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Fred-Talks

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Introduction to this Newsletter Issue

Hello again! Welcome to my newsletter.

I'm a little late in publishing this issue. Family medical problems demanded my attention elsewhere. Things should be back to normal now.

I hope you enjoy my newsletter, or at least find it amusing. Or, perhaps, even irritating? I'm becoming more verbose. Sorry.

If you do not wish to receive more issues, please let me know via email.

I occasionally bring up issues that are someone else's point of view, but are points that I think should be discussed.

If you have other views, I would be happy to consider including your comments in the next Fred-Talk, with or without your by-line. Send me an email.

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Potable Water (Drinking Water)

Introduction

All living organisms are made of proteins, carbohydrates, lipids, salts, and water. Metabolism is the term used to describe changes in the proportions of these ingredients during life processes.

Too often, humans think of water only in terms of their own daily requirements. They tend to forget that a continual input of water is a requirement for all living organisms, including plants, fungi, bacteria, and protozoa. We tend to forget that all animals, trees, gardens, croplands, and lawns need a periodic input of water to survive.

It is estimated that the average human requires 6–8 cups of drinking water each day to survive. A human will die in 2–6 days if deprived of drinking water. Milk, coffee, tea, kefir, beer, ale, and wines can make up all or part of this water requirement. This averages of 6–8 cups of drinking water is an average value. Obviously a 25 pound child needs less drinking water than a 300 pound adult.

In addition, the humidity of the environment influences the requirement for drinking water. A 300 pound man working in a desert would need more drinking water than if he were resting in a cooler, more humid environment.

What is a Water Shortage?

A short term water shortage is an interruption of a normal water supply for periods of less than 3 weeks. Examples include breakage of water mainlines due to earth movement, growth and expansion of a water supply system, or the cleaning and repair of an existing system.

A long term water shortage, lasting longer than 3 weeks, is frequently caused by inclement weather, such as hurricanes or tornadoes, and less frequently by changing weather patterns, such as drought.

Short term fixes usually suffice for short term water shortages. Some extreme long term shortages may require a large amount of money, time, and effort to ameliorate. Some long term shortages may not be fixable.

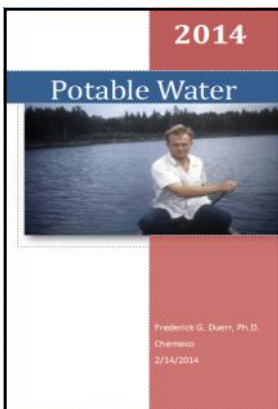
In successive newsletters, I will explain where and how to get adequate drinking water under any condition.

Website

www.chemeco.com

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www.chemeco.com/Newsletter.htm



We get old too soon, and wise too late.

Attributed to B. Franklin

Cynic's Corner

When I was a young boy, my grade school teacher read the story of "Chicken Little" to the class. This was the story of a foolish little chicken named "Chicken Little", who felt an acorn fall upon his head. Chick Little looked around, could not see the source of the acorn, and concluded that the sky must be falling.



Chicken Little became hysterical and called out to his friends, telling them "The Sky is falling! We must run and tell the King!" Soon Chicken Little's hysteria influence many of his friends, and they decided to run with him to tell the King.

So, Chicken Little and his friends ran about hysterically and screaming, "The Sky is falling! The Sky is falling! We must run and tell the King!"

They finally came to the King and warned him that the sky was falling. The King shook his head, smiled and said, "You foolish people. The sky is not falling. That was only an acorn that fell on Chicken Little's head. Go back to your homes, you are all safe."

Now ask yourself, who was more foolish?

1. Chicken Little who made a conclusion based on poor data?
2. The friends of Chicken Little who believed Chicken Little without evidence or data?

3. The friends of Chicken Little who would not believe the sky was falling without more data?
4. The friends of Chicken Little who did not believe the sky was falling, but agreed and encouraged him for ulterior reasons of their own?
5. The King, who might not have wanted to be bothered, or wanted to quiet public hysteria, or had other ulterior reasons?

