

SPOILAGE—AND HOW TO AVOID IT IN 1944

COLLEGE STATION—Most home canners have seen swelled cans or know about the danger of poisoning from botulism, but there are other types of spoilage which they should know about and guard against.

"Flat sour" offers one example. Mrs. Winifred J. Leverenz, specialist in food preservation for the Extension Service, explains that corn and shelled beans and peas are susceptible to this type of spoilage, as well as pumpkins and snap beans. When this occurs, the food usually is cloudy, has an unpleasant odor, and a disagreeable, sour flavor.

This type of spoilage can be prevented by canning these foods immediately after gathering them, by making sure the food is clean, by processing under pressure the proper length of time and by cooling it quickly and storing in a cool place. Since the bacteria which cause flat sour develop best between 100 and 130 degrees F., Mrs. Leverenz says canners should avoid letting food stand at this temperature for any length of time before, during, or after canning.

An unusual type of spoilage sometimes happens with beets when they turn black in color. While this change does not necessarily indicate that the food is poisonous, it becomes most unappetizing. The bacteria causing this develop only in the presence of iron either in the water, or because the beets were pre-cooked in an iron kettle or in a chipped enamel vessel. On long storage the iron base of the can may cause this discoloration.

Occasionally canned greens, especially spinach, will have a bad odor, a slimy texture and a cloudy liquid. Thorough washing is necessary to help prevent this, because greens grow close to the soil and may be more heavily contaminated with bacteria than taller vegetables. Mrs. Leverenz explains. Greens should not be packed too tightly or they will be more likely to spoil, because there is slower heat penetration. Fill the container within two inches of the top of solid food, cover with boiling liquid and run a knife through the center several times to make sure the boiling liquid will reach the middle.

When Seaman Jones telephoned to inquire if the coast was clear, innocent hubby suggested he call the weather bureau.

Health Notes

By Texas Department of Health

AUSTIN—Contrary to the popular belief that pyorrhea is incurable, this is only true of the most advanced cases. Dr. Geo. W. Cox, State Health Officer, advises those persons who even suspect the presence of pyorrhea to take time by the forelock and seek an early diagnosis so that proper treatment can be instituted while the disease is still curable.

"Early detection and proper treatment represent the formula for a successful cure. This means that the dentist must have an opportunity to discover the presence of pyorrhea at the earliest possible moment since the symptoms are often so vague that the patient is unaware of its existence," Dr. Cox said. "Regular visits to the family dentist are therefore extremely important."

The treatment of pyorrhea is not an involved procedure. In the average early case one of the main therapeutic features is the proper hygienic care of teeth and gums as outlined by any reputable dentist. Carelessness regarding mouth hygiene is usually the basic cause for the condition.

The family dentist can usually remove the cause of the trouble, Dr. Cox said and when this has been done intelligent routine home care of the mouth by the patient will effect a cure in the majority of early cases.

Concern regarding pyorrhea should not be based upon the misguided notion of its incurability, according to the Health Officer, but rather that it be discovered by the dentist when still in a curable stage.

Miss Dorothy Gebauer, University of Texas dean of women, is getting facts first-hand on the status, duties and problems of women in war industry. She is spending the month of May at a Hughes Tool Company plant in Houston, at the company's invitation.

EXTENSION STUDENTS TO STAY IN MEXICO CITY

AUSTIN—An entire wing of a brand-new, modern hotel in Mexico City has been obtained as housing accommodations for students who will attend the University of Texas' extension field school at the National University of Mexico. University officials here have been informed.

Dr. C. W. Hackett, executive committee chairman of the University's Institute of Latin-American studies, which will sponsor the field school, said he had received word from Senora Moran de Constantine, dean of women for the field school, that the "Posada del Sol" will be able to house several hundred students.

Last summer, approximately 160 students from 59 universities and colleges of the United States, Canada and Latin-America attended the first session of the field school.



