OUR READERS WRITE, AND OTHER OPINIONS

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bottles, foam drinking cups, plastic sandwich bags, aluminum pie plates, plastic egg cartons, foil and plastic chip bags, pieces of wire items and many more, too numerous to mention, are all right there.

Most of this roadside litter is made of substances which are not "biodegradable," which means that they do not rot or rust away readily they stay where they are thrown unless they get picked up.

This litter overflows into the fields along the roads. Even if picked up in the spring, by haymaking time the litter spreaders have been out again. Some pieces foul up the grass again. mower. Some of what gets by the mower gets picked up with the hay when it gets put away. It is not unusual to find a broken beer bottle or other pieces of litter in the feeding trough after the animals have cleaned up everything else. The animals over the countryside that have ruffered painful 'herdware deaths" by picking up thrown away pieces of litter are more than anybody knows.

It is no wonder that hardly any farmer or anybody who loves the outdoor countryside can talk about our littered roadsides without raising his blood pressure a little.

Do we need stricter and tougher anti-littering laws? Should a load of litter be deposited by the front door of those who are seen littering? Would there be a better punishment for a litterbug than making it compulsory for anyone caught to clean up a stretch of road by himself? That would get the litter picked up and would make anyone think before tossing out litter again.

Several years ago a custom spraying operator (I don't know

who he was; that does not matter, had a habit of throwing his empty spray cans in the field along the creek where he filled his sprayer.

While picking up the cans one day J was curious enough to read the precautions on the label of one of the spray cans. The user of the spray material was warned to dispose of the empty can properly to make sure, he was to bury the can several feet deep at a place where the residue in the can would not be able to pollute a stream of water.

I couldn't help but wonder why the spray company was so concerned about the little bit of spray material sticking to the inside of the can and at the same time had no worry of the pollution that the rest of the five gallons would do to the field that it got sprayed on. It just didn't add up.

A year or so ago, one of the boys picked up an old can lying partly in the creek and collected some earth worms for the pet ducks that we had. The two ducks foamed at the mouth and went into cunvulsions soon after they started eating the worms. In less than five minutes the ducks were both dead, just from eating the worms that had been placed in a thrown-away chemical can of some kind.

Don't things like that make you feel that it is time for the public to awaken up to the dangers which such like the proposed Narvon chemical dump could bring to a community? Wouldn't it make sense to use less of some of the highly toxic materials that were used in the past? Every year it is necessary to use more virulent materials to kill the weeds and insects that get resistant to what was used before. Isn't it about time to reverse that trend?

Each generation that passes through here is responsible to the following generations for taking care of what God shares with them. Being careful of what is being put on the land is surely part of that stewardship.

There is one thing to be grateful for. We can be glad that the people who lived in this country five hundred years ago didn't start then to pollute the land with litter and chemicals like our generation is doing.

Our lands along the public roads would be knee deep in plastic and litter. Our fields would be too loaded with poisons to grow anything. Our countryside would not be fit to live in.

> **Benuel S. Blank** R2, Narvon, Pa.



(Continued from Page A10)

1) never subject layers to a decrease in day length and 2) unless time clocks are readjusted on June 21, the layers in non-light tight houses and could be exposed to an unintentional decrease in day length.

To Use The Agronomy Guide The 1983-84 Agronomy Guide published by our Extension Service at Penn State is one of the very best handbooks for all farmers. This guide has been

published for years and is updated every two years. Copies are available at any Extension Office in Pennsylvania for a cost of only \$2.00 We urge farmers to purchase a copy and use it.

I am concerned that many farmers who have them are not using them. Answers to numerous phone calls asking about crop practices can be found in the Agronomy Guide. I suggest that each farmer index the crops being grown with tabs so the information can be found more rapidly.

One of these rainy days become more familiar with the contents of this Guide. It is very useful and contains dependable and researched informaton.

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