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of the Canadian Standards Association. Many don't.

"Some of these have turned up at Christmas parties for children where the favors and prizes are all handled by an entrepreneur who caters the whole party. We had a recent case where one of these faulty dryers caused burns to the hands of one of the children."

Another offender this year is the off-shore manufacturer who sold thousands of "top of the tree" light clusters across Canada. The tiny plug-in lights are unsafe and could easily cause shocks or tree fires. Some bear the CSA label without having been approved by the standards association.

Since Ontario Hydro electrical inspectors have the authority to order withdrawal or to lay charges a number of suppliers are being prosecuted in court this week, the spokesman said. He said, "besides these prosecutions it is also against the law for a firm to advertise electrical equipment or supplies which haven't received CSA approval."

Reminders concerning Christmas tree and house lighting for the festive season are again repeated.

"One of the great dangers, especially this year when lighting is being cut back due to the energy crisis, is that some householders will try to get one more year out of the lights and displays they have on hand. Some of these Christmas fixtures are old and worn out. Wires are often bared or perhaps indoor lighting is used out of doors. This can be false economy with dangerous possibilities.

"Loading two or three sets of lights on one plug is another potentially dangerous hab -it. Don't do it".

A common danger exists when a light socket has been left empty after the removal of a burned out or broken bulb. The empty socket may invite an inquisitive child to put a finger in the socket and get the inevitable shock.

Metallic reflectors can become "live" when they contact any empty socket or a bare wire.

"If you have an old set of lights, indoor or outdoor, check it very carefully before deciding to use it one more time," an electrical inspector said. "Splicing or taping worn wiring may not always lead to savings."

One more reminder, "Turn off Christmas lights as well as tree lights before going to bed, just in case. Santa will always be able to find his own way."



TERRACE BAY