

Clean-Up Week Is Good Time To Eliminate Fire Hazards

Thousands of communities will conduct Clean-Up Week some time this spring in an effort to beautify the town and make it a healthier place in which to live. It is also a good time to improve fire safety in your community.

Firemen report that the basement is the most dangerous spot in the house as far as fires are concerned. If your home was inspected today the firemen would look for piles of waste papers, oily rags or discarded furniture.

They would examine your ash barrel—it should be metal. Then they would turn their attention to furnaces, stoves or smoke pipes close to combustible ceilings or partition. Charring of wood, blistering of paint, or wood that is hot when you hold your hand against it, are signs that the temperature in that area is dangerously high.

Your gas appliances would be inspected, to be sure there are no conditions which might cause gas leaks or explosion. Your chimneys would get a going over from the inside. Wooden beams extending into chimney walls have started many fires.

If you have work rooms in the basement, they would get their share of attention, to be sure there are no shavings on work benches, and that paints, varnishes, oils and turpentine are correctly stored.

Electrical distribution channels and fuses, which are usually installed in the basement, would be

examined for proper fusing. In most cases, 15 ampere fuses would be used.

Winding up the inspection tour, they would check to see that the spaces at the bottom of wall studs are tightly fire-stopped to prevent a basement fire from spreading into the walls and up to other rooms.

During 1952 fire damaged or destroyed approximately \$784,953,000 worth of property in the United States. Measured in dollars, the losses are at an all-time high for the second consecutive year.

Since 1935 when fire losses amounted to \$235 million, they have increased 3.3 times.

These facts point up the need for continuous attention to fire prevention and to community participation in spring Clean-up activities.

On the farm front, the fire hazard is greater today than ever before. The modern farms have all the fire hazards of a machine shop, factory, gasoline station and paint shop.

Today's mechanized farm makes wide use of gasoline-operated machinery and electrical equipment, all of which have created many new fire hazards that must be safeguarded against by the farmer.

And it is important to note that farm fires frequently result in total loss because of inadequate water supplies.

Clean up on the farm and clean up the home is a wise spring practice.



DIXIE GOVERNORS SEE PRESIDENT . . . Pres. Eisenhower poses with Gov. Allan Shivers (left) of Texas, and Gov. James F. Byrnes of South Carolina after lunching with a group of governors and congressional leaders at the White House.

DALE CARNEGIE

AUTHOR OF "HOW TO STOP WORRYING AND START LIVING"

THOMAS C. DYKE, 2305 Bell Street, Columbus, Georgia, believes that uncontrollable fear was developed in him when he had to quit school at the age of thirteen and go to work in the coal mines, to help his dad make a living.

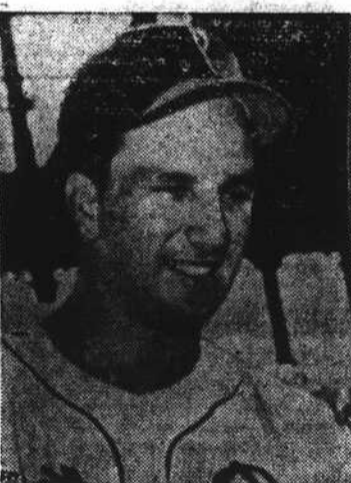
He always wanted to be a mining or civil engineer and the only way to get the education was by Correspondence Courses. He was laughed at for wasting his time studying correspondence courses rather than being out having a good time with the rest of the boys who said, "Whoever heard of a coal miner being anything but a coal miner." He was even called a 2x4 Correspondence School Engineer by a famous lawyer before the Court of Claims. All this had a bad effect. However, he thinks the one thing that had the greatest effect in bringing on chronic fear, a fear of people, was a lack of association with his fellow men.

After all, to get a technical education, by correspondence requires a tremendous amount of time, and the exclusion of practically everything else. He put his heart and soul into his work and into research and study to become an Engineer. He would work in the mines all day and study at night. Many times he stayed up all night studying.

But by persistent diligent effort he reached his goal and established himself as an Engineer. The next problem to conquer was fear. He read Dr. Emerson Fossick's book on "Being a Real Person" and "Personal Achievement," by Roberts, as well as all other available data. Still he was afraid—of people! Then he decided on a night course in public speaking, where he had to stand on his feet night after night facing those fearsome people. The first time, he didn't do so well, nor the second nor the third. Then he began comparing notes on himself at each gathering. Why even the third time he did a little better than the first—and those people didn't seem so fearsome after all. Suddenly he realized they were not so different from himself. He was one of this world of people. And once that idea filtered through his brain, he was no longer afraid of people. Certainly not—he was one of them!



