

WOULD BENEFIT FARMER, MERCHANT, CONSUMER

Riley Reveals Successful Tests of Materials Using Light Filtering Process To Protect Food Products

Light filtering, protective packaging materials that can be of great importance to farmers, the food industry and the public were announced this week by E. G. B. Riley of Southern Pines, president of Rileco Filter Process, Inc.

The product of years of research—in which Mr. Riley worked closely with General Dyestuff Corporation, one of the nation's leading chemical firms—the materials include paper, plastics and textiles, designed to retard spoilage in all kinds of food, both in their natural and processed forms. Extensive laboratory and field testing has shown the effectiveness of the new materials, Mr. Riley reports.

Holds Many Patents

A student of the effects of light for many years and the holder of many United States and foreign patents in this field, Mr. Riley has lived in the Sandhills for about 16 years, following his retirement from a successful business career in New York City. In addition to his work with light filtering materials, he is known for his pre-World War 2 advocacy of a stronger U. S. Air Force and his spearheading of efforts that resulted in the posthumous award of the Congressional Medal of Honor to General Billy Mitchell, pioneer advocate of military air strength.

A television screen designed to protect the eyes of watchers and a medical lamp that has proved successful in treatment of burns are among the best-known of Mr. Riley's inventions. During the past year he has made news with

a series of letters to the foreign ministers and other officials of the leading nations of the world, in which he advocated cessation of testing detonations of nuclear and thermo-nuclear bombs. In the letters and in an article written for The Pilot, Mr. Riley contended explosion of these bombs will destroy those particles in the upper atmosphere that prevent deadly cosmic and gamma rays from reaching the earth.

Wavelengths Filtered

In connection with his food preservation materials, Mr. Riley explains: "Certain specific wavelengths of those which constitute visible light and certain other wavelengths in the invisible spectrum are responsible for the rapid spoilage that occurs in food, dairy and other products. "By developing food packaging materials which inhibit or filter out these harmful wavelengths and permit transmission of those wavelengths which Nature utilizes to produce plant food (photosynthesis), the percentage of spoilage is greatly reduced and the products retain their flavor and original condition for a much longer period of time."

Hundreds of different dyes were tested before the exact ones were produced that would filter out the harmful rays that cause spoilage. The job was complicated because a different dye formula had to be worked out for each of the various types of materials—paper, plastics, textiles and others.

Can Use Two Methods

The most satisfactory and simple method of applying the Rile-

coe process, says Mr. Riley, is to incorporate the dye components in the raw packaging material, but finished materials may be dyed or coated with the light-filtering dyes.

The Southern Pines man used a simple illustration from Nature to explain what his light-filtering materials accomplish.

"Light emitted by the sun is responsible for both plant and animal life," he says, "but exposure to sunlight for extended periods of time results in destruction of both forms of life. While it is maturing, a plant or plant product, such as fruit, is protected by a skin covering that acts as a filter to keep out the harmful wavelengths of light. At maturity, however, the skin or outer covering loses its protective properties—as when an apple turns red—and permits the ultra-violet and 'harmful' regional bands of wavelengths to be transmitted, resulting in the decomposition of the plant or plant product."

In Artificial Light, Too

These same harmful wavelengths of light are found in the bright light emitted by fluorescent and other artificial light sources which are turned on vegetables, fruit, meat and many other food products in markets, Mr. Riley notes.

Not only does unfiltered light cause spoilage, he points out, but the effect of the "harmful" wavelengths results in loss of flavor, vitamins and proteins. Meat, usually displayed under light unwrapped or wrapped in non-filtering material, changes color in only a short period of time.

Moreover, says Mr. Riley, it's "a most erroneous conclusion" that any material that is not transparent prevents the transmission of light. Tests have shown, he says, that even heavy (80-pound stock) paper permits transmission of harmful light. Also, food products that have been stored in total darkness become supersensitive to light and, on exposure to light, a rapid breakdown occurs in them.

Food markets could be protected, says Mr. Riley, not only by packaging the original products in light-filtering materials, but the existing lights over food displays could be shielded with a Rileco material which filters out the harmful wavelengths.

Would Affect Farmers

Farmers would benefit from the protective materials because they cut down spoilage—a process that would benefit progressively the food distributor, the retailer and the public. Spoilage in some food products, from farm to consumption, runs as high as 40 per cent, as shown by reports of the Department of Agriculture. Protection could begin in the field when fruit or vegetables could be placed immediately on harvesting in bags or containers made of light-filtering materials, he notes.

"The local man sums it up like this: "By proper scientific packaging and display illumination, food processors and stores can make available food products possessing all their health-giving nutrients, retaining their original flavor and greatly extending their edible and shelf life. "In addition, by eliminating or greatly reducing the spoilage that is now incurred, retail markets can pay the producers a higher price for their products without increasing the cost to the public."

Negotiations Now Going On

A fascinating outlook? Anyone who has gone over with Mr. Riley the problems and the possible solutions—backed by reams of facts, figures, laboratory reports and other information—is bound to understand his enthusiasm and his interest.

