Copper sulphate

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Copper(II)_sulfate>

<http://www.occup-med.com/content/6/1/34>

Copper sulphate is an easily accessible chemical in Sri Lanka that is sold over the counter. It is commonly used as a pesticide, in leather industry and also in making home-made glue. Burning of copper sulphate in houses and shops (as a good luck charm and for religious activities) is a common practice among Buddhists and Hindus. The marine blue colour of the hydrated form of copper sulphate crystals is attractive to children and is a reason for inadvertent poisoning. However, many admissions due to copper sulphate poisoning in adult medicine are acts of deliberate self harm. (not referenced – about the burning etc.)

Bordeaux mixture (gardening, anti fungal):

<http://msucares.com/newsletters/pests/infobytes/19990915.htm>

<http://www.abc.net.au/gardening/stories/s1631445.htm>

Alternative: Burgandy mix (anti fungal)

<http://www.abc.net.au/gardening/stories/s1631445.htm>

Ammonia

WI Thrift Craft

Cleaning a carpet p11-12.

Sunlight soap and water. When such fundamental cleaning cannot be done a carpet can be made to look clean and fresh, if, after the thorough double sweeping, it is lightly washed with warm water and ammonia. About three tablespoons of household ammonia in a pail of warm water is sufficient. Go over the carpet quickly and lightly, drying *well* as you go. Pay special attention to spots and grease marks, using a few drops of ammonia for them. Remove candle grease with a hot iron and blotting paper. // There are various powders, liquids and soaps sold now for cleaning carpets, usually very good, but they are expensive in the long run and ammonia is cheap and very cleansing.

Sutton et al

Early 1980s deposition of ATMOSPHERIC ammonia leads to soil acidification and eutrophication

Nitrogen compounds in manures as well as artificial nitrogen compounds had been known since the mid 19th C as excellent fertilisers to improve p lant growth (which artificial compounds?

Fixation of nitrogen on a commercial scale was driven by need for TNT/ explosives. Not until the 1950s that large scale consumption fo fixed N fo use as fertiliser began. Erisman et al., 2007 risman, J.W., Otjes, R., Hensen, A., Jongejan, P., van den Bulk, P., Khlystov, A.,

Mols, H., Slanina, S., 2001. Instrument development and application in studies

and monitoring of ambient ammonia. Atmos. Environ. 35, 1913–1922.

Smelling salts – sal volatile (NH4)2CO3 – distilled from animal mater, wet wastes.

Adding quicklime to it produces NH3

Jones – round up of uses and production methods of ammonia (fixed nitrogen) following the first world war. Ammonia – Brunner Mond Haber plant, construction started at the time of the Amistice signing. Possible construction of Cyanamid plant 1919. US was vulnerable to supplies of fixed N being cut off, as had to import much by boat. UK was self sufficient, exporting much of it.

Factories fixing nitrogen for munitions (US) were shut down and did not produce fertilsers after the war. Argues that only using it for munitions is silly, disrepair, lack of expertise, won’t be able to quickly operate from disuse in times of need for munitions. “There can be no danger of excessive esupplies of fertiliser material. THer is iplenty of lant to put it on which has never received a puond of commercial fertiliser.” Other uses beyond agriculture (e.g. domestic products containing ammonia) are not commented on.

<http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/materials-fertilizer-bombs-not-regulated> Ammonium nitrate as bought from the garden centre (at least now) needs to be refined before it can be used in an explosive, but this process is not complicated and is well documented.

Alum shales – Whitby. Source of aluminium sulphide – fixative, dye. Also in the Whitby area is Europe’s deepest mine at Boulby near Loftus where potash extraction has taken place since 1973. <http://www.thecrownestate.co.uk/marine/minerals-potash/boulby-potash/>

<http://www.mining-technology.com/projects/boulby/>

Acetic acid (vinegar)

Soda

Washing soda, caustic soda

Quix Concentrated Suds

Ditchling Museum has completed a collection review and is now in the process of deaccessioning and disposing of objects which do not fit with its collecting remit.  
  
It wishes to dispose of a **glass bottle** for Quix Concentrated Suds 'for faster easier grease-free washing up' (1950s), by free transfer to another Museum (first refusal will be given to Accredited Museums).   
  
For further information please contact Jessica Hadfield (Collections Assistant) via info@ditchling-museum.com.  
  
The recipient museum would need to collect the item or pay postage/courier costs.

Borax – so many uses! Poss more US than UK?

Food preservative?! Also insect poision/ deterrent, cleaning agent,

Borax was blended into powedered detergens in Eurpoe as bleaching agent. PBS (sodium perborate) is a broad bleach above 60 degrees, unless an activator is present. Borax is used to stabilise protease enqumes in l iqued detergents (Lever Bros, P&G). Used as a fertiliser – B2O5, apples, alfalfa, sugarbeet are particularly susceptible to boron deficiency. Also used to treat wood to protect form fungal decay.

Lye

Hydrogen peroxide

Arsenic paste – rat kill

Phospohorus – rat kill

Iron oxide – jewellers rouge, stropping compound. Very fine powder of ferric oxide for polishing jewelry or plate. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iron(III)_oxide>

<http://www.hyperdeath.co.uk/chemicals/inorganic.php>

This lists chemicals, and where they are available, principally specialist photography supplies, specialist art supplies and garden centres, if not home baking/ brewing.

e.g. Lime/ Calcium carbonate is available from all.

DDT

Company - <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hickson_%26_Welch>

Monosodium glutamate –cultural, dates, distaste/effects/misunderstanding/Stefan Gates

Other chemicals added to foods? Citric acid et c brewing

<http://www.thewi.org.uk/__documents/about-the-wi/for-archivists/nfwi-thrift-crafts,-edited-by-m.-somerville-1943-oxford-university-press.pdf>

WI Thrift Crafts Furniture Cream p20

Shred 1 oz white wax and 3 oz beeswax into 1 pint of turpentine and leave in a wam place to dissolve. Shred 1 oz Castile saop into 1pint of boiling water wWhen wzx is melted and soap and water stil warm, mix together. Bottle, and shake well at intervals, keep for some time before using.

Window polish p21

½ pint of methylated spirt, a small teacupful of paraffin. To this add enough powdered whitening to make a thin creamy paste. Shake well and bottle. Apply a few drops on a bit of old silk and polish with a soft rag. This is excellent for windows, mirros and glass.

Polish for all leathers. P21

Put into a bottle 1/2 pint linseed oil, ½ pint turpentine, ¼ pint vinegar, ¼ pint methylated spirit.