

Nation Asked to Help Cut Heavy Yule Time Fire Toll

Americans are being asked by the National Board of Fire Underwriters to keep fire safety in mind this Christmas and prevent a recurrence of the heavy toll in fire deaths recorded a year ago.

In the three days beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve, there were 77 fire deaths in the United States compared with 63 deaths the preceding Christmas.

A total of 66 persons died in fires during a three-day period last New Year's compared with 63 persons in a like period a year earlier.

Care Is Urged

"The Christmas season can be a joyous one for all of us if we use ordinary care," said Lewis A. Vincent, general manager of the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

"It is a well-known fact that three-fourths of all fires are caused by carelessness and forgetfulness."

Fire Fatalities

Deaths from fire which occurred during the Christmas and New Year's holiday periods of the last 10 years, according to the National Safety Council, are as follows:

Year	Christmas	New Year's
1960	77	66
1959	43	63
1958	93	61
1957	27	20
1956	53	71
1955	68	74
1954	63	27
1953	81	40
1952	82	58
1951	111	69

La Grange Men on Duty in Germany

Sgt. John W. Britt and Specialist Four Alton R. Ham of La Grange, recently participated with other members of the 8th Infantry Division and supporting units in Exercise in central Germany.

The exercise, which involved some 28,000 troops, was designed to develop small unit leadership and test combat readiness.

Sergeant Britt, son of Mrs. Pauline Britt, La Grange, entered the Army in October 1950 and was last stationed at Fort George G. Meade, Md. The 31-year-old soldier was graduated from La Grange High School in 1949. Britt, whose wife, Shirley, is with him in Germany, is a scout in Troop B of the division's 8th Cavalry in Mannheim.

Specialist Hamm, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray A. Hamm, is a driver in Troop A of the division's 8th Cavalry in Mannheim.

Quit Worrying Over Radioactive Fallout, Bombs, Says A.M.A.

Let's quit worrying about radioactive fallout from the 1961 bomb tests as a health hazard for awhile and concentrate on getting ready for Christmas.

There are two things to think about in this business of fallout and its effect on humans —

—The scientists are by no means in agreement as to how much radioactivity we can absorb without bothering us.

—There isn't very much that us average folks can do about it anyway.

In spite of all the bombs set off in the last few months, the chances are that there still isn't enough radioactive fallout in the United States to constitute a health problem. This no one knows for sure, but a majority of the men who know most about the problem have said many times that they don't think we need to start worrying yet.

Whether you are in favor of fallout shelters or not, we can't just retreat to a shelter this winter. The man of the house has to go to work, the lady has to go shopping and the kids have to go to school. We have to be out in all kinds of weather everyday. If there is radioactive fallout in the air, we'll get some of it, and there's nothing we can do about it.

The American Medical Association recently conducted a survey of seven of the top experts in the nation. All seven agreed that fallout was not a health hazard. Since that time, more bombs have been exploded, but the principle remains the same. The best opinion of a majority of the experts is that we can absorb all of the fallout now floating around without damage.

Radiation in all its forms will play an increasing role in the lives of all mankind. The uses of nuclear fission will continue to expand and potential radiation hazards will increase accordingly. The need for conservative management of all radiation sources is obvious.

There are still many unknowns

THIS IS THE LAW

By Robert E. Lee
(For the N. C. Bar Association)

Trusts of Savings Accounts

John Jones deposits \$1,000 of his own money in a savings account which is entitled "John Jones in trust for Mary Dugan." He subsequently withdraws \$920 from this account and spends it for his own personal needs. Upon his death there is only \$80 in the particular savings account. Neither Mary Dugan nor any one else learns of the deposit until after the death of John Jones. John Jones leaves a large estate free from the claims of creditors. How much, if anything, may Mary Dugan recover? Dugan recover?

Mary Dugan may recover the \$80 remaining on deposit in the savings account. She cannot recover anything from the estate of John Jones.

In the absence of a different intention of the depositor, the inference here is that John Jones intended to create in respect to the particular savings account a revocable trust. The withdrawal of \$920 was a manifestation that he had in part revoked the trust originally created by him in favor of Mary Dugan.

When a person makes a deposit in a savings account in a bank in his own name as trustee for another person intending to reserve a power to withdraw the whole or any part of the deposit at any time during his lifetime and to use as his own whatever he may withdraw, or otherwise to revoke the trust, the intended trust is enforceable

and research on a wide front is going rapidly ahead. As new information is gained, man can expect to derive increasing benefits from the release of nuclear energy with a minimum hazard to himself and his descendants.

All of us are living in a world in which nuclear energy will be used more and more in the years to come. Learning to live with radiation all around us is something we cannot control, something whose harm to mankind is still largely an unknown factor.

by the beneficiary upon the death of the depositor as to any part remaining on deposit on his death if he has not revoked the trust.

A savings deposit of this type is known as a "tentative trust." It is different from an ordinary trust, because in an ordinary trust the creator cannot revoke or change the terms of the trust unless at the time of its creation he expressly reserves the right to do so. Furthermore, these so-called "tentative trusts" are limited to savings accounts in banks or other savings organizations. The law of ordinary trusts applies to checking accounts in banks.


Although there are no statutes and Supreme Court decisions in North Carolina bearing on questions involving "tentative trusts" of saving accounts, it is reasonable to assume that the law of North Carolina is in accord with that followed generally in the United States today.


This is the last of a fall series of articles which have appeared weekly during the past three months. They have been written for the non-lawyer as a public service of the North Carolina Bar Association. Another series will be started in the spring.

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