Negotiations he is now conducting with representatives of the food industry may result in widespread use of Rileco materials.

The public, Mr. Riley believes, can be educated to accept the light green color of the filtering materials, even though people are now accustomed to colorless transparent packaging for most food products.

Mr. Riley thinks that, once the consumer discovers the benefits to be derived from the materials in freshness, flavor, nutrition and lower prices, the new material will be accepted by the buying public, regardless of color.

"After all," he points out, "the color is Nature's own color of life-building—photosynthesis, the secret of plant life and thereby the fundamental basis of all living things."

More than 90 per cent of all heart disease is caused by hardening of the arteries, high blood pressure and rheumatic fever. Research, supported by the Heart Fund, is seeking the causes, cures and preventions of these conditions.

Rites For George C. Graves, Moore Native, Are Held

Funeral services for George Calvin Graves, 65, who died Sunday at Moore County Hospital after a brief illness, were held Tuesday at 11 a. m. at Carthage Presbyterian Church.

Officiating was the Rev. W. S. Golden, pastor, assisted by Dr. C. K. Ligon of Southern Pines. Burial was in the family plot in Cross Hill Cemetery, Carthage.

Mr. Graves was born at Carthage, son of George Calvin and Maggie McNeill Graves, and was educated at Oak Ridge Institute, Davidson College and the University of North Carolina. He was an outstanding figure in college baseball, and a member of Beta Theta Pi social fraternity.

He lived at Charlotte, Asheboro and Greensboro before moving to Southern Pines five years ago. Mr. Graves held executive positions with the Duplan Corp. of Charlotte, Cetwick Silk Mills at Asheboro and served as Southern Representative of the Alfred Hofmann Needle Works of Union City, N. J.

At the time of his death, he was a member of Brownson Memorial Church here.

Surviving, besides his wife, the former Marjorie Johnson of Brooklyn, N. Y., are one son, George III, of Hickory; three grandsons; one brother, Henry L. Graves of Southern Pines; and six sisters, Mrs. W. G. Brown, Mrs. C. T. Grier and Mrs. Margaret Penn, all of Carthage, Mrs. George Heintsh of Southern Pines, Mrs. Robert N. Page, Jr., of Aberdeen and Mrs. Worth Miller of Kinston.

SOUTHERN PINES SAVINGS & LOAN ASSOCIATION DIVIDEND NOTICE

The Southern Pines Savings & Loan Association has declared its regular semi-annual dividend at the rate of 3% per centum per annum as of June 30, 1956, and such dividend is available to the customers on that date and will be credited to savings accounts and, if not called for, will be mailed to those receiving cash dividends.

Mary McL. McCallum SECRETARY

Be careful in using frozen foods that have accidentally thawed. If ice crystals are still in the food, refreeze it immediately. If it is completely thawed, use it immediately, or throw it away. In 1939 only 50 agricultural chemical products were used; today there are 200.



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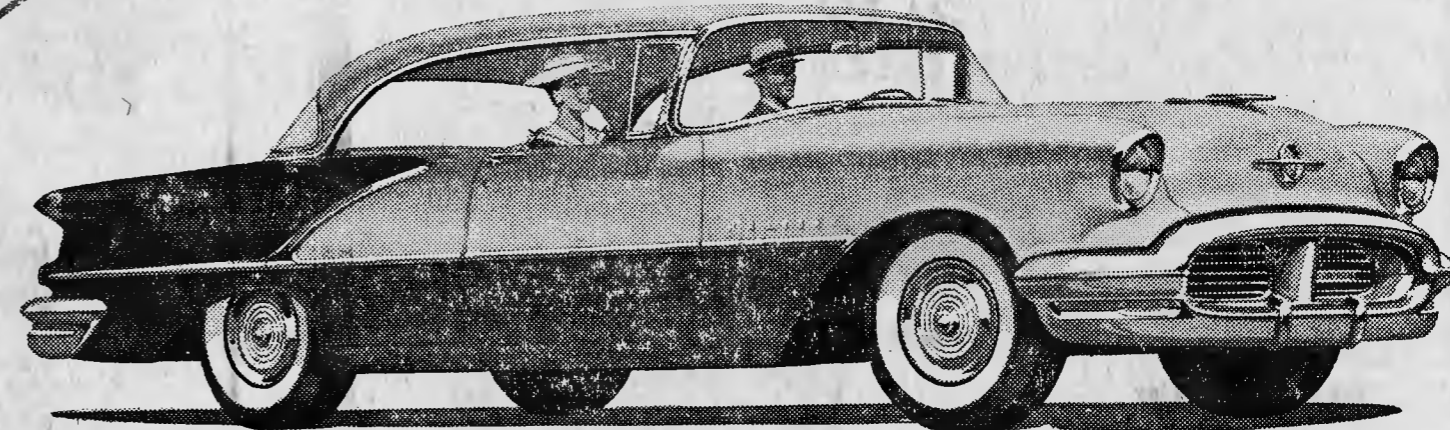
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