

## Use Ashes For Fertilizer

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"I will sell you a cord of wood for \$50.00." When you hear that, you know the energy crisis is upon us and people are concerned about keeping warm this winter. I expect that more wood will be burned this winter than at any time in our history.

The top had blown out of an oak in my neighbor's yard. A next door neighbor agreed to fell the tree for the wood. He got it.

A friend removed a large limb from an oak and converted it into two pick-up truck loads of firewood.

A young couple was building a new home in a rural area. To make room for the house, it was necessary to fell two large oaks. They planned to convert the trees into firewood for two fireplaces in the new home. But, in the meantime, some "Good Samaritans" slipped in, sawed the trees and hauled the wood away. And so it goes.

Since the prospect for large quantities of wood ashes is indicated, perhaps some suggestions about the use of wood ashes in the vegetable, flower and fruit gardens will be helpful. Wood ashes contain about 45 percent calcium carbonate (a form of lime), about 5 to 10 percent potash and about 2 percent phosphorus. You can see that they do have some fertilizer value because two of the major plant food elements are present; only nitrogen is absent. This element can be easily supplied as a side dressing. In addition to the lime, potash and phosphorus, there are also present small quantities of the

minor or trace elements such as iron and manganese. Wood ashes should be collected and stored in a dry place. If they are piled outside and exposed to the weather, they will lose much of their nutrient value due to leaching by rain water. If you do not wish to store the ashes for soil application, they can be added to the compost pile as collected.

Wood ashes should be considered a supplement to, rather than a substitute for, the regular fertilizer program. This waste from the burning process can best be used for the root and bulb crops, fruit trees and grape vines. It may also be used in the annual and perennial flower beds. The use around azaleas, camellias, rhododendrons and blueberries is questionable because of the relatively high calcium content. These plants like an acid soil.

How much to use? About one good shovelful per square yard of soil area. Mix well with the soil.

## NEWS OF HEALTH

### Good News For Aged

People are living longer and have more leisure time—more time to enjoy the activities so often put off during the rush of year spent at raising families and full-time jobs.

But in later years many people have less physical stamina. They may suffer a loss of appetite and withdrawal from the very activities they now have time for.

These symptoms may be partially due to a depletion of vitamin-mineral stores.

To deal with this situation, scientists have come up with a wealth of products. One, for instance, helps people make the most of foods they eat to help renew vitality. It may spark the appetite, particularly when taken before meals. In cases of marginal vitamin-mineral shortages, it helps supplement the diet. Interestingly, to motivate people to take the liquid regularly, it has a tasty sherry wine base.

Wisely, doctors know that even this vitamin-mineral supplement called Gevraon is not a total answer. But with such supplements, plus the psychological stimulation of friends who encourage activity, the extra years and leisure people have can mean a lot of extra pleasure.



Patricia Stefanick

## Engagement Announced

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Stefanick of Miami, Florida announce the engagement of their daughter, Patricia, to David R. McIntosh, son of Mr. and Mrs. Reece McIntosh of Burnsville. The Stefanicks are also of the Prices Creek section of Yancey County.

The bride-elect is a graduate of Berry College, Miami, and is presently teaching school in the Dade County School System.

The prospective bridegroom owns David's Limited in Burnsville on the Town Square.

The wedding is planned for January 27th in Miami.

## GLOBAL LIFE

History's greatest linguist was Cardinal Giuseppe Casper Mezzofanti (1774-1849), the Vatican library's chief keeper. He spoke 60 languages fluently and 11 other passably and understood 20 more. He could translate 114 languages and 72 dialects.

Globally, there are over 1,000 "speech communities" — some with only a few dozen disciples. The languages spoken by the greatest number (50 million or more) are North Chinese.

## Fire Authorities List Fireplace Tips

Popular though the fireplace is—approximately 20 million American homes have them—not all people know how to use them. Fire authorities say that most accidents occur each year simply because fireplace users ignore obvious safety rules.

Many things people do with a real wood fire are either wasteful or dangerous, such as poking at the fire, breaking up

a burning log and building too large a fire. These are the most serious mistakes and they also can create a potential danger when using a brand new product category—the manufactured firelog.

