

HEALTH LETTER

Dr. Geo. W. Cox, State Health Officer, urges the parents of all children who will respond to the school bell for the first time in September to be sure the child is physically ready for school duties.

"First and foremost is the need for vaccination against smallpox. Parents should see that children are vaccinated before they are one year of age; however, if not done previously, at school age vaccination becomes absolutely necessary," Dr. Cox said. "If your child has not been vaccinated, have it done immediately for his own protection and that of others."

Immunization against diphtheria is also highly important, Dr. Cox declares. This disease which

causes illness and deaths among young children can be prevented with toxoid. The child who has never been protected should be given this safeguard against a dreaded killing disease. Even though he may have been immunized as a baby, doctors and health officers usually recommend an additional dose of toxoid to strengthen immunity before entrance into school.

"In addition, before you send your child to school you are urged to take him to your family physician and dentist for a thorough examination," Dr. Cox adds. "You will want to know that he is in good physical condition and can compete with the other children on equal terms. If the check-up reveals any weakness or defects they should be corrected at once."

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FARM NEWS

Maybe you've wondered why farmers have been getting such high crop yields in recent years. Here's a report from the Triple A that gives one clue.

According to this report, farmers last year devoted record acreage to green manure and cover crops. Over 23 million acres, in fact.

The systematic return of organic matter to the soil is vital to good soil management, plant experts tell us, and several practices which Triple A encourages help to do this. Probably the most important one of these fertility-restoring practices is growing grasses and legumes for rotation. Besides adding organic matter to the soil, legumes provide nitrogen. What's more, they retard erosion and prevent leaching of plant food elements, as well as furnish winter pasture for livestock in some areas.

Officials say there are ample supplies of Austrian winter pea and common vetch for farmers to carry out an even bigger green manure and cover crop program this fall and winter. So, if you've not already carried out this practice on your farm, maybe you'd like to talk it over with your Triple A committee.

A. K. Boyd of Vera, who had served three years in the armed services, has recently been discharged and has returned to Knox County to farm.

Mr. Boyd was in the office last week and secured a veteran's preference certificate for a cultivator, lister-planter, grain drill and tractor. Also, the county committee approved a "Veteran's Application for Surplus Property, Form SWPC-66" for a jeep.

With world sugar supplies still running 'away short' the government is standing behind the request for more sugar produced in this country by increasing the guaranteed return to producers.

Secretary of Agriculture Clinton Anderson, announced the support on next year's beet crop at \$13.50 per ton. That's national average return, and it's one dollar higher than this year's price. Sugar cane produced for sugar also gets an increase in government support. The rate was set at \$2.10 per ton for average sugar cane in Louisiana, Florida, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands and Hawaii.

At the same time, the government is smoothing the way for increased sugar production at the other end of the line. That's with special payments to processors to help them bear the higher processing costs.

So it looks as if the govern-

ment is doing its part to help farmers and processors turn out the production needed to increase the sugar supply.

Of interest to you whom are really fish minded, E. E. McGregor and John Charles McFerrin returned from Possum Kingdom Dam last week with a fish 48 inches long and weighing 57 pounds. We didn't see the fish but we did see the head so it isn't just another one of those so called "fish stories."

More applications for Austrian winter peas and vetch continue to come to the office. A carload of peas is expected this week. Anyone interested, place your order with us at once.

After all, horse sense is just stable thinking.

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