



"I'll thank you to leave my stomach out of this, Julia!"

Care In Using Chemicals Still With Individual

By JOHN W. BECKLER

WASHINGTON (AP)—The great fuss stirred up by the discovery that a weed killing spray can contaminate cranberries raises a question about the use of chemicals elsewhere in agriculture.

Aminotriazole, involved in the cranberry incident, is one of 56,500 chemical formulations registered with the Department of Agriculture for use against insects, rodents, weeds and other pests that plague the farmer and home gardener.

How is the public health protected against any possible danger from these products?

A good way to arrive at the answer is to follow the brief history of Aminotriazole, a synthetic chemical containing carbon, hydrogen and nitrogen atoms in an arrangement figured out by the American Cyanamid Co.

Before it can put an agricultural chemical on the market a manufacturer must register a label with the Department of Agriculture telling how the product is to be used.

The department first heard of Aminotriazole in 1955 when American Cyanamid asked that it be approved for use against weeds in pastures and areas where no crops are grown.

The following year, after many tests conducted both by the manufacturer and by the government, the department allowed the company to register a label specifying the spray could be used on lawns, along roadsides and other noncrop areas, but not on pastures where cattle grazed.

In February 1957, the company proposed that Aminotriazole's use be broadened to include cranberry bogs, corn fields, soybean fields and apple and pear orchards. Ten months later the department said okay on the corn fields, but turned down the other suggested uses.

And for corn, it could be used only before the crop was planted. After still more tests the department permitted the company in 1958 to register a label specifying Aminotriazole's use in cran-

berry bogs—a week to 10 days after the harvest. Still another revision last month okayed it for apple and pear orchards—either before the fruit forms or after it has been picked.

Thus for four years there has been constant testing of the product by both the manufacturer and the government. In addition, state experimental stations with any knowledge of the spray were closely questioned by the Department of Agriculture.

But that's not all.

Any spray intended for use on a food crop needs to be cleared by the Food and Drug Administration. This agency of the Health, Education and Welfare Department must grant a tolerance—in other words fix the amount of the chemical that may safely be left on a crop in the form of residue.

It is up to the manufacturer to conduct the research on which the FDA bases its decision. Such research can be long and costly. It generally requires two years of testing with laboratory animals to discover if a product has harmful effects.

In the case of Aminotriazole, company scientists established that rats fed large quantities of the chemical developed cancer of the thyroid. The FDA refused to

grant a tolerance and when residue was discovered in parts of the 1959 crop, the cranberry crisis erupted.

This case history shows that no matter how carefully the government watches over the marketing of a new chemical, some of the ultimate responsibility for seeing that it is not harmful lies with the individual who uses it.

Aminotriazole was never supposed to touch a cranberry. The manufacturer clearly specified this on the label. If the directions had been followed, the cranberry growers would have spent their usual enjoyable Thanksgiving.

The same is true of all the other sprays on the market. The Department of Agriculture continually checks them, taking them off store shelves to see if the manufacturer is maintaining the specified standards. State and county agents are in close touch with farmers, advising them how to use the new chemical products.

But there is no policing of the individual farm to see just how the spray is used. The government can extend its protective arm only so far.

A Department of Agriculture official who works closely with the pest control problem provides probably the best answer to the

question of how the public health can be protected against the chemical sprays.

"We'd have a devil of a time digging up one case where anything went wrong if directions were followed," he says.

Fliers Escape Crash Tragedy

ROY, Utah (AP)—A crippled T-33 jet trainer plane crashed in an open field and exploded in flames near this north Utah town Thursday. The two occupants parachuted to safety after trying vainly to glide to a landing at nearby Hill Air Force Base.

They were 1st Lt. Donald G. Janson, of Bountiful, Utah, the pilot, and Capt. Charles H. Castle, of Salt Lake City, a flight surgeon. Both are with the Utah Air National Guard.

Neither Janson nor Castle was hurt.

WANTED

OKLAHOMA CITY (UPI)—Witnesses said they would have no trouble identifying the getaway car used by two men who robbed a theater Sunday night.

Large red letters on the back of the car spelled out the word "Wanted."

Chief Of Institution Tells Inmates' Strides

By PAUL W. HARVEY JR.

SALEM (AP)—The average inmate of Oregon's new correctional institution has an eighth grade education, is serving 2½ years, doesn't know how to earn a living, is rather belligerent, and never knew a decent family life.

After six months of operation, its superintendent, Paul J. Squier, says that many of the 182 inmates already are responding well to this new system of making an all-out effort at rehabilitation.

He thinks that by 1961, when the Legislature meets again, he'll have some proof that rehabilitation saves the taxpayers money.

Squier has a staff of experts who run academic and vocational schools, provide counseling and religious guidance, run a recreation program, and provide psychological, psychiatric and sociological help. The inmates have a good library. Work and discipline are part of the treatment, too.