CARNEGIE



KINER JOINS PIRATES . . . Concluding his long contract argument with Branch Rickey, Ralph Kiner flew from his Palm Springs home to play with the Pittsburgh Pirates in Havana. Kiner's pay reportedly will be about \$75,000.

Play Ball

WITH THE baseball season breathing down everyone's neck, here's how the experts pick them. Casey Stengel's Yanks are favored to break all records by winning a fifth straight American League pennant. Cleveland will provide the toughest opposition. The Dodgers are still the choice of the National leap with the Giants, Philadelphia and St. Louis making strong bids. The experts report the major league benefited from numerous player deals during the winter and from the fine rookie crop that will see action this year. They also add that the addition of Russ Meyer to the Dodgers' pitching staff may be all the Dodgers need to become the first National repeaters since the Cards of 1942, 1943, and 1944. The Phils now have a long-ball hitter in Earl Torgeson and may prove tough since they have such pitchers as Robin Roberts, Curt Simmons and Karl Drews.

A record breaking 455.8 million bushels of 1952-crop wheat had been put under price support as of February 15.

Farms with 500 or more acres have increased 40 per cent in the past 30 years. U. S. farms with 1,000 or more acres have nearly doubled in that time.

Agricultural products represented 42 per cent of all U. S. imports last year, compared with 46 per cent in 1951.

ACROSS the DESK

ideas from other editors

From the Webster Times, Webster, Massachusetts: A good question for today is this: Just how much of a dollar have we got? For some time now, it has been well banded about that a dollar is worth only 52 cents. Complainers are apparently comparing the purchase-ability of today's long green with that of about 20 years ago.

Maybe in the early '30's a dollar did buy nearly twice as much as it does today, but the old-timer's reflection is worth pondering. "I remember the time," he says, "when you could buy a ham sandwich for a nickel." Pause. "But nobody had a confounded nickel!"

Today's dollar seems to have stretched on the one end and shrunk on the other. The period at the end of the last sentence had hardly been put on the decontrol measure recently, when price increases were reported on cigarettes, gasoline and copper.

On the other hand, farm and cattle prices have been dropping regularly for the past six months; farm prices are about 17 per cent below the record high of February, 1951.

From The Herington Advertiser-Times, Herington, Kansas:

Quite naturally, farmers and farm organizations are greatly concerned with the declines that have recently occurred in the market prices of livestock and certain other agricultural commodities. The fear has been expressed that the declines might become so great as to

bring on an agricultural depression.

Forecasting the future is an exceedingly risky business, and no one can say with certainty what will happen to farm commodity prices next month or next year. But it should be recorded that many students of agricultural trends feel that the present situation is not as serious as some have painted it.

Secretary of Agriculture Benson is one of these—he recently denied that the price declines had reached "the proportions of an emergency." And the Minneapolis Morning Tribune expressed a widely-held opinion when it said editorially that "the outlook may not be so alarming as it seems."

The Tribune found several rays of light on the price horizon. One is of a political character—the government's price support program, whatever one's opinion of its wisdom, will carry through the 1954 crop year in its present form. Others are economic. On the subject of livestock, for instance, the paper said, "Most spectacular decline of all has been the drop in meat cattle prices. But there is no mystery about this development. Many cattlemen saw it coming a year ago as cattle numbers were building up to the highest point in history. Existence of price ceilings no doubt accelerated herd build-ups at a time when more animals should have been moving to feedlots or slaughtering stations . . . There may be some further declines in meat prices but they should level off soon."



VISHINSKY SMILES . . . Soviet foreign minister Andrei Vishinsky (right) extends welcome to Mohammed Kabir Ludin, permanent representative from Afghanistan, at UN general assembly meeting.

YOUR brain budget

1. What is the traditional international limit of territorial waters? (a) Three miles; (b) Six miles; (c) Ten miles.
2. The new Russian Premier is: (a) Voroshilov; (b) Malenkov; (c) Khrushchev?
3. What is the population of Russia? (a) About 150,000,000; (b) About 300,000,000; (c) About 200,000,000.

ANSWERS
1. Three miles.
2. Malenkov.
3. About 200,000,000.