

## Help Prevent Home Poisonings

Too much of a good thing can be deadly, says John S. McDaniel, agricultural chemicals specialist at the University of Delaware.

Aspirin has cured a good many aches and pains, but it's also responsible for the greatest number of accidental poisonings. In fact, aspirin has caused more poisoning accidents than soaps, detergents, cleaners, bleaches, vitamins and minerals, pesticides, poisonous plants, polishes and waxes, hormones or tranquilizers.

Over 600,000 poison accidents involving pre-school children oc-

cur in the United States each year, says McDaniel. Results of these accidents are sometimes curable. But accidents are always preventable.

Read and understand the label of any product that looks suspicious. Household cleaners, lighter fluid, kerosene, medicines, furniture polishes, cosmetics, pesticides, glue and even vitamin food supplements can be dangerous if not used properly.

Keep all products in their original containers, he adds. How is a small child to know that kerosene stored in a soft

drink bottle is any different from other sodas? And don't treat medicines like candy. A spoonful of sugar might make medicine go down easier, but treating the medicine cabinet like a candy jar can set a dangerous example.

Discourage prying fingers by storing poisons out of reach. That kitchen cabinet might be handy for the housewife, but it can be a prime target for a curious child. And take a few extra minutes to put a lock on cabinets used for storage.

Should you even suspect that a poisoning has occurred, call a doctor at once, says McDaniel. Be sure to keep the suspected product container so the proper treatment can be administered. Most important, don't panic and don't delay in summoning help

to extreme reactions.

To help prevent insect stings, avoid disturbing bee, hornet, wasp and yellow-jacket nests, says McDaniel. Covering hair and avoiding scented cosmetics will also keep insects from being attracted. Commercially available insect repellants are also useful in discouraging insects.

Many stinging insects are

quite beneficial to man, he adds. But those people sensitive to insect venom cannot tolerate insects nesting in work or recreational areas.

If common insect stings result in blistering, severe shock symptoms, unconsciousness or other unusual reactions, call a doctor immediately. Insect stings can be a matter of life or death.

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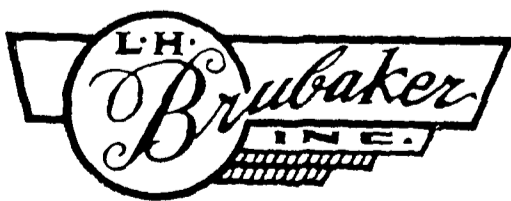
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### ● Insect Stings

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tions among individuals are not understood, he adds. But in many instances, allergies built up by a previous sting contribute

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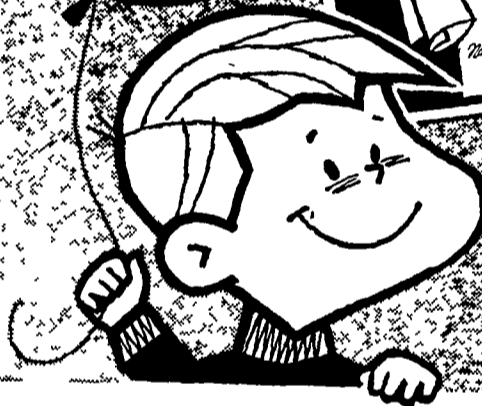
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