CANTON, N. Y.
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PLAINDEALER
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The Canton Gardener

By JOHN VAN de WATER

Because recent developments point up the increasing need for public awareness of and public action on certain problems of major concern to the people, this column will now and then sidestep into areas only indirectly related to gardening.

Environmentalists are kooks. They tend to be organic gardeners and farmers. They raise as much of their own food as possible. They patronize health food stores and shun the junk foods found in supermarkets. They prefer wind, water and solar energy development and are scared to death of nuclear. They distrust bigness — in government, business, agriculture and education. They don't give first priority to making a lot of money and tend to distrust those who do. They oppose such things as DDT, SST, PCB, 765KV, white bread, white sugar, refined foods in general, atmoic energy, aerosol sprays, red dye and other food additives. They are in short "prophets of doom and gloom."

How Kooky Are They?

Just how kooky environmentalists are can be shown by some quotes lifted from an article entitled "Cancer — Mostly a Disease of the Environment" by Dr. Joseph Highland, chairman, Toxic Chemicals Programs, Washington, DC.:

"Today, one in every four Americans contracts cancer during his lifetime, and two thirds of these die of the disease. In 1973 there were over 800,000 new cases of cancer, and approximately 380,000 deaths (the rate has risen rapidly since then — JV.)

—It is now clear that cancer is not one disease, but rather a series of diseases caused by a variety of factors. The most recent estimates by cancer experts from the World Health Organization and the National Cancer Institute are that between 80-90 percent of all human cancers are environmentally caused (emphasis mine).

—Carcinogens are chemical, physical, or biological agents which, when administered to animals or humans, increase the probability of tumor induction.

—Most cancer experts agree that the low levels of cancinogens to which the general population is exposed are responsible for the majority of human cancers. Although others would argue that the levels of these chemicals in the environment are too small to be of significance to the general population, the scientific evidence simply does not support this viewpoint.

Introducing — Corporate Cancer

It was with a recognition of these facts and the knowledge that many of the chemical carcinogens present in our environment have resulted from indiscriminate dumping by corporations, that the term corporate cancer was introduced. It is used to define the increased incidence of cancer that has resulted from our involuntary exposure to corporate products and wastes, carelessly and many times needlessly (and often illegally — JV) put into our air, food, water, and land.

Here is another quote from New York State Environment for February, 1976. "The federal government has requested an injunction to prevent the city of New York from blocking shipments of radio active material —" — Dr. Leonard Solon, director of the Bureau of Radiation Control of the Board of Health testified: Dispersion of even a small fraction of the contents of one of these shipments (by air) as the result of an air crash, concomitant fire, and high winds within the city — could — bring death or serious injury to tens of thousands of New Yorkers."

And another: "Monsanto (Chemical Company) announced in late January that it plans to phase out the manufacture of the toxic chemicals, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). The chemicals have caused liver damage, cancer and massive reproductive failure in laboratory animals, as well as allergic dermatitis, nausea, dizziness, and other symptoms among people working with PCBs."

Yes, environmentalists are real kooks. And the more of their relatives, friends, and neighbors they see dying of cancer, the kookier they get.

MONS 035229

Clear Deception

terminates the child's eligibility.

Those incapable of self-support because of a mental or physical incapacity that existed before age 18 may be eligible indefinitely.

Full information on the CHAMPVA is available at any VA regional office or medical facility.

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W ... who proved to VA while they were in training that their husbands were permanently disabled and incapable of self-support have already been paid the additional amount.

Russell Grange To Honor Artist

At Russell Grange Hall on March 18 at 5:30 p.m. there will be a covered dish dinner for grange members and invited guests in honor of artist, Stephen Cobb.

Cobb has completed four paintings representing the four seasons of the year, motifs exemplified in the grange ritual. The paintings will be placed in the four arched sections of the grange hall front windows.

The public is cordially invited to the unveiling of Cobb's paintings. There is no admission charge.

A program at 7 p.m. of songs and music appropriate to each season featuring Beulah Law and Dick Law with his guitar, will be heard.

Also there will be an exhibit of art by teenagers under the direction of Mrs. Anna Davis, art teacher at Knox Memorial Central School and Miss Leah Noble of Edwards, a former art teacher, will speak on art for teenagers.

This event is under the direction of Ray Loop and is offered as a contribution of Russell Grange to the Town Bicentennial Celebration.



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