

MUSTARD SEEDS

BY FR. DON KAPLE

When Philip, the Deacon preached to the Samaritans and they believed him and were baptized, the Apostles sent Peter and John to Samaria to pray for them and to lay their hands upon them that they might receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 8: 4-25). Catholics believe that this is another holy Sacrament which was instituted by Jesus Christ; that this is another personal encounter which the soul has with Jesus its Saviour. And this Sacrament we call Confirmation.

Jesus had promised the Apostles that he would send the Holy Spirit. "But I speak the truth to you," he said, "it is expedient for you that I depart. For if I do not go, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you (St. John 16:7). Jesus called the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth. His mission would be to bear witness to Christ (St. John 15:26). One of the ways in which the Holy Spirit would carry out His mission would be through the Apostles, for he would teach them and bring to their minds whatever Jesus taught them (St. John 14:26) and they, in turn, would bear witness to Jesus Christ in their lives (St. John 15:27). . . . the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness concerning me. And you also bear witness, because from the beginning you are with me" (St. John 15: 26, 27).

Jesus kept his promise. The Holy Spirit was sent by the Father in the name of Jesus. "And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a violent wind blowing, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them parted tongues as of fire, which settled upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. . . ." (Acts 2: 2, 4). Peter, who had been afraid to admit to a girl that he even knew Jesus, went out from the room and boldly preached Christ to the multitude who assembled outside the house. The

other Apostles also, who had fled in terror when Jesus was captured, went forth and courageously preached the message of Christ. All of them went to their death in the name of Jesus. All of them bore witness to Christ by their lives and by their deaths.

But Jesus knew that not only the Apostles but all of his followers would be in need of the Holy Spirit. He clearly warned them: "Behold, I am sending you forth like sheep in the midst of wolves. . . . they will deliver you up to councils, and scourge you in their synagogues, and you will be brought before the governors and kings for my sake, for a witness to them and to the Gentiles" (St. Matt. 10: 16, 18). "Another brother will hand over brother to death, and the father his child; children will rise up against parents and put them to death. And you will be hated by all for my name's sake. . . ." (St. Matt: 10 21, 22). And Jesus assured them, "But when they deliver you up, do not be anxious how or what you are to speak; for what you are to speak will be given you in that hour. For it is not you who are speaking, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks through you" (St. Matt: 10: 19, 20).

Therefore, Jesus wanted to give his followers the Holy Spirit in a special way. The Holy Spirit would give them the strength and the courage they would need to bear witness to the truth. And so Jesus instituted the Sacrament of the laying on of hands and anointing with oil, the Sacrament of Confirmation. Truly this is a wonderful gift from our loving Saviour.

But the Spirit breathes where he wills. If ever Christianity is to be delivered from the scandal of divisions, all Christians must become sensitive to workings of the Holy Spirit—the Spirit of truth—within them. The Holy Spirit is also the Spirit of love and unity. Although truth without love intolerant, love without truth can flicker but briefly. Only when Christians are once again one heart and in mind will there be one fold and one shepherd. "And other sheep I have that are not of this fold. Then also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice, and there shall be one fold and one shepherd" (St. John 10:16).



CHALLENGE AND OPPORTUNITY — Luther Wimbom, self, Asheboro, confers with Miss North Carolina, tall Jeanne Swanner of Graham, about her Atlantic City presentation gown, a gift of Cone Mills. Self has created the presentation gowns for five previous state queens, including Maria Beale Fletcher, Miss America of 1961. At right is Mrs. Luther E. Self, the designer's mother who will make the gown. In discussing his new challenge, (Self states, "That much pulchritude over a six-foot-two frame is an opportunity for any designer."

Local Soldier Is Graduated At NCO School

U. S. FORCES, GERMANY—Army Sgt. Oscar H. Buchanan, 26, son of Mrs. Letitia Hensley of Burnsville, N. C., was graduated from the Seventh U. S. Army Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) Academy in Germany early in July. Sgt. Buchanan received four weeks of refresher training in various military subjects with emphasis on leadership, map reading and principles of instruction. The purpose of the academy is to broaden the NCO's professional knowledge and to instill in him the self-confidence and sense of responsibility required of a capable leader.

