

Your Easter gift may lay an egg

Don't give your children baby rabbits, chicks or ducks for Easter, urges the American Veterinary Medical Association.

Not only is it cruel to give these animals as gifts, in many states and cities it is illegal.

Rabbit, chickens and ducks are farm animals that rarely can survive in the home.

A young child's enthusiasm over the new pet often results in unknowing cruelty as legs are broken and wings crushed.

If the animal dies or is injured,

it is a traumatic experience for the child.

If the animal survives, it generally ends up in an animal shelter.

Because so many thoughtless people continue to give these animals as gifts, shelters are unable to handle them and most have to be destroyed.

... ..

EVEN IF THE animal should live to maturity, many local ordinances would prohibit a family from keeping it.

These are outdoor animals.

They cannot be housebroken and may cause serious housekeeping and health problems.

Many are disease carriers.

The National Center for Disease Control in Atlanta and other public health authorities warn that children and adults in close contact with these animals may be exposed to salmonellosis, a severe fasto-intestinal infection.

While the disease is rarely fatal, it requires medical treatment, often including hospitalization.

In addition to the family, other

pets in the household may become ill.

Because of the problems surrounding Easter pets, many communities have passed laws prohibiting the sale of these animals, including rabbits, ducklings and other fowl.

Easter and the coming of spring should be a time of joy and rebirth, not a period of physical illness, psychological trauma and the needless deaths of young animals.

Be sure your Easter gift doesn't lay an egg.

'VD Blues' encores on Channel 56-WTVS

"VD Blues," the widely acclaimed Public Broadcasting Service variety show about venerable disease will be shown again at 9 p.m. Thursday, April 4, and 8:30 p.m. Friday, April 6 on Channel 56-WTVS.

The show is being repeated in conjunction with the designation of April as "VD Awareness Month" by the National Association of Retail Druggists.

"VD Blues" is designed to at-

tract young viewers and hold their interest.

The one hour PBS presentation explores through comic skits, musical presentations, songs and factual presentations, the nature of syphilis and gonorrhea, their symptoms and treatment and the myths surrounding them.

comic skits are Broadway actors Robert Drivas and James Coco, and Marcia Rodd and Severn Darden.

Musical highlights include songs by Sheryl Silverstein and Woody Guthrie.

THE IMPACT of the initial broadcast of "VD Blues" in October, 1972 was extraordinary. The special and follow-up programs sparked more than 225,000 "hotline" telephone calls from viewers seeking VD information.

Public health officials and private physicians throughout the country reported that inquiries, examinations and detected and treated cases of VD surged by as much as 50 percent.

'Mercy Update' for alumni

"Mercy Update," a series designed to keep alumni and friends of Mercy College aware of the changing campus scene will begin at 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 6.

"This is in answer to alumni who say they would like to be up-to-date as human beings, are interested in the liberal arts but rather house-bound at this time in their lives," said Char-

lene Carlson, Mercy Alumni association president.

Lloyd Radell, chairman of the art department, and Dr. John Gray, chairman of religious studies, will be the key speakers.

Kathy Wildern of Farmington is program chairman. Tickets are \$5 for luncheon and the lectures. Proceeds to the Alumni Scholarship Fund.

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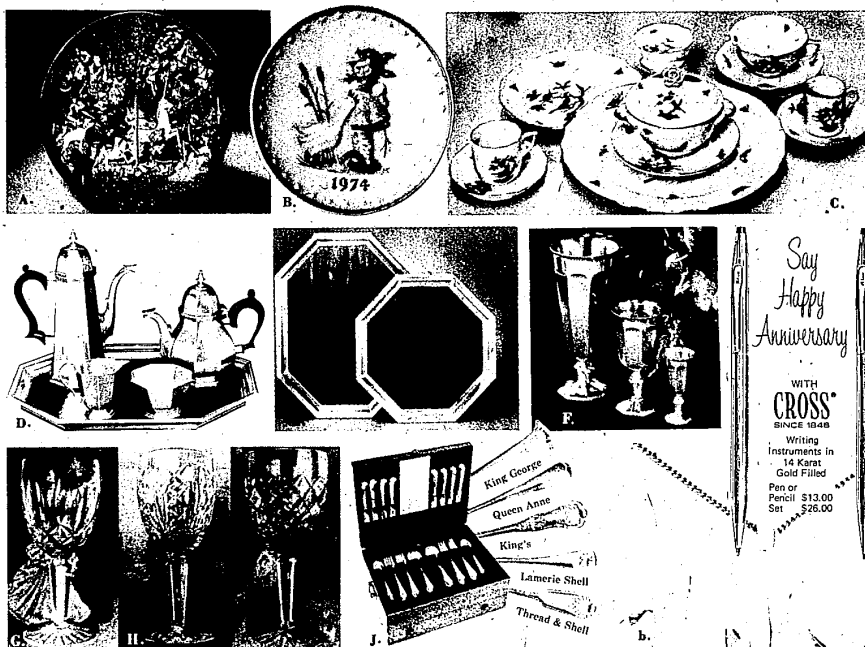
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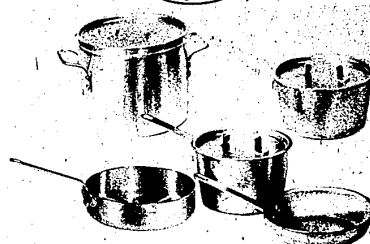
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