

From Where We Stand . . .

The Poison In Your Home

Familiarity breeds contempt, they say

We fear those things we don't understand and tend to become complacent about the familiar dangers around us

With the widespread use of new farm chemicals and the great controversy about their safe use, we have heard of very few cases of people actually being killed by agricultural sprays. We do not mean to belittle the drive for safe handling of chemicals or the need for proper application because we feel that is precisely the reason there have been so few casualties. As long as we have a small amount of fear about a product, we will handle it with respect.

On the other hand, household chemicals have become so familiar to us, and we have used them so long without mishap we tend to become careless. We clean our homes, launder our clothes, open our drains, and paint our walls with poisonous chemicals. Some of these do not carry a poison label. These things we rarely think of as dangerous.

Yet every year half a million persons take poison, either intentionally or by accident. Approximately 1,700 die, 1,300 of them from poisonings in the home. Four hundred of these are children under school age or too young to understand the meaning of poison. Over half of the 1,300 are adults who should know better.

But how many unlabeled poisons do you have in your home — on shelves low enough to be reached by toddlers? There are enough poisons in most homes to kill the entire family.

Look in your laundry at the soaps and detergents, household ammonia, silver or brass polish, disinfectants, room deodorizers, toilet bowl cleaners or drain openers, and sprays to control common household pests. Many of these are put up in appealing containers and children have sampled them with disastrous results. The only way to keep children away from these chemicals is to keep them away from children.

But most important, poisonous chemicals should never be stored with or near food. In the hurry to prepare a meal it is too easy to pick up the poison instead of the flavoring compound.

Medicines account for half the cases of child poisoning and a large number of adult poisonings. If the medicine cabinet can not be kept out of reach of children then it is a poor place to keep medicines.

We would like to submit the following list of six practices for your consideration:

- 1 Label everything. Don't depend on memory when identification can be absolute.
- 2 Keep all household chemicals, cleansing agents, and polishes out of reach of children.
- 3 Keep all medicines, including such common drugs as aspirin, in a locked or inaccessible cabinet.
- 4 Never put a poison or toxic substance in a container designed to contain food — milk bottles, soft drink

bottles, cereal box, etc.

5 Accept children's curiosity, and the fact that they will eat or drink anything regardless of its flavor.

6 Teach children that there are some things that are yours, and they must leave them alone.

If only one child is spared the pain of illness or death, we will have been paid grandly for all the effort it takes to check this list once a week for the rest of our lives.

At least that's how it looks from where we stand.



WHY DON'T THEY?

QUITE OFTEN we get letters from readers who say, Why don't the farm organizations do this or that? Why don't they raise prices, cut taxes, restrict imports? Why don't they curb land condemnation, stop water pollution, and do a better job of marketing? Well, why don't they?

So often we find that the man who demands that the farm organizations do something doesn't belong to any farm organization himself. Yet this may be one of the chief reasons why farm organizations are hindered in accomplishing many of the things they set out to do. It is shocking to learn that 59 percent of Wisconsin farmers don't belong to any general farm organization. So how can their representatives know what Wisconsin farmers want when no one really speaks for them?

So before you ask your farm organization to hit the road and get something done, ask yourself, "Do I belong to the organization I am prodding, and am I doing all I can to help them?"

Prairie Farmer



Pakistani Cartoons Plug Sandwich Contest

A Lahore newspaper cartoon featured the All West Pakistan Sandwich Contest during Ramadan, the Moslem month of fasting. The cartoon was shown eating a sandwich and saying: "I am not breaking my fast, I am merely in training for the sandwich contest." Two top winners of the contest get 3,000 rupees (about \$630) prizes from Wheat Associates, USA; and this year they also will receive shields from Pakistan Flour Mills Assn. The contest, in its third year, is intended to increase popularity of sandwiches and hence use of wheat products.



Australia Harvested Record Wheat Crop

Australia has just harvested a record 1963-64 wheat crop estimated at 333.8 million bushels. That's about 27 million bushels above last year's record crop. If domestic consumption there continues at about 50 million bushels, the Australian Wheat Board will have about 260 million bushels for export. Heavy advance sales to Communist China and the USSR have made complete disposal of this large crop virtually certain.

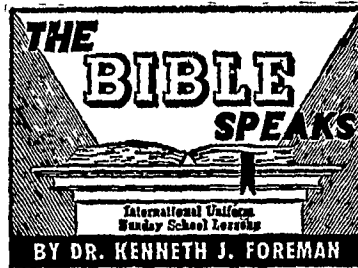


Small Eggs Are Good Buy *****

Small eggs sometimes called 'pullet eggs' are usually a good buy, says Herbert C. Jordan, extension poultryman at The Pennsylvania State University. Small eggs are of exceptionally high quality and at 45 cents a dozen they are equal in cost to large eggs selling for 46 cents a dozen. Three small or pullet eggs are about the same as two large eggs.