Buchanan is a radio team chief in the 23rd Ordnance Company in Germany. He entered the Army in 1955 after graduation from Burnsville High School and was stationed at Fort Benning, Ga., before arriving overseas on this tour of duty in June, 1962. His wife, Ingeborg, is with him in Germany.

Yancey Judging Set In October

The Judging of the Yancey Rural Community Development Program will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 16 and 17. Judges this year will be Miss Jean Childers, home economics agent, Transylvania County; Norman Wilson, district ASC fieldman, Sugar Grove, and Ormand Williams, soil conservationist, Buncombe County.

Awards will be presented at the annual Farmers' Night Banquet Monday, Oct. 22. A. P. Hassel of Raleigh, state executive director of ASCS in North Carolina, will be guest speaker for the awards program.

You And Your Health Human Error Causes Most Home Accidents

For the Man: Ever miscalculate with a good, hefty elusive nail? For the Wife: Ever hop around on one foot at two in the morning, holding the hapless toe you stubbed against a chair leg as you groped toward the kitchen after baby's bottle? For the Teenager: Ever try a swan dive onto the floor of a barn after playing Tarzan on the second tier?

If you analyzed the situation, you probably discovered that there was nothing wrong with the hammer. Or the chair. Or the barn. Safety authorities will remind you that you swung the hammer wrong. You forgot where the chair was. You missed the rafter. They probably shake their heads in amazement as we merrily continue to destroy ourselves with accidents which shouldn't have happened.

The fact is, authorities say, some sort of human failure is behind ninety per cent of farm accidents. This doesn't mean, of course, that you'll be safe if you keep only ten per cent of your machinery in top working order. But it does show that we need to examine ourselves as we give our farms and homes a good safety check. We need to make some corrections on our attitudes and habits.

Take for instance: You say, "What the heck?" and step over a moving belt on a combine. You did it carefully because you knew what could happen. Next day you did it again, with a little less caution. Before long, you'd be doing it unconsciously—and asking for trouble.

Farming is not necessarily a

dangerous business, although an accident every hour claims the life of a farm resident, and although someone living on a farm suffers a disabling injury every forty seconds.

Farming is made dangerous by people who work when they are angry, fatigued, cocky, preoccupied, in a hurry. In short, by not being alert, they turn normally harmless situations into potentially dangerous ones. And they are working in an environment which is bristling with such situations.

During National Farm Safety Week—which comes July 21-27—remember that most accidents can't get along without you. But neither can your family.

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Farmers Urged To File Reports On Performance

Raleigh—Farmers who have completed conservation projects approved earlier this year under the 1963 Agricultural Conservation Program were reminded this week to file reports of performance for cost-share assistance.

A. P. Hassel Jr., Executive Director for the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation State Committee, pointed out that the earlier reports on completed practices are filed, the sooner the ACP payment can be made. With spring conservation projects completed and the cost-shares received, it will be easier to concentrate on other work that needs to be done.

Hassel said that if a farmer has received approval for a practice which he later finds he is unable to carry out, he should report this to his ASCS county office. This may permit the ASC county committee to approve another practice for him or for some other farmer in the county.

ACP, Hassel explained, has been authorized by Congress in recognition of the fact that the natural resources on individual farms are vital not only to the farmers and ranchers who operate the land, but also to the health and well-being of each citizen, both now and in the future. The cost-share assistance available under the program is an evidence of the whole Nation's interest in helping insure the wise use and adequate protection of farmlands throughout the country.

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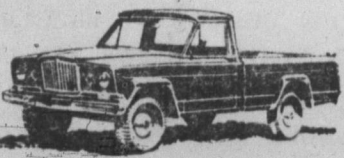
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MR. MERCHANT

SCHOOL STARTS IN YANCEY MONDAY, AUG. 19. THE RECORD'S BACK-TO-SCHOOL EDITION WILL BE PUBLISHED AUG. 1.

THE ANNUAL ART AND CRAFTS FESTIVAL EDITION WILL BE PUBLISHED AUG. 8.

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