PR. HARVEY W. WILEY was installed as chief of the Chemical Department of the Department of Agriculture in 1883 and held this position until 1912. Through his efforts the Pure Food and Drug Act was passed by Congress in 1906. That Act is still on the books. It made it a crime to adulterate foods. But the law has never been enforced.

Today poisons are being injected into food without limit, while the people believe they are protected by this law. A recent compilation shows that approximately 500 chemical materials are being added directly to food for various purposes. The Food and Drug Administration estimates that 150 of these 500 chemicals have not been adequately tested to show that they are harmless.

The Consumer Reports for 1956 read, "An important group of chemicals thought to be safe are synthetic dyes used to color food, drugs and cosmetics. Today 61 have been certified by the Federal Drug Administration for use in food. Since 1945, 15 dyes have been re-examined for toxic carcinogenic (cancer-forming) allergenic properties. Only one of these has been conclusively shown to be harmless."

The poisons used in one nationally sold bottled beverage are clearly in violation of the Wiley law, but the company's business goes merrily on. A tooth immersed in

Poisonous Daugs

in

our

## **FOOD**

this drink has been proved to be dissolved in 30 days. Chemicals are increasingly used in city water supplies to prevent tooth decay, without any competent analysis to indicate what deleterious effects may result.

In 1953, the production of "surface-action chemicals," many of which are used to improve the "stability" of such foods as bread, cake mixes and desserts, reached 921,000,000 pounds. "Agene" was used for 30 years to bleach flour, until the University of Aberdeen, Scotland, found it caused running fits in dogs and affected the mentality of humans. After several years this "Agene" was replaced with a chemical called "Alloxen"—a poison used in experimental lab-

By Usher L. Burdick

oratories to induce diabetes in animals.

Over 1,000 chemicals have been used in foods. About 500 have now been discarded, and of this 500, 150 have not been scientifically tested. Of those which have been tested several have been found carcinogenic.

I receive material and protests on this subject from all parts of the country. Indicating the serious danger of this practice, I quote Dr. William E. Smith, of Englewood, New Jersey, cancer researcher, who said "cancer-inducing chemical additives and dyes are going into food for human consumption."

THERE seems to be a well-formed conspiracy between the big chemical companies and the American Medical Association and the

Food and Drug Administration to let these poisonous chemicals be injected into food, not for the safety of public health, but for the *profits* arising from the manufacture of the chemicals. An examination of the records leaves little in doubt as to the facts of this conspiracy.

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I want the proper committees of Congress to make a thorough investigation of this matter, which they can do without any extra cost to the people. If we have ample laws now, they should be enforced. If not, then new laws should be enacted. One way to avoid cancer is to not create it by eating poisoned foods.

The public, I believe, has a right to rely on the protection Congress and the Attorney General's office can give it.

## Phony

We speak of something or someone who isn't telling the truth as being a "big phony." But strangely enough the word *phony* began just as the name of a ring!

It goes back several centuries to Ireland. Some of the country's con men had a favorite trick, which they called the "fawney ring." Fawney was the Irish word for ring and this piece of jewelry played an important part in the swindle.

The con man would plant the ring, which contained a glittering but worthless stone, in a public spot. Then he would hide himself nearby and wait until some passerby would pick up the ring. Then he would rush up to the finder and say, "If you give me some money, I won't tell anyone you found this ring." The finder foolishly thought he had found a very valuable ring so he gladly paid the con man a little money and ambled off with his "windfall" in his pocket.

The trick was widely used and people began to refer to anything that was worthless as being *fawney*. Through constant use and mispronunciation the word became *phony* and as such it entered our language.

-ALFRED K. ALLEN

We must protect our youth from this evil

## I Learned Communist Deceit the Hard Way

by General Mark Clark

I've had ten years' sad experience with the Communists. It started back in Italy in the early days when they assigned to me a bunch of Russian Generals and a political adviser with them by the name of Andre Vishinsky, the same man who harassed us for so many years at military meetings and in the United Nations.

As fast as our men stepped out and with their blood captured towns in the mountains of Italy, the Communists, right after us, unbeknown to us, would go in and organize those villages for communism; that is how far-reaching is their sinister thinking. I went through the Italian campaign and then into Austria for two years, where I met almost daily with the Communists, and I learned there, and later at the Council of Foreign Ministers meetings in England and Moscow—and later in Korea—that there is no fair play, there is no honesty, there is no decency, in the Communists.

They will cheat, they will lie, they will murder, they will do anything to attain their end of world domination, and they will sign a solemn pledge today, fully intending to abrogate that pledge tomor-