

1956

EC56-1119 Safety around the Clock through Good Management

William D. Lutes

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E.C. 56-1119



LEARN FUNDAMENTALS
OF FIRST AID



PLEASANT ATMOSPHERE IN HOME



GOOD STORAGE FACILITIES



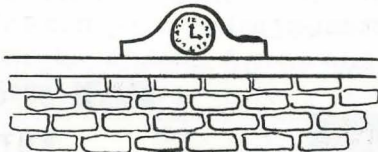
SUFFICIENT REST



GOOD FOOD HABITS



ANTICIPATE PROBLEMS



PLAN FLEXIBLE
WORK ROUTINE



CARE FOR
EQUIPMENT PROPERLY



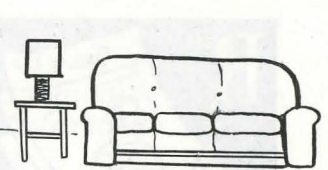
USE THE RIGHT
EQUIPMENT



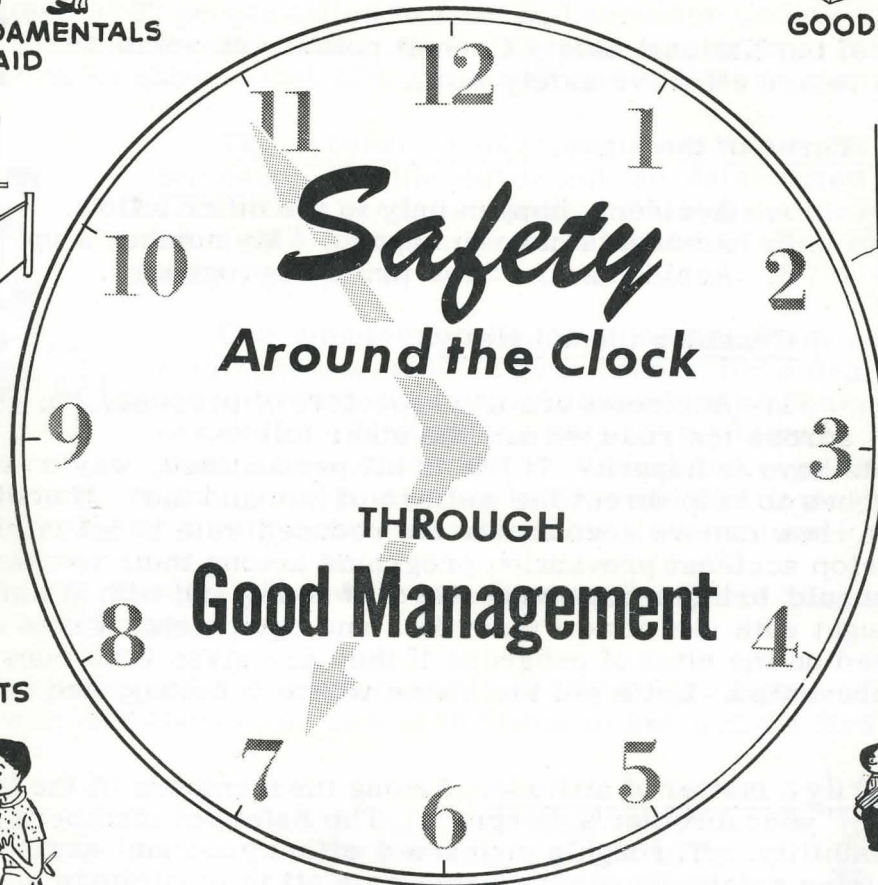
RECOGNIZE HAZARDS



TEACH FAMILY
GOOD PRACTICES



ARRANGEMENT
OF FURNITURE

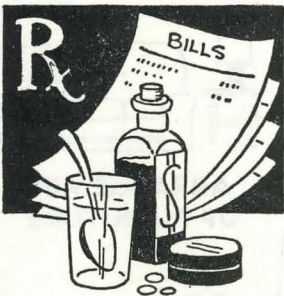


Safety Around The Clock

William D. Lutes
Extension Specialist, Safety

Why should we prevent accidents? - Because they take more useful working years of life than any other cause of death. Accidents rank fourth as causes of death among persons of all ages. They rank first among persons between one and thirty-five years of age. Accidents are expensive, they cause human suffering, they take human lives.

