

Watch Out for Child Killers

According to the United States Public Health Service statistics, after infancy, more children are killed or crippled every year by accidents than by all the dread children's diseases combined.

And even more tragic, many of these accidents take place right in the home. And they could have been avoided.

Carol Rothermel, assistant Chester County Extension home economist, points out that there are certain times when accidents are more likely to happen. When a child is hungry or tired. When any hazard—a sharp knife or a busy street—is too accessible. Or when something—like flavored aspirin or an electric gadget—is too attractive for a child to resist.

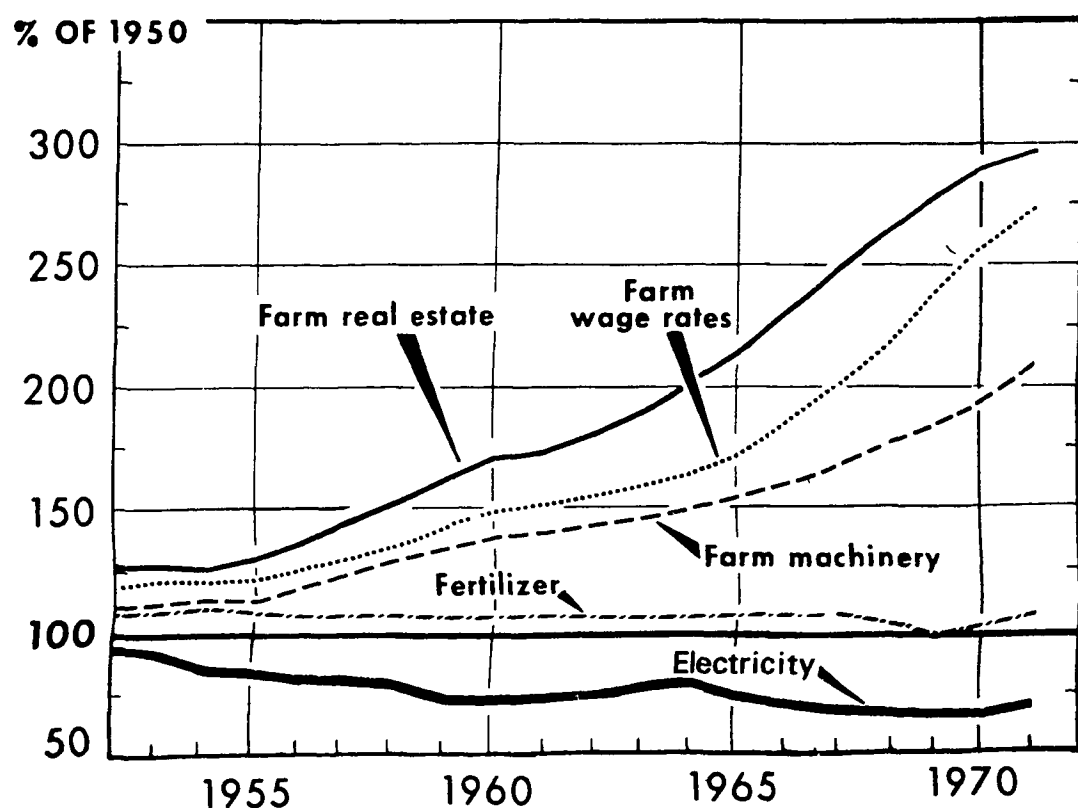
Sometimes modern science, in its desire to develop convenience items, creates additional hazards to child safety. One good example is the plastic garment bag

that replaced the old paper garment bags. Many children suffocate as a result of playing with the plastic bags.

And the new no-phosphate detergents can be extremely dangerous if a child should come in contact with them. Some of the new substitutes have even brought warnings from the United States Surgeon General, who says that detergents that are now substituting extremely caustic substances for the phosphates may require drastic government action. That's because highly caustic materials can expose a child to serious risk of loss of sight, loss of voice, ulcerations, severe skin burns, and even death.

Don't take any chances. Conduct frequent safety checks around your home for anything that could cause harm or injury to a curious child, Mrs. Rothermel advises. We think it's good advice.

MOST farm input prices up, up, and away



Prepared by the Farm Electrification Council Box 1008 Oak Brook IL 60523 using data from USDA

On Exhibitor Profits

In defending his dismissal of Horace Mann as Farm Show director, Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture Jim McHale has cited the high profits reportedly made by one exhibitor. McHale contended that the state lost \$2,800 while the exhibitor made a profit of more than \$220,000.

In this case, as in many others lately involving the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, we fail to find much connection between words and actions.

What does the Farm Show director have

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to do with the profits made by a particular exhibitor? We have never been informed that it was illegal for exhibitors to make a profit from their rental of Farm Show space. Indeed, we were always under the impression that the space was in such high demand because exhibitors did expect to make money from renting it.

In Secretary McHale proposing something new? That exhibitors should only make a certain amount of profit? That they should not make any profit? Or that the state alone should make a profit?

The point the secretary makes is that the state lost money on the same space on which a company made money. What is the solution? Charge the particular company more, charge all exhibitors more, take a proportion of the company's profits?

Apparently, one of the most profitable exhibitor operations is being singled out. What about the exhibitors which made little or no profit? Should their rates also be increased, or lowered, to keep their rates in line with their profit statements?

