH

International Sunday School Lesson for July 4, 1976  
Scripture: Acts 1:6-8; II Corinthians 5:16-20  
By Mrs. Jesse Waller

We would not be celebrating our nation's 200th birthday today, if it were not for our Christian heritage. Jesus-spoke of his followers as being like salt and leaven in society, to preserve and lift. Sometimes we feel that the remnant of Christ's followers are sprinkled ever so lightly in society.

Jesus laid down His life, so that all may be reconciled to God. His plan was left in the hands of a few witnesses, who were faithful, being empowered by His Spirit, and His promise to be with them. The plan is unchanged. Each, receiving His spirit is a new creature, and proclaims this message to another, and others. Our only hope and peace is the continuation of this plan.

A very meaningful incident took place at our annual conference this year. Dr. Harold Beck was our guest speaker at the minister's wife's luncheon. He was presented with a little package by a woman, who happens to be a Seminole Indian. She is a leader, and is known throughout the conference. Her name is Naomi Orphet. When Dr. Beck opened the package, it was a feather headdress, with two tea bags attached. He is a professor from Boston University. The following morning, during his devotional period, he told of receiving this gift. He explained that when he got home, in the quiet of his study, alone, he was going to make a cup of tea, from the tea bags, and drink it straight, without cream or sugar. Then he was going to kneel and ask God's forgiveness for what we have done to Naomi and her people. He also mentioned several other national figures who have felt the heel of America upon their lives.

To be reconciled to each other, and to live in harmony with one another, we must first be reconciled to God, through Jesus Christ. When His spirit invades, and fills our lives, there is a voluntary sharing with others. God's love compels us to go and witness. It may be around the corner for some. It may be far from their homeland for others.

Never should we feel that the spread of the church is a hopeless task, for Jesus said, "Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." John 16:33.

Some of us have the idea that the church exists only where we see a tall steeple with a cross on top. Today, the Christian ambassador is at work, not only in the church with a tall steeple, but they may be found in store front buildings, half way houses, in the inner city, where crime seems to reign. We have hospitals and children's homes, and homes for the elderly, and many other institutions too numerous to mention.

In our present celebration, and in our gratitude for our Christian heritage, let us not forget the unborn generations who need the continuing message of love and hope.

Closing prayer: Dear Christ, may we be faithful to pass on the good news to those who crowd our lives daily, amen.  
(Based on copyrighted Outlines produced by the Committee on the Uniform Series and used by permission.)

Little Stories about Great Hymns

### Rock of Ages

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in Thee;  
Let the water and the blood  
From Thy wounded side which flowed,  
Be of sin, the double cure,  
Save from wrath and make me pure.

August Toplady, stricken with tuberculosis, wrote Rock of Ages two years before his death. He wrote it as a means of clinching the argument in a theological dispute with John Wesley. A British magazine survey found that 3215 out of 3500 readers chose Rock of Ages as the most esteemed English hymn.

**Williford-Barham**  
Funeral Home

The Old Timer

"A fellow with a stable mind can show a lot of horse sense."

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