The institution, popularly known as the reformatory, will reach its 500-capacity next spring. Squier hopes the 1961 Legislature will provide the money to expand it to 700.

Squier's objective is that each inmate should have at least a fifth grade education.

You'd be surprised, in this state where education is compulsory, how many didn't finish grade school. Some of these came from southern states—but a lot of them were raised in Oregon.

One hundred inmates are in the reformatory's school system. Fifty-five are in grade and high school, 65 take college correspondence courses and 20 are in courses given for alcoholics.

Vocational courses are barbering, baking, meat cutting and cooking. Courses will be added in radio-television repair, and typewriter-business machine repair as soon as instructors can be found.

Any boy or young man at the institution can get all the education he wants—provided he has the ability to do the school work.

The objective of the supervised recreation program, Squier says, is to "teach the boys how to play fair and how to lose gracefully."

The two chaplains—one Protestant and one Roman Catholic—do lots of individual work with the inmates. They also conduct Sunday services and Bible classes. Attendance at the services is large, although it isn't compulsory.

Since the reformatory was opened six months ago, nine inmates have been paroled.

The new inmates are placed in close custody. They get five weeks of orientation courses.

Of the 80 original inmates, 53 already have earned the right to be under reduced custody.

The ages of inmates run from 15 to 35, and all are first offenders. Many of them are married. The objective is to turn the inmates away from crime by giving them the equipment to earn a living and make social adjustments. But there are some severe problems.

Take, for instance, the 22-year-old man who can't read or write. His intelligence is low. His father used to punish him by putting burning pieces of wood under his fingernails, or hanging him upside down from a tree.

He quit school after the third grade. He has the lowest learning ability of all the boys in the reformatory, and he is in trouble frequently because of fighting with the other boys.

Squier says it's going to be hard to rehabilitate that boy.

But in contrast, here's another 22-year-old who has bright prospects. He was illegitimate, and his mother sold him to an alcoholic couple soon after his birth. He was ashamed to bring his friends home because of the dirty conditions and the constant fights between his foster parents.

He quit school in the 12th grade, got a girl pregnant, and married her.

This boy's intelligence is very high. He'll learn radio and television repair. The main thing he needs is more education and for somebody to take an interest in him.

In fact, one source of the trouble is that most of the boys never had anybody who cared about what they did. But Squier and his staff are trying to fill that need.

When an inmate gets too hard to handle, he can be transferred to the penitentiary.

So far, only one man has been transferred to the prison. The official reason is that he is "criminally sophisticated."

This man preferred not to be helped, and tried to teach his advanced criminal ideas to the other boys and young men.

FROSTY COMMENT

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (UPI)—

Port Robert Frost spoke like a cryptic New Englander Thursday night when he learned that police searched for a bomb in the church where he was giving a lecture, but found none. His comment:

"It must have been a dud."

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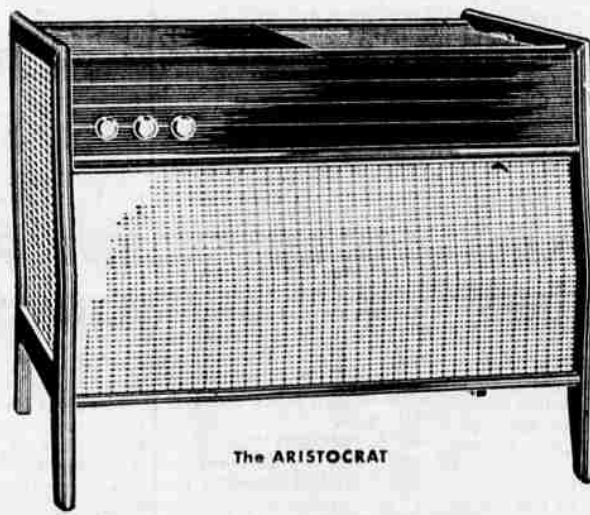
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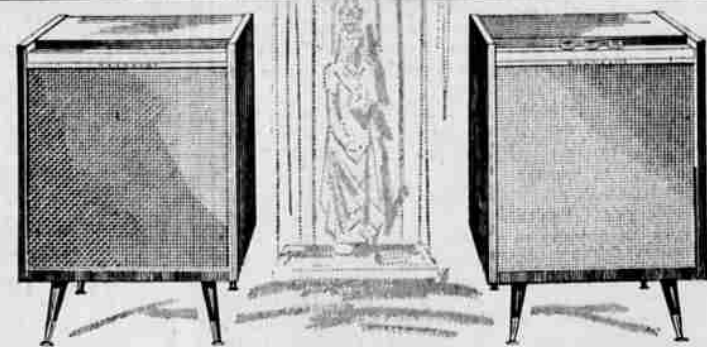
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