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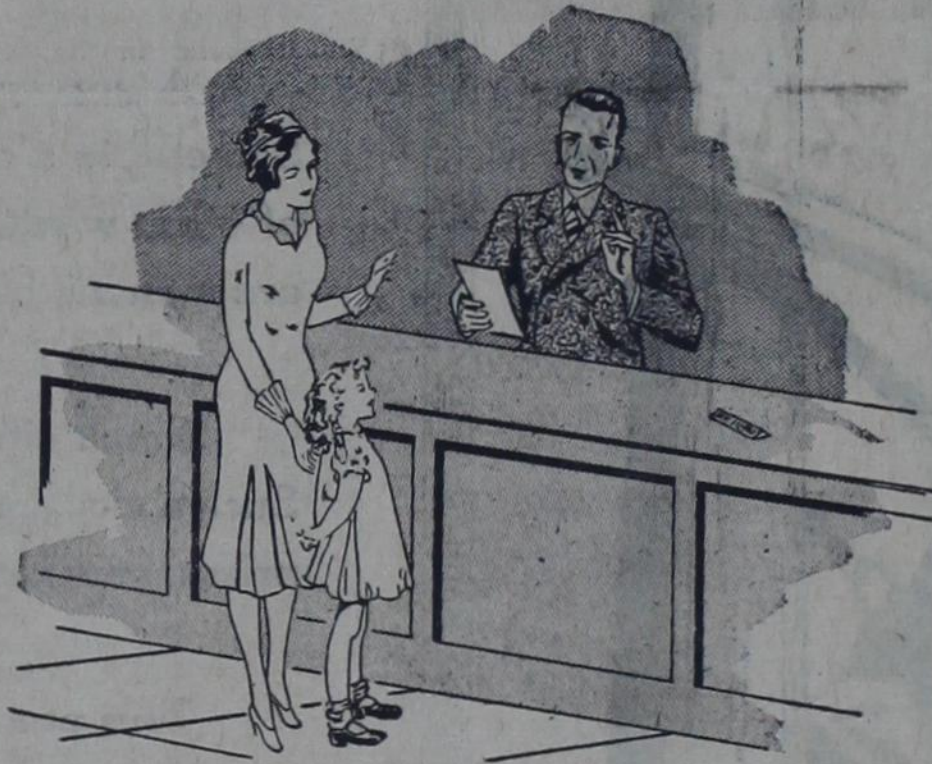
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MASTITIS CAUSES HUGE LOSS TO DAIRY INDUSTRY

COLLEGE STATION—Mastitis costs the dairy industry annually about 70 million dollars, according to A. L. Darnell, professor of dairy husbandry at Texas A & M. The loss is brought about largely through loss in milk production of infected cows. Services of a veterinarian should be obtained wherever available for diagnosis and treatment of infected herds.

The average incidence of infection among cows in dairy herds investigated is from 30 to 50 percent. About 90% of cases are due to the organism streptococcus agalactiae or mastiditis and the remainder to staphylococcus and bacillus organisms, Darnell said.

The Hotis test combined with a physical examination of the udder is one of the most practical tests used for detecting this infection. The two general methods of treatment are use of vaccine chemicals or drugs administered by injection into the udder. Prevention of infection in a dairy herd is more important than any method of treatment.

The following rules are set up:

- 1, Prevent suckling among calves;
- 2 keep bred heifers separate from older cows if there is an udder infection in any of the older cows;
- 3, barn lots should be well drained and kept clean of manure and litter, bedding should be cleaned and changed frequently;
- 4, every cow purchased and added to the herd should be tested and carefully examined for udder infection;
- 5, milking should be tested once a week and all cows Hotis tested every 60 days;
- 5, when infected cows are discovered they should be isolated and milked separately;
- 6, sanitary methods should be used in milking all cows, as careless in this procedure is the easiest way to spread mastitis in a herd.

