

Tar Heel Farmers Can Expect More of the Same Next Year

When it comes to prices and costs, 1961 is not expected to be much different for farmers than 1960.

This was the general consensus of the National Agricultural Outlook Conference concluded recently in Washington, D. C. Participating in the conference were three economists from N. C. State College: Dr. W. L. Turner, Elton Thigpen and Miss Mamie Whisnant.

The general stability of farm prices, farm cost rates, and farm incomes that existed in 1959 and 1960 is expected to continue in 1961.

"The continuing and persistent upward trend in production is one of the central facts in the current agricultural situation and outlook," USDA's Bushrod W. Allin reported to the conference. Allin added that "heavy supplies will continue the dominant feature in

the agricultural situation next year."

As to the longer term outlook, USDA's Sherman Johnson pointed out that "unless more effective programs are developed, farmers will be faced with a continuing income squeeze in the next five years. With average weather, annual farm production will continue to exceed available outlets at 1959 prices, which would mean that stocks of surplus products would become even larger."

QUESTION: When should I feed my cows roughage?

ANSWER: Keep it available to them at all times, and be sure it's of high quality.

The seven ages of woman are infancy, childhood, adolescence, junior miss, young woman, young woman and young woman.

New Methods Up Income on Widow's Land

What happens to the farm when the farmer dies and his widow has to take it over?

Let's look at the case of Mrs. Lela Burns of Cumberland county. Her husband died in 1955, leaving her a farm that she knew little about managing. Realizing her inadequacy, she put the farm in the sell bank.

Two years later, Mrs. Burns decided that she and her tenant would have to try to run the farm," says F. E. Leathers, assistant Negro agent. "But she soon found out that she didn't know enough about management of a farm."

The farm started downhill and picked up speed. "From 1955 to 1960, I didn't make any money on the farm," she says.

In 1959, they grew five acres

of tobacco. It averaged 1,000 pounds per acre, for which they got about 45 cents a pound. Gross income from tobacco was only \$2,250.

That same year, her six acres of peanuts yielded 640 pounds (eight bags) per acre. Total peanut income was \$405.

Mrs. Burns decided she needed help, and she turned to Leathers. He put her farm on the Farm and Home Development program.

"I found that her farm was plagued with improper management practices, lack of nutrients in the soil, crop diseases, the wrong kind of seed and poor cultural methods," says Leathers.

Farm and Home Development has reversed the farm's downhill trend.

It began with a soil test last year of all land on the farm. Mrs. Burns followed all recommendations based on the test—liming, application of sulfate and muriate potash, accurate topdressing, proper cultural practices—on her 1960 crops.

On her tobacco, the yield jumped to 1,600 pounds per acre—with less fertilizer and no topdressing. It sold for 65 cents a pound.

"Mrs. Burns got \$5,200 for the crop off the same five acres, says Leathers. "In other words, using 850 pounds less fertilizer, she made \$2,950 more than in 1959."

On the peanuts, she got 1,700 pounds per acre—1,060 more than the previous year. She was paid \$1,013 for the crop, compared to \$405 in 1959.

"The Farm and Home Development approach has helped boost income on the Burns farm by \$3,558 in one year," says Leathers.

And a Tar Heel widow realizes it's not necessarily the man, it's the method that determines the success of a farm.

Storage for Canned Food Is Important

Have you made an inventory of the food you canned this summer? You may be amazed at the dollars you have saved during the summer months by conserving your food.

Miss Iola Pritchard, food conservation specialist for the N. C. Agricultural Extension Service, says that in order for these conserved foods to retain maximum keeping qualities, storage is of utmost importance. "Remember to keep your canned foods cool, dry, and dark," says Miss Pritchard.

Miss Pritchard says extreme heat is bad on canned foods because if some bacteria happens to be in the jars, warmth will cause them to grow and multiply, thus spoiling the food. Food should not

be stored near a stove, furnace, radiators, or pipes.

"At the other extreme, jars in unheated places may freeze in cold weather," says Miss Pritchard. "Freezing itself does not cause spoilage in canned foods but the jar may crack or the seal on the jar may be broken, which will result in spoilage. Jars may be stored in cardboard boxes, which serve as a good insulator."

Remember to keep your jars stored in a dry place and out of direct light, since light does affect the color of food canned in glass. Now is a good time for all families to check their storage facilities.