Does McHale propose to discourage profitable exhibitor operations and encourage unprofitable ones?

U. S. farming has been amazingly effective with the simple formula that those who can show a profit should succeed. Is Secretary McHale suggesting that this formula ought to be scrapped?

NOW IS THE TIME . . .

By Max Smith
Lancaster County Agent



To Evaluate Tobacco Varieties

With the more favorable price received for the 1971 tobacco crop there should be good interest in this leading cash crop for farmers in Southeastern Pennsylvania. Varieties are still important and I'd like to relay the suggestion from John Yocum at the Penn State Field Research Farm near Mount Joy that local growers do not confuse wildfire (rust) with the Etch Virus on many varieties including Pennbel and Pennlate. Last year there were numerous plants infected with this virus and many growers thought that Pennbel had lost its resistance to wildfire. This is not the case and Pennbel continues to be resistant to wildfire and is a good variety for many growers; however, it should be planted early for best results. On the leaves wildfire infections are circular with a yellowish-green halo around the spot; the virus spots are very irregular in shape and do not have any halo. Growers are urged to plant the variety that will give them the greatest weight of quality tobacco and the wildfire resistant varieties should be considered favorably.

To Transfer Silage

Livestock producers who have stored some of their excess silage in some type of horizontal silo and plan to move it into the upright silo for automatic feeding should be making this transfer during cooler weather. It is the belief that there will be less heating in the upright silo when the silage is moved during the cooler weather rather than in the 70 degree range. No additives or

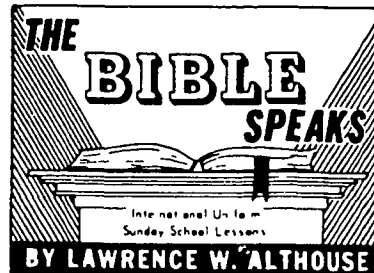
water should be needed when the silage is of good quality. The faster the operation is completed, after beginning, the better the results should be.

To Manage Barnyard Manure

The time of the season is approaching when many tons of livestock waste will be ready for handling. In most cases farmers have refrained from hauling the bulk of their manure due to weather conditions and the condition of the soil. With many diarmen the chore is a daily one with their stall barns. If the manure is to be stored above ground, it should be protected from surface water so that leaching will be held to a minimum. The fertilizer value of the manure is important to most farm crops and especially to corn and tobacco. Heavy applications of manure will reduce the amount of fertilizer, especially nitrogen, needed from commercial fertilizers. The trend toward storing the manure for several months at a time, either in pits or water-tight areas, is getting more attention and appears to have merit in holding the fertilizer values and keeping down some pollution problems.

To Improve Heifer Raising

The replacement value of milk cows hit a new all-time high this year in Pennsylvania; we are informed that cows two years of age and older averaged \$492. This means that the proper raising of dairy heifers becomes more important even though it may cost approximately \$300 to raise the heifer to freshening time at 24 to 26 months of age. The demand for herd replacements is strong-



GOD'S "CROOKED STICKS"

Lesson for March 12, 1972

Background Scripture Acts 1:1 through 2:42
Devotional Reading Acts 1:1-8

The events in Jerusalem on the first day of Pentecost were a golden opportunity for the earliest followers of Christ. A great crowd of people had gathered in curiosity "What does this mean?" they demanded to know. Here was a great opportunity for the disciples of Jesus to tell them about their Risen Lord.



Rev. Althouse

The only trouble was who would do the speaking? There wasn't one accomplished speaker among the group of disciples. The people of Jerusalem were accustomed to hearing gifted and learned rabbis.

One Qualification

Nevertheless, Simon Peter stood up and prepared to address the crowd. Just a minute, Peter, before you begin to speak: let's have a look at your qualifications. EDUCATION? Almost none to speak of.

OCCUPATIONAL EXPERIENCE? Fisherman. BIRTHPLACE AND HOME? Galilee (Galileans were not

highly thought of by the people of Judah.)

PREVIOUS PERFORMANCE?

Deserted his Master in the Garden of Gethsemane. Three times in the courtyard of the High Priest he denied his relationship with Jesus. He is thought to have watched the crucifixion at a safe distance.

CHARACTER TRAITS?

Impulsive in action and speech. Blurts out ideas before he thinks them over. Talks a better game than he plays.

ASSETS?

Unofficially acknowledged as the leader of the Twelve. One of the three disciples closest to Jesus before his death. Sometimes showed good insight into what Jesus meant.

In the light of all this, would you have selected Peter to speak for Christ on the day of Pentecost? Probably not, for his liabilities seemed to greatly outweigh his assets.

Yet he did have something that doesn't show up on our evaluation of him above the Holy Spirit! By the power of God's Spirit he was made adequate for this demanding task and golden opportunity.

What God can do

One of the things Peter said in his sermon was that, though the people of Jerusalem had meant evil against Jesus, God had turned this defeat into victory. God can take the broken pieces of men's lives and make something beautiful of them. He had done this with Christ's crucifixion. He had done this with Peter's unpromising life. As somebody has said "God can strike a mighty blow with a crooked stick!"

It is simply amazing what God can do with "crooked sticks" like us when we open ourselves to the power of His Holy Spirit.