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Easter Faith Lesson for March 29, 1964

Background Scripture: John 20:1-29.
Devotional Reading: Corinthians 15:42-57.

EASTER IS a Christian festival. That seems to insult your intelligence, perhaps? No offense is intended. But Christians as well as non-Christians need a reminder that apart from the Christian faith there would be no Easter.



All sorts of people try to latch on to Easter, so many in fact that it is observed as a holiday season by millions of people who have not the least idea what it really means.

Dr. Foreman: What word goes most often with "Easter" in newspapers and greeting cards? Over and over you will see or hear the expression, Easter bonnet, or Easter outfit, or Easter parade. A day to show off, to dress up to the nines and in fact try to out-dress everybody else; to make yourself into a fashion model. Sometimes the reason is given that because this is the season when all nature is bright and singing, we should be bright and gay ourselves. But of course this is not it, it isn't even a parody, it is not the Easter idea at all.

It is not a festival to celebrate the returning spring. There is a poem which is quite lovely and yet makes a sad mistake about God. The last lines go:

"Green April is thy very soul,
Thou great Lord God!"

But green April is not God's soul. Its beauty was no doubt in God's mind before the world began; but God's soul is not a season of the year.

Faith on the first Easter

Easter does not celebrate even immortality or resurrection, though this is getting "warm." On the first Easter morning in Jerusalem, what disciple of Jesus was

happy? Not one, so far as we know. The disciples were anxious, downcast, in dire confusion. In a few hours it was quite different; but when that Sunday morning dawned, although all Jesus' friends so far as we know believed in immortality or resurrection, they were not made happy by that belief. We have two examples in John's story: Mary Magdalene and Thomas the apostle. Each of them began the day in confusion and sorrow. Spring had come, but how empty and mocking spring can be to a grieving heart! Mary on that very day, and Thomas a week afterwards, came to the Easter truth, the great fact: **He is risen!** That is the right message of the day. Not, we shall live again (although that is included), but **He lives.** By His resurrection Jesus was proclaimed Lord of death and the place of the dead. (See Rev. 1:17-19.) Now Mary and Thomas were quite different in their own expressions at their first discovery of the truth. Thomas said "My Lord and my God!" while Mary Magdalene said only "Rabboni!" which means "My teacher." Mary had a long way to go before she came to have the faith of Thomas; but Christ does not rebuke her for not being humble enough. If you start with realizing that in Christ we confront one who has battled with death and won — won a victory for us all — and if you keep on thinking what that means, you will be sharing the meaning and message of Eastertide.

Because He lives . . .

If that had been all it would have been enough. But there is something more. Christians have long believed: Because He lived, I too shall live! The writings of St. Paul are bright with the thought that we share in the risen life of Christ. The Resurrection, which is the reason for Easter, is also, and more importantly, the reason for the Christian's life of joy. Easter is not merely a time to re-tell wonder stories from the days of old. It is not a time to celebrate the heroic triumph of Jesus of Nazareth alone, it is a time to begin to share in the triumph. Each Christian is set free to say, because this is His Day, it is my Day no less. What does it benefit us that a light brighter than the sun shone in Joseph's garden long ago, if no light is kindled in your own soul?

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Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH

To Provide Plant Food

With recent rains and wet snows on open ground it appears that the spring moisture condition of our topsoil is in good supply. With adequate supplies of plant food to go with this moisture we have a right to expect high yields, this is especially true with sods and grassland crops. Farmers are urged to make early spring applications of fertilizer to their hay and pasture crops.

To Seed Oats Lightly

If spring oats are to be used as a nurse crop in getting a new stand of hay or pasture, the rate of seeding should not be more than one bushel per acre. This will provide adequate shade without excess competition for plant food and moisture. Higher seeding rates



MAX SMITH

will give too much competition.

To Plow Down Nitrogen For Corn

Corn growers are reminded that nitrogen will give better results on corn if plowed down rather than applied on top and worked into the topsoil. The amount of nitrogen needed per acre will depend upon many factors such as the type of sod, the manure application, and the organic matter content of the soil. A complete soil test is the best means of determining the fertilizer needs. Corn stalk ground going back into corn requires heavier nitrogen applications than any

type of sod ground. Put the nitrogen down where it will do the most good.

To Mark Wet Spots

Land owners who have a drainage problem might give the area a close inspection at this time of the year to definitely identify the spot where the main amount of water is coming to the surface. If this spot is marked with a stake, then an open ditch or a tile drain system may be installed later in the spring. Wet land is worth draining on most Lancaster County farms.