

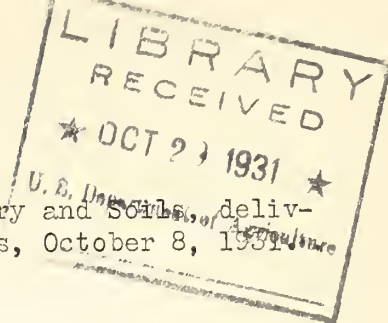
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PERSONAL CARE PREVENTS FARM FIRES



A radio talk by Harry E. Roethe, Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, delivered through WRC and 43 other associate NBC radio stations, October 8, 1931.

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The annual fire loss on farms has been estimated at \$100,000,000 in property and 3,500 lives. This property loss is about one-fifth and the loss of life is practically one-third of that resulting from fires for the nation last year.

The principal causes of farm fires are: Defective chimneys and flues, sparks on combustibel roofs, lightning, careless use of matches and smoking, spontaneous ignition of agricultural products, careless handling and storage of gasoline and kerosenc, defective wiring and improper use of electrical appliances.

At this time of the year it is timely to direct attention to the explosion and fire hazard of gasoline and kerosenc. Gasoline and kerosene, as well as other flammable liquids, are always potentially dangerous. Lives and property may be reasonably safeguarded against this hazard, however, by the proper storage and the careful handling and use of these liquids.

Do not start or revive fires in stoves or furnaces with gasoline or kerosene.

Handle carefully lamps, heaters, stoves, incubators, brooders, and lanterns using flammable liquids for fuel; never fill them while they are burning.

If it is necessary to do any "dry cleaning" at home, do not use gasoline, benzine, or other flammable liquids. Instead, use a non-flammable liquid, such as carbon tetrachloride.

Safety cans holding a maximum of 1 gallon should be used for small quantities of gasoline kept about the house. Large quantities should be stored in an underground tank or in metal drums well removed from the house or other structures. Do not place cans of kerosone near stoves, furnaces, or rubbish.