Acute mastitis usually is caused by a staphylococcus infection of the udder. In such cases the cow's feed should be changed, with very laxative foods given. Give one pound

Epsom Salts in a quart of warm water, if an experienced person cannot be obtained to administer sulfanilamide. With sulfanilamide give one pint linseed oil. The animal should be protected from exposure to cold winds or rain. Sulfanilamide administered orally produces good results in treatment of this type of mastitis, but should be given by a vet. Where body temperature is normal and acute inflammation begins to subside, use of hot applications to the udder will be of considerable benefit.

COTTONSEED OIL MILL OPERATORS TO MEET

COLLEGE STATION—The 16th annual Short Course for Cottonseed Oil Mill Operators to be held at the A & M College May 28-June 3, will dedicate the new Cottonseed Products Research Laboratory building, erected under an allocation of \$50,000 by the Texas Cotton Research Committee, with the balance of the construction cost provided by funds from the A & M College, Jack Howell of Bryan general chairman of the College Relations Committee of the Texas Cottonseed Crushers' Association, has announced.

The short course is held annually in cooperation with the Texas Cottonseed Crushers' Association. Professor F. F. Bishop, of the department of chemical engineering is director of the short course.

Groups will be formed among the registrants, and will be assigned either to laboratory operations, or to lectures and discussions of problems involving oil mill operations. The assignments will be rotated.

Retreating never won a battle.

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MODERN MILKING METHODS OUTLINED BY SPECIALIST

COLLEGE STATION—Families who still cling to the old practice of using syrup or lard buckets as milk pails are inviting trouble, for these are difficult to clean and furnish hiding places for bacteria. In addition, the buckets with a rim around the top rust easily.

A seamless, small-topped or hooded milk pail is recommended by the Texas A & M Extension Service. If a hooded pail is not available, a seamless straight-edge one certainly should be provided, says Gladys Martin, Extension specialist in home dairyming.

Another important piece of equipment necessary to clean milk is the strainer. Select one which can be cleaned easily and which is large enough to take care of the milk produced Miss Martin advises. She considers preferable the strainer in which a cotton filter pad can be used. The pad should be used only once, then discarded.

Use of chlorine water to act as a sterilizer also is essential to the proper handling of milk. Following their use, milk utensils should be first rinsed with cool or lukewarm water. Using hot water cooks the casein in the milk and makes the containers hard to clean. Next wash the buckets, strainers and bottles with hot water and an alkaline washing powder. Use a stiff brush, for it will clean much better than a dish rag

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After the bucket, strainer, and milk containers have been washed they should be rinsed with boiling water and turned wrong side up to dry. They should not be wiped. Just before starting to milk rinse the utensils in the chlorine solution to sterilize them. This practice costs only about a half cent a day, Miss Martin estimates.

Farm products should cost more today than ever before. When a farmer has to know the botanical name of the product he is raising; the zoological name of the insect that eats it; and the chemical name of what kills the insect... somebody's got to pay.

When hubby said his faith could move a mountain, friend wife replied that he had better apply some of it to those ashes accumulating in the basement.

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BRASS KEEPS BRIGHT

COLLEGE STATION—Apply lacquer to clean brass fixtures to eliminate frequently polishing. When articles are treated this way they require only dusting and washing.

Mrs. Bernice Claytor, specialist in home improvement for the Extension Service, outlines this procedure for the job. Dust with a soft cloth, wash in hot suds and dry. Remove spots with a mild acid, such as hot vinegar and salt, or tomato juice. Wash the fixture again and rinse thoroughly. Apply brush polish with

a soft cloth, rub with polishing cloth until the surface is bright as you wish, and finally apply the lacquer.

The parcel packing program caused one girl to be seen going home with her new evening dress on her arm. At that we betcha she had more on her arm than on the rest of her body.

Pressure cooking and casserole cooking are the most successful ways to prepare dehydrated foods, according to Dr. Gene Spencer, University of Texas research home economist.

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