Public concern for ecology has created the firelog industry nearly overnight. Firelog manufacturers say their product will replace natural wood in more

than 30 million fires this year. Manufacturers and fire authorities concur that one of the major difficulties consumers experience with manufactured logs is ignoring instructions against using more than one log at a time. Adding a wax/wood log to an existing fire may result in a flare-up or an excessively hot fire.

Another mistake fireplace

log users make is poking or breaking apart the log. The firelogs are made of compressed sawdust and wax, and when they are poked, bits of burning wax may stick to the fireplace tools and drop on the carpet. Poking also may break up the log, whether it be manufactured or natural, creating a larger burning surface and resulting in an intense heat flare-up.

Most importantly, authorities say, always use good fireplace sense when burning any logs. The following safety tips are basic rules to remember when using manufactured or natural wood logs:

\* Start with an open damper and a clean flue.

\* Use the right log for your fireplace—small logs producing lower heat are acceptable for small and free-standing fireplaces.

\* Read the manufacturer's instructions when using a man-

made firelog—and follow them. \* Place the log at the back of the fireplace, preferably on a grate.

\* Don't unwrap a manufactured log.

\* Don't overload your fireplace.

\* Never break up a burning log.

\* Don't try to move a burning log—it can break.

\* Never add a manufactured firelog to an existing fire (However, a firelog or other fuel may be added to a manufactured firelog fire after 2 hours).

\* Always use a fireplace screen.

\* Never leave children unattended near a fire.

\* To extinguish in emergency, douse flames with plenty of sand, water or chemical fire extinguisher. Do not break log apart, as this tends to spread the fire.

Simply by paying close at-

tention to such safety instructions, consumers can take full advantage of the many benefits manufactured logs provide. The logs are designed to burn for two or three hours without special attention, and the best method of tending such a fire is to sit back, relax and enjoy the beauty and warmth it provides.

### Smokey Says:



Forest fire prevention helps bring forest enjoyment!

## WARM UP TO CHERRIES JUBILEE



The role of hostess has become a whole new vista for the homemaker. With increased entertaining, contemporary hostesses are experimenting with recipes that once were the private domain of famous restaurants.

With the multitude of modern appliances and convenience foods, the hostess can devote time necessary to add special touches to a formal dinner party. A good example is this cherries jubilee, a flaming dessert that will be the talk of any home dinner party. The recipe from the test kitchens of Corning Glass Works is relatively simple to prepare and exciting to serve.

It is a dessert particularly easy to prepare on a range with thermostatically controlled heat such as the new Table Range by Corning, complete with a glass-ceramic skillet.

### Cherries Jubilee

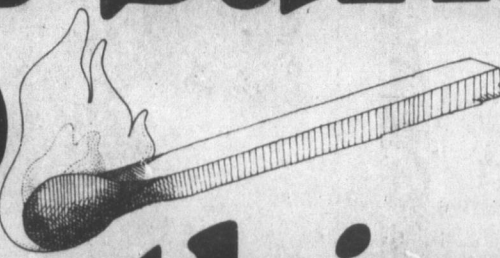
1 (1-lb., 1-oz.) can pitted dark sweet cherries  
¼ cup sugar  
1 tablespoon cornstarch  
¼ cup brandy  
1 quart vanilla ice cream

Drain cherries, reserving syrup. In glass-ceramic skillet, combine sugar and cornstarch; blend well. Add cherry syrup; mix well. Set

heat control on Table Range at 375°F. Cook and stir cherry mixture till thickened and bubbly. Stir in cherries. Turn heat control to "off."

To flame, rest serving spoon on top of cherries. Pour brandy slowly into the spoon so that brandy flows from spoon and floats on cherry mixture. Remove spoon carefully to avoid disturbing brandy layer. Light brandy with match applied to corner of skillet. Spoon flaming cherries over ice cream in dessert dishes (not crystal). This recipe makes four or five servings. However, skillet will accommodate a double recipe to serve eight or ten.

# If the idea of someone setting fire to a forest burns you up do something about it.



Stop wildfire.  
Report arson.  
Help prevent forest fires in the South.

Last year, over 200,000 acres of Southern woodlands were destroyed by fires that got out of hand. No one meant to do it. But the results were the same.

## BEST WISHES FOR ALL 1974

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**GINNY-LISA SHOPPE**

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