

news digest

By The Associated Press

Aerosol warning

Washington—The Food and Drug Administration announced Tuesday that it will require a warning label on aerosol containers using fluorocarbon propellants. The Consumer Product Safety Commission said in a joint announcement with FDA that it is proposing similar action for the products it regulates. The actions came in response to a National Academy of Sciences report last year that the propellants known as chlorofluorocarbons rise into the stratosphere and deplete the earth's ozone layer, a thin protective gaseous belt that filters harmful ultraviolet radiation from the sun. The Environmental Protection Agency already requires a warning label on pesticide aerosols containing fluorocarbons, and the Product Safety Commission proposal is expected to take effect early next year.

Inheritances

Washington—State laws cannot bar illegitimate children from inheriting estates left by their fathers when no will was written, the Supreme Court ruled Tuesday in a 5-4

decision. It struck down an Illinois law, similar to those in 20 other states, which says illegitimate children can inherit estates from their mothers-but not their fathers-when no will is left by the dead parent. The court's majority opinion, written by Justice Lewis F. Powell Jr., said the Illinois law violates the equal protection rights of illegitimate children since legitimate children can inherit the estates of both parents under similar circumstances. In a separate case involving the treatment of illegitimate children under immigration laws, the court ruled 6-3 that such children and their fathers can be treated differently from illegitimate children and their mothers.

New motor

Los Angeles—An electrical engineer has designed a more efficient electric motor which he says could save one to two million barrels of oil per day if it is put into wide use. Cravens Wanlass told a press conference that his "controlled torque" motor uses up to one-third less power than most electric motors. State officials termed the motor a "major billion-dollar breakthrough for energy conservation." The Santa Ana, Calif., engineer said the motor, developed in his home workshop, uses more efficient windings and larger capacitors (energy storing devices) than conventional motors. The larger capacitors allow more energy to be stored within the motor for use as needed. Wanlass said the new motor could be used in air conditioners, swimming pool filter motors, washing machines and other appliances as well as industrial machinery. He said it would cost about \$40 to modify a current one-horse-power electric motor to his design.

Musk thistle

Lincoln—Now is the time, say experts at the University of Nebraska, for farmers to start their annual battle against musk thistle. University of Nebraska-Lincoln weed specialists say musk thistle should be sprayed when it is in the rosette stage, or when the leaves are still in a "flat pattern" close to the ground. Once the plant starts to "shoot" the flower stalks, it becomes more difficult to kill with chemicals. This past winter probably was tough on musk thistle in central Nebraska, according to Fred Roeth, extension weed control specialist at UNL's South Central Station in Clay Center. At a research site near Ord, only about 50 per cent of the musk thistle rosettes survived the winter, in contrast to nearly 100 per cent survival in the winter of 1975-1976.

Two charged

Ogalla, Neb.—A Fort Morgan, Colo. man and his wife were charged with assault with intent to kill, wound or maim Tuesday in connection with a shootout at an Ogalla bar Saturday. Keith County Court Judge Richard Myers set bond at \$50,000 for John Navarro, 28, charged with two counts, and \$5,000 for his wife Nancy, 26, who faces one count. Navarro remained in jail and his wife posted bond. An Ogalla man, Richard Reyna, 24, was shot several times in the incident. Police said the shooting started when Navarro, formerly of Ogalla and Brule, pulled a gun that his wife had purchased earlier from an Ogalla sporting goods store.

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