

Watchdog Fails in Job As Thieves Hit Store

Waterbury, Conn. (AP) — The owner of a coffee shop arrived in the morning and found his German Shepherd watchdog locked in an automobile parked in the rear of the restaurant.

Police said intruders made friends with the dog during the night, and then made off with some cigars, small change, chewing gum and 15 pounds of coffee.

Southern Louisiana is a major fur producing area.

Showy Crotalaria Presents Danger to Local Livestock

Beware of crotalaria poisoning! Dr. J. Clark Osborne, professor of plant pathology at State College, reports that Showy crotalaria has been the cause of livestock poisoning in recent weeks. Cattle, sheep, goats, horses, mules, hogs, chickens, and turkeys are sometime affected. "Showy crotalaria is widely distributed on farms in Eastern North Carolina. The plant is a robust annual three to six feet tall with an erect, somewhat ribbed stem bearing several short, branching stems. The leaf blades are four to seven inches long and dark green on top. The plant blooms are yellow, and the seed pods that form are nearly two inches long. The seed pods are nearly black when ripe.

Crotalaria is planted as a cover crop. It also grows as a roadside plant, in fence rows, and abandoned fields, and as a volunteer in row crops. It grows well on light, sandy soils but is seldom found on very wet soils.

"The seed and entire plant of crotalaria are toxic when consumed by livestock," Dr. Osborne says. "The concentration of the toxin is highest in the seed."

Nine pounds of the dried plant will kill a 800-pound steer in approximately four days. Two grams of ground seed fed daily will produce acute poisoning in 50-pound hogs in about seven days. Chickens have been killed in 20 to 60 days by consuming 80 mature seeds. The frosted, green or dry plant is toxic to all classes of livestock if eaten in sufficient quantity.

Small amounts of this plant or its seed consumed over a long period produce chronic poisoning, Dr. Osborne continued. Death may come four or five months after the plant is consumed.

Signs of acute poisoning in cattle are depression, loss of appetite, bloody feces, drooling saliva, nasal discharge, and yellowish discoloration of the visible mucous membranes. Death occurs within five to ten days. Chronic poisoning is more common, with death occurring two to six months after eating the plant.

Hogs often die suddenly of gastric hemorrhage in acute cases of poisoning. Chronic cases may develop two to four months after the animals have had access to the plant. The animals suffer a loss of appetite, general unthriftiness, weakness, and sometimes anemia. Hogs on feed fail to gain weight. Other livestock and poultry are similarly affected.

"Poisoning may occur at any time during the year but is most frequent in the fall when the plant is green and succulent and other forage is dry and unattractive," Dr. Osborne concluded. "It should be considered extremely hazardous to permit livestock of any kind to consume Showy crotalaria or its seed."

Privileges Reinstated
Lester Lee Jones of Swansboro has had his driving privileges reinstated by the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles.

Choose Costume Jewelry Wisely

If you're planning to buy that girl a gift of jewelry for Christmas, better beware of bumpkin traps. It seems there are many ways to be fooled in buying costume jewelry. Here are some pointers offered by jewelry designer, Van Dell, who hopes to safeguard novice purchasers.

In good jewelry gems are hand set in prongs, usually. Cheap jewelry has stones pasted in. Good costume jewelry is made of 14 karat gold or sterling silver or gold filled. Look for the hall marks which indicate the metal.

The better jewelry is made usually with imported rhinestones or crystals or from semi-precious stones such as jade, moss agate, rhodonite as in the now popular scarab bracelets.

It is always wise to choose the simpler design when in doubt, he says. The male purchaser may ask too if the piece carries a guarantee.

Responsible jewelers usually offer unconditional guarantee. Then, if something goes wrong, the item may be replaced or repaired without cost.



Easy on the budget . . . This necklace and bracelet is 14 karat gold filled, with cultured pearls. Earrings and the leaf circlet match.



Okmulgee, Okla. (AP) — Saying he would steal for a living if he was not jailed, an Okmulgee man got his wish and a 2-year prison sentence on his plea of guilty to forgery.

Family Records Help Prove Age, Get Benefits

Many persons treasure old family records such as Bibles, marriage certificates, baptismal certificates, and military service records. Some individuals are even reluctant to dispose of old records such as life insurance policies and driver's license which are no longer in effect.

A great many people do not realize that these old records are of great value in establishing a person's correct date of birth at the time he becomes eligible for Social Security benefits.

Many individuals mistakenly believe that they must have a birth certificate to establish their date of birth for the Social Security Administration. Since births were not recorded in North Carolina until Oct. 1, 1913, this means that individuals born prior to that date will have to furnish certain documents and affidavits and pay a certain fee to the State Board of Health, Raleigh, N. C., in order to have their birth recorded and delayed birth certificate issued.

The same documents which must be submitted for a delayed birth certificate can be taken to the Social Security District Office at the time an application for benefits is filed, thus eliminating the need for a delayed birth certificate obtained solely to establish one's eligibility to Social Security Benefits.

In some instances the documents upon which the delayed birth certificate is based may have to be examined by a Social Security representative when the delayed birth certificate is used as the only proof of age.

Miss Betty Perkinson, Field Representative of the New Bern Social Security District Office, advised those persons who are concerned about establishing their correct date of birth for Social Security Purpose to contact the office at 306 New St., New Bern, to learn exactly what type of evidence is required.

A list of the various types of documents which may be used by the Social Security Administration in establishing a person's age is available through that office.

A social security representative also has office hours at the courthouse annex, Beaufort, every Monday morning.

True Yarn
Basin, Wyo. (AP)—Mrs. P. L. Zimmerman Sr. has knitted more than 500 sweaters in the last 40 years. The most she ever made in one year was 20.

Bright wishes

Cheery greetings to all our friends. May the season be full of joy for you and yours.

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