

campus activities

Wednesday
Student Senate, 7:15 p.m., 204 Harrington
Bridge Club, 7:15 p.m., 212 MSC
Dance Arts Society, 7:30 p.m., 266 G. Rollie White
Rudde Theater
Thursday
Great Issues, Tom McCall on "The Future of Man's Environment," 8 p.m., Rudde theater
Dance Arts Society, modern jazz classes, 7:30 p.m., 266 G. Rollie White
Water Ski Club, 7 p.m., 601 Rudde
Friday
Basketball, A&M Ladies vs. McLennan College, 7:30 p.m., G. Rollie White
Aggie Cinema, "The Deep," 8 p.m., Rudde Theater, and "Bugsy Malone," 10 midnight, Rudde Theater

Cutting dust most vital to grain safety

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The head of the Federal Grain Inspection Service said Tuesday efforts to prevent grain elevator explosions should concentrate more on reducing dust than trying to eliminate ignition sources.
Leland Bartlett, testifying at the opening of House hearings on a series of elevator explosions, also said very little research had been done on the link between humidity and the explosiveness of grain dust.
The FGIS administrator told a House labor subcommittee some dust collection devices may increase the danger of explosions by making dust dryer. At some elevators, he said, the dust is then put back into the grain to prevent loss of weight.
According to tests, Bartlett said, dust with a moisture content of 10 percent or less is highly explosive and at 11 percent there can be rapid burn-off.
The weather may be a factor, he said, and FGIS inspectors now have been told to walk off the job when the relative humidity falls below 45 percent.
He said the recent explosions at Westwego, La., and Galveston, Texas, had been preceded by "an unusual weather pattern" in which the relative humidity of the air fell about 30 percent.
On this basis, it was arbitrarily decided that an additional 15 percentage points should provide an adequate margin of safety prior to trying static grain dust to the point of extreme ignitability," he said.
In the past, he said, the emphasis was on trying to prevent ignition of the dust and little attention was paid to the dust itself.
"We should give greater attention to adequate removal of dust from grain handling facilities," he said.
Bartlett all but ruled out sabotage as the cause of the explosions.
"I know of no evidence that they are other than accidents," he said. "I don't want to rule it out 100 percent. But I'd be greatly surprised if it turned out to be sabotage."
Assistant Administrator David Hawkins of the Environmental Protection Agency, denying suggestions that air pollution regulations might be to blame, said there is no requirement that dust be kept inside grain elevators.
"The facts are that good air pollution control practices do not increase the risks of fires or explosions in elevators," he said. "On the contrary, properly operated air pollution control equipment reduces these risks."

Sawdust used as cattle feed good as hay



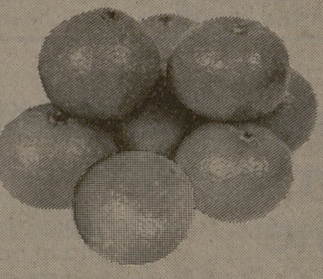


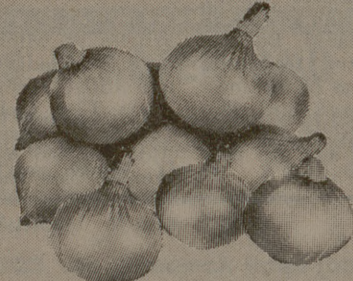






United Press International
FROHNA, Mo. — A business has used an idea from Oklahoma and waste from Missouri hardwoods to produce feed for, among other things, French cattle.
The businessman is M.F. (Tom) Petzoldt, president of East Perry Lumber Co., which he calls the largest hardwood lumber producer in the Midwest.
Some of the sawdust from the plant is used to make cattle feed that Petzoldt said is on a par with good grass hay.
"It's high in carbohydrates," he said. "You can replace 50 percent of the corn in cattle feed with it."
The low price of corn today is not in his favor, Petzoldt said. But the sawdust feed still sells.
"We're not in that good a position right now as when corn was \$3 a bushel," he said.
A mixture for cow-calf herds sells for \$50 a ton, he said, while a fattening ration for steers sells for about \$110.
"I know we could sell everything we'd make if we could dry and pelletize it. Right now we sell it in bulk."
Drying and pelletizing equipment will be completed in about three months, he said.
The plant has a capacity of about 140 tons a day, he said, and now is operating at about 60 tons a day. The feed is being sold both domestically and in Europe.
"We're shipping a little of it across the creek," Petzoldt said. "We have a load going to France. We'll have 15 farmers in here the 30th of this month from France."

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