

Chemical News

The polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB's), a class of industrial compounds with a wide variety of uses, have been suspected since 1966 of causing many of the same ill effects in organisms as DDT and other chlorinated pesticides. Gradually the evidence has accumulated, and now there is little doubt of their danger (SN: 3/28, p. 321).

Depending on the degree of chlorination, the PCB's are as toxic or more toxic than DDT. One experiment, for example, established that a PCB with 62 percent chlorine was almost twice as effective as DDT in breaking down the sex hormone estradiol in birds; this is regarded as the initial step in the mechanism by which egg shells of predatory birds (which have very high tissue concentration of both chlorinated pesticides and PCB's) are thinned, leading to high chick mortality and eventual extinction.

The most recent evidence came this month from the work of Drs. Lawrence McCloskey and Richard Chesser, who exposed corals to chlorinated pesticides and PCB's while they were Tekite 2 aquanauts (SN: 10/10, p. 296). PCB's apparently act synergistically with chlorinated pesticides and enhance their effects, says Dr. Chesser. One of the potentially most serious results of the work was the finding that a mixture of PCB's and chlorinated pesticides will reduce oxygen production by plants associated with the coral after a relatively brief exposure at one part per million.

In the meantime, Monsanto Co., the sole United States manufacturer of PCB's, has greatly restricted the uses of these compounds, claiming it is now recommending use only as insulating fluids in electrical and heat transfer systems where the PCB's are completely enclosed and thus not likely to get in to the environment.

But, says Dr. Robert Risebrough of the University of California at Berkeley, a long-time foe of PCB's, "I'm not very optimistic. This electrical equipment is going to be thrown away eventually. With an expanding technology, I am afraid we will continue to have large amounts of these chemicals entering the environment."

And just how the PCB's have entered the environment—where they are now ubiquitous, although there are greater amounts near industrial areas—is still unknown. But many of the uses before Monsanto's Aug. 30 restrictions clearly were capable of releasing large amounts into the environment. Among these uses: plastizers, coatings for paper and fabric fire-retardant compounds, asphalt, adhesives, paraffins, printer's ink, rubber products, solvents for pesticides, lacquers, coatings for water-repellent canvas and as hydraulic fluids.

Recent work, however, has begun to provide at least an indication of sources, says Dr. Risebrough. PCB's have been found, he says, in municipal sewage entering Lake Michigan and in California. Further work may allow researchers to learn just how the PCB's enter the sewage.

Hampering the work has been Monsanto's reluctance to cooperate, claims Rep. William F. Ryan (D-N.Y.), a crusader against PCB's. Ryan says Monsanto has refused to provide him with a list of all uses, claiming this "would serve no useful nonpolitical purpose." And Dr. Risebrough says Monsanto also has refused to provide statistics on amounts of PCB's manufactured. A Monsanto spokesman admitted both charges this week, saying secrecy was necessary because Monsanto is the sole producer of PCB's.

The PCB's have unique advantages industrially because of their chemical stability. This stability is called persistence, however, in substances such as PCB's and chlorinated pesticides that do not degrade in the environment and thus are concentrated in food chains. Says Dr. Risebrough: "Badly needed are programs for assessing the environmental impacts of new commercial substances before they become so widely used that we are economically dependent upon them."

(Science News).

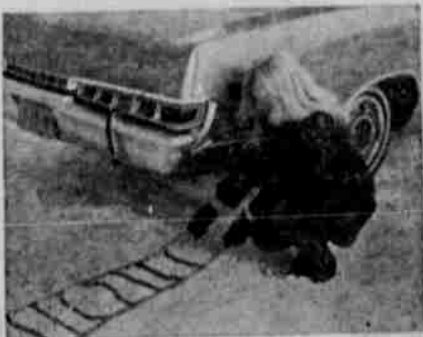
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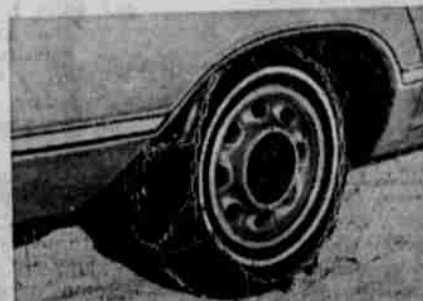
With a little "know-how" and practice, it can be done in 6 minutes, without a jack and without getting your clothes dirty.



STEP NO. 1 Spread the chains on the ground behind the rear wheels to remove tangles. Hooks should be to the rear. Reinforced chains are best and the projecting teeth or cleats should be facing up.



STEP NO. 2 Gather the chains behind the tire so they won't catch the fender, and attach the end links to the "chain applier," a simple spring steel wire that is easily slipped onto the tire.



STEP NO. 3 Drive the car forward about one wheel revolution, so that the applier carries the chains around the tire.



STEP NO. 4 Remove the applier and fasten the inside hook first, then the outside hook. With a little practice the inner hook can be fastened by "feel" without getting under the car.

Mailing Tips For Christmas Rush

Evidence that Santa Claus isabels are available in the post-office lobby. Also labels will be placed in your post office box. You may drop the bundles in the "bundle drop" or hand it to the window clerk.

