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MARCH 15, 1971



Throughout the issue are scenes from the Denver Conference. The above shot is from the Security Life building restaurant overlooking the convention complex. A few hours after this was taken, some nut jumped out of one of the restaurant's windows.



EDITORIAL

MORE WARNINGS —

Yesterday I was sitting at my desk searching for some inspiration for this month's editorial. Obviously, it would be very nice to write about the Denver Conference and tell how everyone did such an outstanding job, but as interesting as this is, it sometimes does not make good copy. The fact is that it was an outstanding conference and I have the greatest regard for our national office, officers, suppliers and the Rockie Mountain GCS, who put the show together! But I digress!

My inspiration came last night during the news. Channel 2 reported that mercury was found in above acceptable levels in one of the wells in Aurora and several other communities. The mercury content, however, was not the primary source of concern since they have 7 wells pumping into a common header and thus diluting the mercury. Quality of water is not their overriding problem, **quantity** is. It seems the water levels are dropping so fast that they wonder if in the future there will be enough water to drink. Also in the news was the water situation at the Weston nuclear accelerator. At least five communities are fighting the proposed well to be drilled to 1600 feet at this plant.

There are any number of squabbles in this area over water rights. I am not familiar enough with the northern suburbs to quote statistics, however, in the south the two most striking examples are Park Forest South which didn't exist a few years ago and is expected to have a 110,000 population by 1985 and Matteson which for years was under 3000 and is expected to grow to 70,000 by 1980. It seems reasonable that there will be many more squabbles. You can probably think of some now.

So, what's the point? Everyone is presently up in arms about pesticide regulation and burning lawns without making much mention of water problems. If we have serious problems now, what will they be in the near future when we are further choked with population? What good is a \$200,000 automatic irrigation system when there is no water?



MERCURY REGULATION

From the Illinois Pollution Control Board Newsletter #10 printed December 1, 1970. "Every person within this State who utilizes mercury or any of its compounds in excess of 15 pounds per year as Hg, or who discharges mercury or its compounds into any sewer system, shall file with the Environmental Protection Agency, on or before March 1, 1971, and annually thereafter, a report setting forth the nature of the enterprise; a list, by type and by quantity, of the mercury products and mercury derivatives produced, used in, and incidental to its processes, including by-products and waste products; the estimated concentrations and annual total number of pounds of mercury that will be discharged into the waters of the State or to any sewer system; and what measures are taken or proposed to be taken to reduce or to eliminate such discharges."

This means that if you use, for instance, 20,548 pounds or more of calo-clor you would be required to make this report. Notice the March 1 date, actually, a call to the Board's office in Chicago, revealed that the above proposal has not been approved at this time (Feb. 23), and is slated for approval on March 3, 1971. This approval would require reports sometime in mid summer 1971. The Illinois Pollution Control Board telephone number is 793-3620.

The following, according to Tom Cronin, was actually posted at a golf club in England during World War II.

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1. Players are asked to collect bomb and shrapnel splinters to save these from causing damage to the mowing machines.
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3. The position of known delayed action bombs are marked by red flags at a reasonably, but not guaranteed safe distance therefrom.
4. Shrapnel and/or bomb splinters on the fairways or in the bunkers within a clubs length of a ball, may be moved without penalty, and no penalty shall be incurred if a ball is thereby caused to move accidentally.
5. A ball moved by enemy action may be replaced, or if lost or destroyed, a ball may be dropped not nearer the hole without penalty.
6. A ball lying in a crater may be lifted and dropped not nearer the hole, preserving the line to the hole, without penalty.
7. A player whose stroke is affected by the simultaneous explosion of a bomb, may play another ball from the same place, penalty one stroke.



CARTOON CONTEST CORNER

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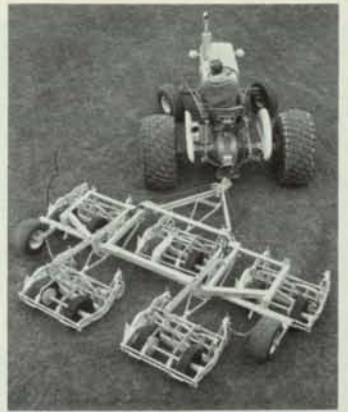


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PESTICIDE SAFETY

by Stanley Rachesky
Entomologist, University of Illinois

For the past nine years, pesticide ingestion cases involving children 12 years of age and under have been summarized and reported. Briefly, children who fall into this age bracket who ingest or are contaminated with a hazardous substance are reported to one of the many poison control centers in Illinois. The case is then reported to the Illinois Department of Public Health.

An annual average of 11,567 children eat or are contaminated with a hazardous substance. Medicines (barbituate, aspirin, drugs or various types, etc.) account for 6,891 cases (60.1%) and make up the major portion of this total. Household preparations (drain cleaners, furniture polish, etc.) account for 1,596 cases or 14.3%. Pesticides (insecticides, rodenticides, etc.) 719 cases (6.5%); Paints 546 cases (4.8%); Cosmetics 324 cases (2.7%) and a miscellaneous grouping of 1,491 cases or 11.7%.

Since 1960 the hazardous ingestion of pesticides has declined from an average annual figure of 8% to 5.2% in 1968. Seasonal variations of pesticide ingestions are quite obvious. For example, most ingestions of rodenticides (mice killers) take place in the fall of the year because this is when mice are attempting to enter your house for winter warmth. Therefore, more people would be using mice baits for control of their problem. Ant bait ingestions are more common during the summer for similar type reasons. Mothball ingestions take place throughout the year, steadily. Mama thinks she's preserving her furniture or whatever by placing mothballs in the cushions or someplace else. However, junior thinks they're candy jawbreakers. Mothballs are used as a fumigant for clothes storage throughout the four seasons. Roach baits are ingested mostly in the fall of the year.

The majority of pesticides ingested by children fall into four groups in relation to the control being sought by the homeowner — rodents, ants, clothes moths and cockroaches. These four accounted for 82.1% of the cases. Of that number 68.5% were ingested as a bait. Baits are a definite hazard to use especially when kids or pets have the opportunity to get their hands — or paws on them.

Twenty-four people have died since 1960 of accidental ingestions of a pesticide. Fifteen involved insecticides (insect killers), five rodenticides, and four herbicides (weed killers). Only one of the 24 deaths was an agricultural accident. The remaining ones happened in or about the home.

When you figure that motor vehicles accounted for 47.2% of the total accidental deaths in Illinois over the past nine years followed by home accidents 26.7%; public accidents 19.2%; occupational accidents 6.6% — firearms 2.4% — pesticides 0.054%, the actual problem is small considering that 15% of all pesticides used are in the city and suburban area. To go even a little further in this breakdown, 28% of all city and suburban land areas (lawns, etc.) are under pesticide use as opposed to 15% of all agricultural cropland. Seventy-five million bug bombs were bought by Americans in 1964 to control some type of insect problem.

Use pesticides safely — The most important 4 minutes in pest control is the time it takes you to read the label.

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