The President of the National Safety Council points out some beliefs which tend to retard effective safety work.



Three of them are:

1. Accidents happen only to the other fellow.
2. Accidents have to happen, "My number's up".
3. Accidents are "The price of progress".

Consider these briefly:

1. Accidents are no respectors of persons. To the family living across the road we are the other fellow.
2. Do accidents have to happen? If life is all predestined, why do we have doctors, schools, and churches to help direct the welfare of human kind? If accidents are of divine determination, how can we account for the reduced rate in industrial accidents after industries develop accident prevention programs among their workers?
3. Progress should bring a better standard of living and with it safer living. Safe methods can be taught with use of new materials and equipment. Lives and limbs do not have to be sacrificed on the altar of progress if they are given first consideration. Most accidents can be prevented. Let's put the blame where it belongs and prevent them ourselves.

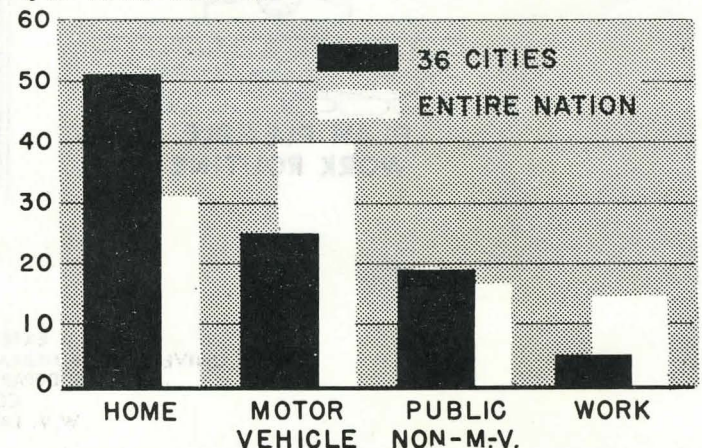
Safety is primarily a matter of attitude. Among the members of the family there must be the desire to be "your brother's keeper". The safety of members of the family is everyone's responsibility. Through a concerted effort you can: assist the members of the family in becoming safety conscious, encourage all to participate in a family activity related to safety, and eliminate hazards to safety in and around the home.

Your home may be your castle, but the enemy is not entirely outside the walls. For the nation as a whole, more accidents occur in and around the home than in any other place. Home is where safety is needed most and where it should begin.

In Nebraska, accidents in the home ranked second as killers during 1954. The number, 246, was surpassed only by the number of traffic deaths. According to figures released by the State Department of Health, 128 of the deaths occurred in city homes and 118 in farm homes. The number of home fatalities among the different age groups was as follows: 146 older adults, 48 young adults, 34 children and 18 infants.

DISTRIBUTION OF ACCIDENTAL DEATHS IN CITIES AND IN THE ENTIRE NATION

% OF TOTAL DEATHS



The chief causes of accidental deaths in the home in 1954 were:

Falls	145	Posion	17
Fire	29	Tornado	13
Suffocation	20	Firearms	6

Of the home accidents, those involving falls are the most numerous. The 1953 survey of home accidents in Lancaster County indicated that 46% were the result of falls. "Striking against object" ranked second and accounted for 17% of the accidents.

Most home accidents (64%) occurred in the yard, 7% occurred in the kitchen, 2% in the living room, 5% in the bedroom, 9% on the stairs, 2% in the bathroom, and 2% on the porch. Eighteen of 22 people killed in falls in Lancaster County were over 70 years of age. No fatalities occurred in the birth to 39-year age group. The 1952 accidental death count in Nebraska showed that 67% were men and 33% were women.