Parcels presented for mailing must be in strong containers and securely tied or taped. Fragile items must be protected by corrugated cardboard or equivalent packing material to withstand 200 pounds per square inch of pressure. Re-used cartons must be clearly labeled, and it is recommended they be wrapped in clean wrapping paper before labeling. Be aware of placing adhesive addresses on glass or glazed type paper. They seldom stick. Improper labeling causes much mail to wind up in the dead parcel post division at Seattle. It is recommended that a secondary address be placed on a slip of paper and be included inside the parcel just in case the outside label becomes damaged in transit. We will do our best not to damage your parcels, please assist us by proper preparation of the item for shipment.

James H. Driscoll, Postmaster
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On Sundays, Dec. 12, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. On weekdays from Dec. 14 to Dec. 23, inclusive, the parcel post window only will remain open until 5:30 p.m. The money order window will continue to be closed at 5:00 p.m., the usual closing time.

On Sundays, Dec. 13, and Dec. 20, we will receive mail and it will be distributed to the boxes. We cannot offer window service on Sundays. People are urged to pick up their mail from the boxes, however, on these two Sundays. It is estimated the mail will be boxed up by noon or 1:00 p.m.

A later departure from Pendleton on these two Sundays will preclude working the mail as early as usual on these two days. Christmas cards generally will take 6 cents. If sealed the rate is 6 cents per ounce and the card may contain a handwritten message. If not sealed the rate is 6 cents for two ounces, but no personal message is permitted other than the brief note such as Merry Christmas, Happy New Year or some such.

Please prepare the mail in separate bundles for city and out of town. Rubber bands and

TYPEWRITER RIBBONS for most makes on sale at The Gazette-Times—98c each. Gazette-Times want ads pay.

KINZUA NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. David Mattisons were hosts to a family Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday. Those present were the Mattisons and daughter Jodi and Robin, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Spivey of Baker, Frank Spivey, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hire, and Mr. and Mrs. Randy Combs, and son John.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Oyler and son Don of Bend spent from Thanksgiving until Sunday visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Barzee and family and other friends in Fossil.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Slinkard and Mr. and Mrs. Lee Bailey went to Portland Friday morning, returning home Saturday night. Also in Portland during the holiday were Mr. and Mrs. Mark Jellicke and family, Mr. and Mrs. Don McConnel and family, and Mr. and Mrs. Wayland Hyatt and family.

Mrs. Larry O'Neill was the honored guest last week at a stork shower held in the Kinzua Community Church annex. Several shower games were played with winners being Lily May Nistad, Wanita Hubbell, Molly Day, and Jean McRoberts. Linda then opened her many gifts assisted by her sister Sandy Sargent and by Dawn Cory. Refreshments were then served by the hostesses Alma Cory, Lynda Nyseth, Linda Eversole, and Rayetta Watts.

IRRIGON NEWS

By FRANCES ROSE WILSON

IRRIGON — First Class Petty Officer and Mrs. Robert Holden and son of Seattle spent the weekend with his folks, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Miller. On Saturday they were joined by Holden's brothers and their families, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Holden, Steve and Terri of The Dalles and Bud Holden and daughter Betty of Umatilla. Prior to being stationed in Seattle, Holden completed Electronic schooling at Great Lakes, Ill. He is scheduled to be sent to Guam for two years prior to his retirement.

Mr. and Mrs. Vestie Elgin drove to Pasco Thursday, where they were Thanksgiving Day dinner guests of Mrs. Lee Worrell.

Mr. and Mrs. Al Partlow drove to Pendleton Sunday afternoon to attend a dinner-meeting of District No. 3 of the National Association of Postmasters. The dinner was at the Tapadera banquet room.

Sgt. Don Jorgensen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Jorgensen, is home on leave until Jan. 5, 1971, when he will leave for Vietnam. He was previously stationed at Whiteman Air Force Base in Missouri.

Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Eppenbach left Saturday for Ames, Iowa, where they will assist their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Don Eppenbach, in moving back to Oregon. Don Eppenbach has been attending Iowa State University, where he has been working for his Master's Degree. While living in Iowa, Mrs. Don Eppenbach has been an employee at the University State Bank. While enroute to Iowa, the Elbert Eppenbachs visited her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Ottimer Paxson. Mrs. Elnor Paxson, who lives by the Elbert Eppenbachs, is staying with another son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Sanders, during the Eppenbachs' absence.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Snyder have received word that they are grandparents of a baby girl, Stacy Lee, born to Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Krissie, who are living in Germany, where he is stationed at Fintin Air Force Base. The baby, who weighed 5 lb. 2 oz., is the couple's first child. Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Herb Krissie of Crescent City, Calif.

Mr. and Mrs. Vestie Elgin drove to Pasco Saturday to visit their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Ron Elgin.

HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES, Thursday, December 10, 1970 —5



THE ASSEMBLY of GOD Youth Choir will present a Christmas Cantata, John Peterson's "The Night the Angels Sang" on Dec. 20 at 7 p.m. Mrs. Don Burwell is director. The Sunday School program will also be presented that night.

and two children, David and Terri. They also visited with Mrs. Lee Worrell.

The Irrigon Baptist Ladies Aid have concluded a successful bazaar at the Complete Food Store in Irrigon. The sale consisted of many hand-made items, and ended with a baked food sale.

Mr. and Mrs. Graham Derbyshire of Elkton spent Thanksgiving weekend with her folks, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Bellinger and Rhonda. Rhonda is a student at BMCC.

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