One conclusion the reader may make from this story is that a crowd or mob can ignore facts, and it seems that the larger the crowd, the easier it is to ignore your own common sense and join in with the mob. It is easier to think that if everyone believes so and so, it must be true, and the more that believe, the truer it must be?

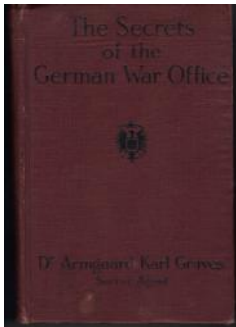
It is curious that in the English language, the expression "The Sky is falling" is an idiom indicating a hysteria or mistaken belief that disaster is imminent.



Illustration for the story "Chicken Little", 1916

Any fool who pats a hungry wolf on the head and says, "Nice Doggy" is either a scoundrel or supper. *Dr. Wierd*

Books I have read: "The Secrets of the German War Office" by Armgaard Karl Graves



World War I (WWI), sometimes called the war to end all wars, occurred in the years 1914 through 1918. My father, although born in Germany, fought in this war as a member of the American armed forces. It seems apropos to me, since 100 years have past since the beginning of WWI, to study a bit of history of its beginning, duration, and aftermath.

I have collected and read several books on the subject and have concluded that this war, in which several million people were killed, was caused by the selfish desires of a few select people.

Dr. Armistaad Karl Graves, an acknowledged double agent of Germany and England, published a book entitled "The Secrets of the German War Office". This book entails events leading to the beginning of the war. The book, at times, reads as a novel, a journal, and a diary.

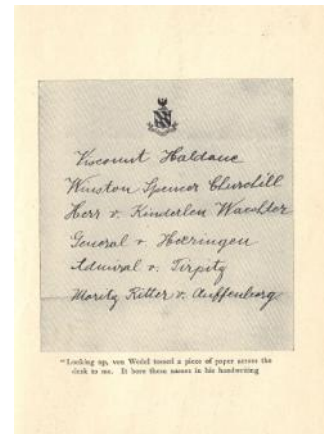


Graves explains that during the period from 1880 to 1911, Europe was in turmoil as how to occupy and control areas that were part of the Ottoman Empire. Germany wished to be the manufacturing and distributor of goods throughout Europe. England wanted to control all ocean shipping, and to feed and expand its empire throughout the world. France wished to regain lost glory after the end of the Napoleonic Wars, and colonize North Africa. The Austro-Hungarian Empire wished to acquire much of eastern Europe and Balkan real estate and gain access to the Mediterranean Sea. Russia wished to acquire former Ottoman real estate and secure access to the Mediterranean.

All of above countries were controlled by a few shortsighted Politicians. These men possessed more than their share of greed, envy, pride, dishonesty, and

more important, a lust for power. They, effectively, played "chess" with the lives of the populations of Europe and North America. France would work with Russia against the rest of Europe, and England would work with Germany.

An interesting meeting between England and Germany took place in the Black Forest of Germany in 1911. Representing England were Winston Churchill (First Lord of the British Admiralty) and Viscount Richard Haldane (Lord Chancellor of England). Representing Germany were Herr Alfred von Kinderlen-Waechter (First Minister of Foreign Affairs), Admiral Alfred von Tirpitz (Chief of the German Navy), and General Josias von Heeringen (Chief of the German Army). Moritz Ritter von Auffenberg (Minister of War) represented Austria-Hungary.



At this meeting, England agreed that Germany could have Holland as a focus for shipping goods by sea. Germany agreed to assist Austria-Hungary to keep Russia out of the Balkans, and give Austria-Hungary an avenue to the Mediterranean. England would get North Africa and the Dutch East Indies. France would be squeezed into a small non-descript country.

All of the above came to naught with the assassination of Archduke of Austria (Fraz Ferdinand) in Serbia in 1914, the subsequent Austrian retaliatory invasion, and Russia deciding to help the Serbs. This effectively started World War 1.

Many historians have declared that this book is a myth, and that Churchill would never do anything that dastardly. The portion of the book detailing the German war machine, however, is quite good and thorough.

