

More On Poisons

Policy Committee Reports

Viewing the increasing problems relating to use of chemicals in farming and associated operations, the Agricultural Research Policy Committee for the U S Department of Agriculture at its annual meeting last week urged additional immediate expansion in the program of research especially with respect to pesticides. Scope of the present program in terms of need, the committee stated, underscores the importance of extending present research efforts.

Much of the Committee's discussion during a two-day meeting with Department officials centered around the problems associated with both the adequacy and integrity of the nation's food supply. Immediate problems are broad in agricultural use of chemicals the discussions indicated problems ranging from fertilizers applied in granular, liquid, and spray form through a long list of pesticides, plant growth regulators, hormones, antibiotics, feed additives, pharmaceuticals, and other compounds used to protect and produce

crops and livestock. Modern farming requires the use of these chemicals, the Committee agreed. Without them it would be impossible for agriculture to supply consumers with the foods and fibers in quantity and quality necessary for this country's present high standard of living.

Emphasis in research programs relating to use of such chemicals, according to the Committee, should be directed to arrive at long-range solutions of increasingly important problems while at the same time efforts are continued to solve pressing immediate difficulties. Unless basic research is strengthened in this area, the Committee discussions indicated, the problems compounded in difficulty may still remain 25 years or more from now.

The Committee spent most of one day at the Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Md., studying the research programs under way there relating to control or eradication of plant and animal pests. Among new approaches which scientists at Beltsville are exploring are further applications to other insects of the male sterility technique used in eradicating the screwworm from the Southeast, possible new chemical sterilization of insects to achieve eradication or control, use of parasite or other natural infestations to decimate natural insect pop-

ulations and prevent their build-up to damaging proportions, new types of lures or attractants to achieve the same ends, and new chemicals that leave no residues and those of extremely low or zero toxicity to warm-blooded animals.

Methods of this type, when successful applications are developed, will make pest eradication in many instances much safer, easier and less expensive. In such new approaches, the Committee agreed, may be found the answers to many of today's problems with respect to use not only of pesticides but also of other agricultural chemicals.

Feed Co. Sends Care Packages

Waltham, Mass. — In order to more nearly reflect the true meaning of Christmas, Robert F. McLeod, president of Wirthmore Feeds Inc., has announced that his company has inaugurated a program of Christmas contributions to the CARE Food Crusade in behalf of their feed distributors throughout the Northeast. This will take the place of traditional token gifts presented to dealers in previous years.

CARE is a non-profit organization which distributes food and other essentials to needy people in Europe, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East. This group was selected because its purpose points up the increasing need for food for human consumption and the part the feed



SNOW CAUSED CONSTERNATION and confusion for everyone but the children this week. Most of the work in the county was suspended on Monday until the immediate task of snow removal could be handled. With schools closed the youngsters had a wonderful time in the snow. Here Eugene and Bobby Owen of Quarryville ride their pony "Spice" through the drifts. It was a treat for the pony too since he had never seen snow up until this time.

—L. F. PHOTO

The death rate in rural traffic accidents at night is three times that of the day time rate.

industry plays in fulfilling that need.

CARE food packages will be sent overseas in the name of individual dealers, each of whom will receive an acknowledgment card from the CARE headquarters.

Consider substituting venison in many of your favorite recipes for sausage, pot roasts, swiss steak, meat loaf, hamburgers, stew, mince meat, barbecue, sauerbraten, soup stock, chili and curried dishes.

About half the rural pedestrian deaths last year occurred while crossing intersections.

SAVE ON MICHIGAN PEAT

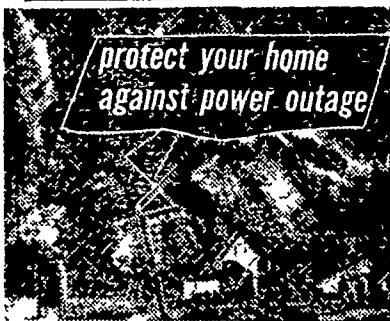
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