

PRODUCTS RATED NOT ACCEPTABLE—Continued
MECHANICAL HAZARD—Continued

Product	Hazard	Issue
APPLIANCES, TOYS, AND TOOLS—Con.		
Lawn mowers (4).....	High discharge.....	June 1965.
Lawn mowers (10).....	Rearward discharge.....	Do.
Lawn mowers (5).....	Exposed blade.....	Do.
Do.....	Poor handle.....	Do.
Blender (1).....	Inadvertent start.....	November 1965.
Food waste disposers (3).....	Chunks thrown out.....	March 1966.
Lawn mower (1).....	Exposed blade.....	June 1966.
Do.....	Unshielded belt.....	Do.
Do.....	User in path of discharge.....	Do.
Garden sprayers (2).....	Top may blow off.....	July 1966.
Seat belt retractors (2).....	Frayed seat belts.....	October 1966.

FIRE HAZARD

Travel irons (3).....	No thermostat.....	June 1960.
Portable heaters (2).....	Failed drupe test.....	October 1960.
Carpets.....	Flammable.....	Do.
Paint removers (8).....	do.....	October 1961.
Masonry waterproofer.....	do.....	January 1964.
Baby blankets.....	do.....	May 1964.
Regular blankets.....	do.....	October 1964.
Portable heaters (7).....	Failed drupe test.....	October 1965.

OTHER HAZARDS

Auto seat belts.....		May 1956.
Auto seat belts (34).....		February 1960.
Auto seat belts (10).....		October 1961.
Oven cleaners (2).....	Pressurized and alkaline.....	August 1963.
Children's sleds (1).....	Sharp points.....	November 1963.
Electric toys (2).....	Hot surfaces.....	November 1964.
Oven cleaner (1).....	Pressurized and alkaline.....	February 1965.
Bubble bath.....	Irritation.....	August 1965.
Slip preventive (1).....	Corrosive chemical.....	September 1965.
Portable heater (1).....	Hot surfaces.....	October 1965.
Shotgun (1).....	Unsafe "safety".....	Do.
Chemistry sets (4).....	Inadequate caution labels.....	November 1965.
Stuffed toys.....	Sharp "eyes".....	February 1966.
Toy gun (1).....	Deafening.....	June 1966.
Beads.....	Poisonous.....	Do.

Mr. KAPLAN. It is also true that some advances have been made in giving the consumer "the facts he needs to make an informed choice"—the Government Printing Office's Consumer Information Catalog lists some of the evidence. But it might be noted parenthetically that the progress has been uneven. In some agencies, in fact, there has been retrogression under the pressure of producer groups who feel that consumer information is not the Government's business.

The National Bureau of Standards used to be far more active in the 1930's in this area than it now is. The Home Economics Branch of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which used to publish very helpful material on household appliances, clothing and textiles, and other consumer products, had its wings clipped to the stubs a few years ago. On the other hand the same Department of Agriculture now publishes a very useful newsletter called Service which contains much valuable information for consumers.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. You say they had their wings clipped. Can you tell us when and by whom or anything beyond that bald statement?

Mr. KAPLAN. The appropriations were seriously cut and also the views of the then Secretary of Agriculture were that this kind of activity is unsuitable for a Government agency. I believe these views