Graves was captured in England, imprisoned, and then released to spy against Germany for England. He eventually went to the United States where he lived until his death.

Chef's Salad

Diana made a beautiful chef salad for dinner last night. It was beautiful not just because it was delicious, which it was, but for the artistic way it was presented. I could not help but reminisce about the salads I ate as a child.



Age 7 Years

My family lived in rural northern Minnesota prior to modern conveniences such as electricity. We did not have fresh green vegetables to eat from early winter to the next spring. There was no available grocery store, and without electricity, we had no refrigerators nor freezers.

Potatoes, carrots, turnips, and beets could be kept in root cellars, or in cool places under the house during winter. Every other vegetable and most meals were canned, salted, smoked, or fermented. Thus, a common meal would consist of bacon (ham or fish), potatoes, carrots, canned corn, peas, beans, or tomatoes, canned meats, pickles (relishes), sauerkraut, and baked goods, jams and jellies. By today's standards, a glaring omission of this type of diet would be any fresh fruits and vegetables.

In early spring, my family considered it very special to add a green salad to each meal. This salad, in the beginning, consisted of one-inch to two-inch lettuce sprouts along with any newly sprouted wild plants that they could find. These vegetables were usually served with a vinegar and sugar dressing.

I fondly reminisce about these early days in my life. Would I like to return to them? I don't think so.

My Contribution to Electioneering

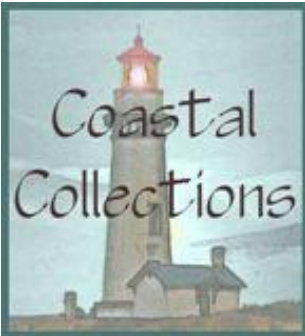
**Well, I didn't go to college, but I got me a degree:
I reckon I'm the model of a perfect S.O.B.
I'm a debit to my country, but a credit to my dad:
I'm the most expensive senator the country ever had.
I remember daddy's warning that raping is a crime,
Unless you rape the voters a million at a time.**

Ogden Nash 1933

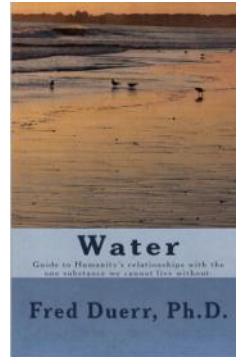
**POLITICIANS ARE PEOPLE WHO, WHEN THEY SEE THE LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL,
GO OUT AND BUY SOME MORE TUNNEL.**

~JOHN QUINTON~

BOOKS-BOOKS-BOOKS



Diana and I have somehow acquired several thousand books on a multitude of subjects. Click on the image at left to take you to our website, where you can search our inventory of books for sale at Biblio.com



I have written a small, 54 page primer on water. It is designed to give basic information to the general public. It is available at Amazon, com. As a paperback book (**Water**, by Fred Duerr), **ISBN: 1482773872** and as a Kindle, **ASIN: BOOCM13KSA**

Click on the book image to the left to take you to my page on Amazon.com.

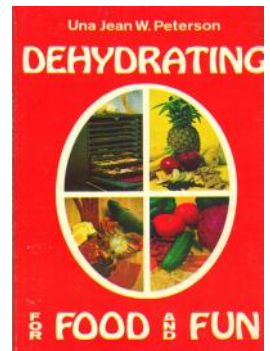
Free Book on Dehydrating Foods

I have several dozen copies of Una Jean W. Peterson's book "Dehydrating for Food and Fun". These are my own personal copies, and I am willing to give these books away.

Send me an email, and you can pick up a free copy from me (when I am on duty) at Oregon State University Hatfield Marine Science Center (HMSC). I will also leave some at the counter.

These books are free, but if I mail one to you, the postage and wrapping is \$3.96. Send me an email for details..

Fred G. Duerr, Ph.D.



Free Potable Water Manual

I have written a very brief pamphlet on how to find potable water. You may obtain your free copy by clicking [here](#).



Who/What's a drip?



Unthinking respect for authority is the greatest enemy of truth.

[Albert Einstein](#)