

the surrounding walls are built, the entire house can be made virtually disaster-proof, the Institute maintains. With six-inch brick walls used in the outer sections, the roof and the foundation are linked by three-inch steel channels on 24-inch centers. The additional cost for the entire project is estimated at less than 20% of the conventional cost.

Estimated Costs

A pamphlet that includes complete floor plans for the safety core is available free from Structural Clay Products Institute, 1520 18th Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C. Plans for five brick and structural tile shelters are included in a 16-page booklet, "Clay Masonry Family Fallout Shelters," also free.

Costs are estimated at about \$300 for a "do it yourself" basement shelter of clay tile (with the cells filled with sand) or brick, \$500 to \$700 for a shelter built as an extra basement room while a new home is under construction, \$800 to \$1,200 for an underground clay masonry shelter outside the house, \$900 to \$1,250 for an outdoor aboveground clay masonry shelter suitable for wet or rocky terrain, and \$1,200 to \$1,700 for an aboveground blast and fallout shelter of reinforced brick.

Concrete, bricks, earth and sand are among the materials designated by the Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization as "heavy enough to afford protection by absorbing radiation."

Three feet of earth, or its equivalent in other heavy material, provides the best possible protection, the Office notes. This amount of earth provides about the same shielding as, for example, two feet of concrete, seven and one-half feet of wood or four feet of books. Stacks of books, magazines, newspapers or filing cabinets can be used "in a pinch," according to an OCDM booklet, "Facts About Fallout Protection."

• Science News Letter, 80:258 October 14, 1961

DENTISTRY

Detergent Food Soapless But Can Clean Teeth

➤ THOSE DINNER-TABLE guests who cannot rush to the bathroom to brush their teeth immediately after eating can chew a piece of celery. This is a soapless "detergent," dentists say.

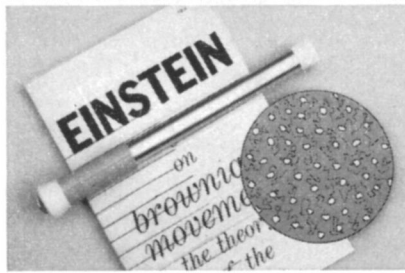
Dentists are now advising patients to eat celery, radishes and carrot sticks to remove other particles of food from the teeth. The tiny bacteria act quickly on sticky, high-carbohydrate foods because the food easily sticks to the teeth.

The acids produced by bacterial digestion can etch the enamel and produce a site for decay to begin.

This is causing dentists and physicians considerable worry, Dr. Philip L. White, secretary of the American Medical Association's Council on Foods and Nutrition, states in answer to a query in Today's Health.

• Science News Letter, 80:259 October 14, 1961

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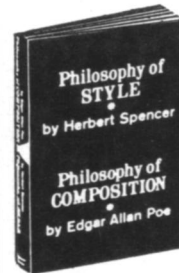
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