Some people carry their hearts in their heads; very many carry their heads in their hearts. The difficulty is to keep them apart, yet both actively working together. — Hare.

The mere lapse of years is not life. Knowledge, truth, love, beauty, goodness, faith, alone can give vitality to the mechanism of existence. — James Martineau.

A censor is a person who thinks all people are as nasty as himself, and hates them for it.

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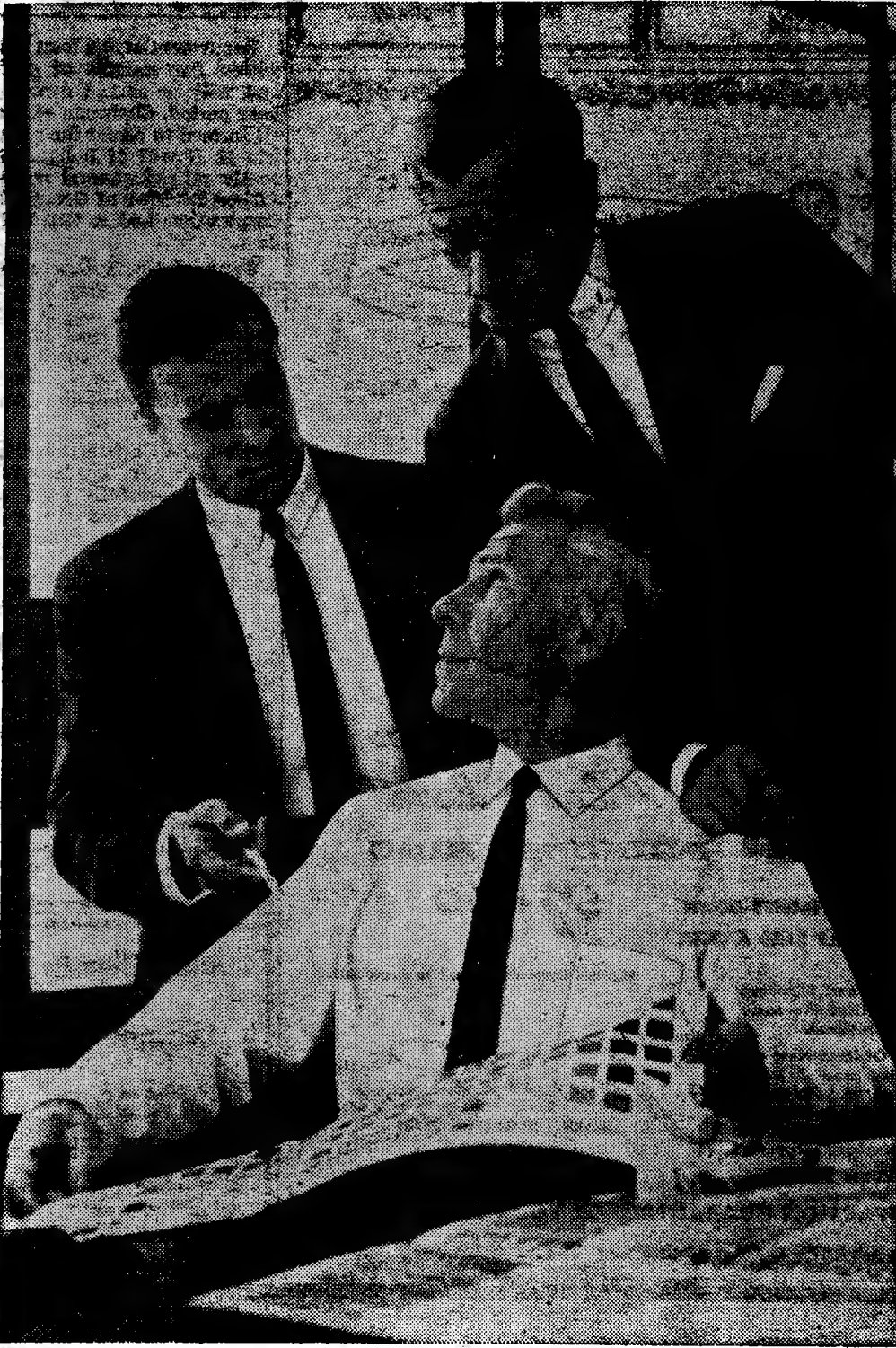
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