The prevention of accidents in the home must be aimed at the cause and the cause can be determined only by gathering facts about home accidents. Every homemaker needs to survey her home and family for a period of time to determine where areas of special need exist.



Use supplement 50 as a report form and summarize the accidents occurring in your homes for a 6-month period. Use the summary as a guide for greater emphasis on special areas next year. It would be interesting to have all club members make a report of their individual surveys after they have been summarized. Remember that we are striving to find and eliminate the cause of accidents, so record the minor injury accidents as well as the more serious ones.

Information is not enough - "knowing the situation" will not stop accidents. Action is necessary in every home.

The time to be concerned about accidents is before they happen. For many accident victims there is only one chance, so now is the time to see that the first accident doesn't happen.

One of the most worthwhile safety activities upon which a homemaker can work is that of completing a survey of her home to spot the existing hazards and assisting the family in eliminating them. Many times we have lived and worked around hazards for so long a time that we fail to recognize them as hazards. A systematic survey requires a check list as a guide to more thorough examination of our homes. Supplement 51 is to be used for such a purpose. Red hazard tags may be secured from the Home Extension Agent and used to identify conditions needing correction.



Information about every hazard found should be entered on Supplement 52 in columns 1 - 2 - 3 - and 4. When the hazardous condition has been corrected, it can be recorded in columns 5 and 6. If there are hazards which can't be removed, make certain that the members know how to live with them without letting them cause accidents.

It would be desirable to bring the report of hazards eliminated to the next club meeting and get a total for the club's effort in home safety.

Studies have shown that accident rates can be reduced where an all-out effort is made to develop safety consciousness.

Safety in your home as in any home depends on observance of some basic fundamentals, such as:

1. Not hurrying. We must allow enough time to do our work.
2. Living together harmoniously. Quarreling and discord lead to accidents. We must think of others and how our actions will affect them. We must make allowances for the actions and needs of children and our senior citizens.
3. Trying to avoid worry, anxiety, and emotional upsets. Persons who are wrought-up emotionally are very susceptible to accidents.
4. Getting enough rest. Fatigue dulls our senses and slows our reactions to danger.
5. Setting a good example for other family members in our safety practices, attitudes, and habits.
6. Having good housekeeping standards. Trash, clutter, furniture, and articles out of their proper places cause many accidents.
7. Knowing your mechanical and electrical equipment, keeping it in good condition, and using it properly. Instructions must be followed exactly.
8. Teaching safe methods and then encouraging self confidence and cool thinking. Timidity is not helpful for safe living.
9. Keeping your family aware of the hazard of unsafe practices. Many accidents are caused by ignorance of danger.
10. Drilling, repeating, and emphasizing emergency routines. An example is what to do in case of fire.



In nearly every home we can find a number of conditions that have the possibility of causing accidents. In some instances those conditions can't be changed, so members of the family must recognize them as possible hazards and treat them with respect.

By eliminating known hazards and learning to do things correctly at home, you will make your work easier and your home itself a more pleasant and more comfortable place in which to live. Learning and following safe habits at home will also encourage safety-consciousness at work, while driving a car, while playing, or while participating in any kind of activity.

SOURCES OF HOME SAFETY MATERIAL

Film

More Dangerous Than Dynamite	(a)
Farm Petroleum Safety	(a)
Safety In The Home	(a)
Safety Begins At Home	(a) (b)
Fire Prevention in the Home	(a)
Doorway To Death	(b)
A Closed Book	(b)

- (a) Available from University of Nebraska, Bureau of Audio-Visual Instruction, Extension Division, Lincoln.
- (b) Available from State Department of Health, Capitol Building, Lincoln.

Publications

National Safety Council
Home Safety Division
425 North Michigan Avenue
Chicago 11, Illinois

Extension Specialist, Safety
College of Agriculture
Lincoln, Nebraska

State Department of Health
Health Education Division
State Capitol Building
Lincoln, Nebraska

Local Insurance Companies

American National Red Cross
Washington, D. C.