

## Damage Caused By Rats Amounts To Billion Annually

### Food, Property, Human Beings and Livestock Affected

Rats cause a billion dollars worth of damage annually to U. S. food, property, human beings, and livestock—the production of more than 100,000 average American farms. This fact is brought out in a new booklet published by the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF).

Commenting on the rodent problem, George P. Larrick, U. S. Commissioner of Food and Drugs, recently pointed out:

"Contamination of food by rodents is a major source of violations of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. Every year hundreds of court actions make this charge, and thousands of tons of food must be seized because of the presence of rodent filth has made it unfit for human consumption."

"Effective rodent control," he added, "is needed at all levels of food production and distribution. It is a first line of defense in our efforts to keep foods safe and clean."

Eight months in preparation, the new WARF book represents a most readable and authoritative source of information on rodent control.

The first section of the new book discusses the rodent problem; the second provides specific instructions on how to run a community campaign.

Ways of initiating campaigns to arouse community support, and most effective methods of rodent-baiting with rodenticides such as warfarin, are discussed.

The Foundation announced that copies of the book are being distributed to agricultural leaders through state extension specialists, 4-H and FFA administrators, and that additional copies are available from officials of the Branch of Predator and Rodent Control, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, or from the Foundation.

Copies of the book will be furnished without charge to any com-

munity group staging a rodent control program, and requests should be mailed to the Educational Department, Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation, P. O. Box 2217, Madison, Wisconsin.

The Foundation owns patents on warfarin, the anticoagulant rodenticide discovered at the University of Wisconsin in the laboratories of Karl Paul Link, who worked with Drs. Mark A. Stahmann and Myoshi Ikawa in perfecting the material. Warfarin, which has had an outstanding performance record since its introduction seven years ago, is now generally available throughout the country under various trade names.

## New 4-H Leaders Organization Formed

Oak Grove Home Demonstration Club women were hostesses at the 4-H local leader organizational meeting held in the community building on March 26. Those attending enjoyed a "dutch" barbecue supper, and the club women served coffee and cake.

L. B. Dixon, assistant State 4-H leader, was guest speaker at this meeting. He explained the various ways the 4-H local leaders could help the 4-H boys and girls in their communities.

The group decided to form a 4-H leaders' organization and to meet quarterly. Mrs. Roland Evans invited the organization to meet at the Chowan Community Building in June.

Those attending besides Mr. Dixon were Maudred Morris, home agent; R. S. Marsh, assistant county agent; C. W. Overman, county agent, and thirteen local leaders: Mrs. Roland Evans, Cross Roads; Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Jones, Mrs. Nora L. Boyce, Center Hill; Brister Perry, Jarvis Skinner, Advance; Sherlon Layton, Rocky Hook; Mr. and Mrs. Carlton Privott, Mr. and Mrs. Marin Evans, Mr. and Mrs. Percy Nixon, Oak Grove.

### OAK GROVE CLUB NEWS

By Judy Privott and Leon Evans "Wildlife" was the topic of the demonstration by R. S. Marsh, assistant county agent, at the Oak Grove Local 4-H Club meeting held at the Community Building on March 27. Mr. Marsh explained the different types of wildlife projects and demonstrations they could give on the subject.

The club members discussed plans to form a softball team and to buy softball equipment. A game was scheduled to be played on April 13 at Chowan School, with the Cross Roads Local 4-H Club team.

Twenty-one 4-H Club members were present with four local leaders and four adult visitors. Two new members were welcomed to the club. Carolyn and Ray Evans were host and hostesses for the meeting held at the Oak Grove Community Building.

Those present were: Edith Jean Nixon, Reva Perry, Jeannette Nixon, Fahey Privott, Billy Bunch, Carolyn Evans, Judy Privott, Lewis Evans, Winborne Privott, Ray Bunch, Wayne Lane, Billy Bunch, Ray Evans, Leon Evans, Ray Nixon, Woody Parks, Betty Lou Lane, Julia Parks, Sally Jane Lane, Emmett Bunch, Judy Evans; Leaders: Mrs. Carlton Privott, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Evans, Mrs. Percy Nixon; Mr. and Mrs. Milton Evans, Rhonda Evans, visitors.

### One Long Suit

She — You are positively the worst dancer I ever saw.

He — Well, it's something to know that I excel in that respect at least.



**BOXER REBELLION**—The cap being worn at a jaunty angle by the big boxer belongs to 14-month-old Bobby Stell of Raleigh, N.C. And Bobby wants it back since he hasn't very much hair to protect his scalp against the chill. The dog, left in charge of his young master at the back of a downtown department store while Bobby's parents were shopping, wants no questions as to who's in charge.



**GARDEN TIME**  
M. E. Gardner  
N. C. State College

It will soon be safe to plant many of the warm season vegetable crops in most sections of the state east of the mountains. Tomatoes, eggplant, and pepper plants should be hardened before transplanting to the field. This can be done by withholding the water supply; that is, by keeping them on the dry side for a few days.

You may be interested in trying some of the more recently introduced snap bean varieties. Wade, Contender, and Seminole are varieties which are almost immune to bean mosaic, which sometimes reduces the yield of such varieties as Tendergreen. Improved Stringless Blue Lake is an excellent pole bean and especially good for canning and freezing. The old standby, Kentucky Wonder, is still good.

The production of sweet corn in the home garden is increasing each year because of its popularity for fresh use, freezing and canning. There are a few gardeners who still like to plant early varieties of field corn for roasting ears because the ears are large and perhaps the corn ear worm injury is a little less on these varieties. However, once you have given real sweet corn a fair trial, you will not be satisfied again with field corn. There is no comparison in edible quality. Recommended varieties for both fresh use and for processing are Seneca Chief, Golden Cross Bantam, and Ioana. These are all yellow varieties and are widely adapted.

### DISCOVERED! UNKNOWN SAYINGS OF JESUS

A book that was buried in an Egyptian cliff for 1,800 years is believed to be the lost "Fifth Gospel." Read how this manuscript was discovered and what momentous information it contained. Don't miss the April 7th issue of

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See the difference nitrate nitrogen side-dressing (left) makes on cotton. Nitrogen in Chilean Soda is 100 per cent fast-acting, efficient nitrate nitrogen.

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LOOK FOR THE BULLDOG ON THE BAG

developed to the extent that they are not objectionable when eating the melon. You will find seed of this variety a little more expensive than some of the others.

## New Type Farrowing House Being Tried

Lester T. Copeland of the Ryland community is using a new type of farrowing house in his swine production, according to County Agent C. W. Overman. This is a combination farrowing house and farrowing stall.

The house is built with a floor space of about 6 x 7 feet. A door is made at each end. The central passage way constitutes a farrowing stall in which the brood sow can comfortably lie down, stand, and move backward and forward but not turn around. An infra-red bulb is placed on one side of the house, 16 inches above the floor to serve as a brooder for the pigs.

Mr. Copeland has been very pleased with the results of this type of farrowing house. He states that the mashing of pigs is practically eliminated. The house is constructed on skids so that it can

be easily transported by pulling with a tractor. Plans for this type of farrowing house are available at the county agents' office. Mr. Copeland states that he would be glad to have interested hog raisers observe his when they wish.

## New Record Set For Smith-Doxey Program

Did you receive the top dollar for your cotton last year?

If not you probably didn't have your cotton classified under the Smith-Doxey program.

W. Glenn Tussey, cotton marketing specialist with the N. C. Agricultural Extension Service has announced that a record percentage of last year's Tar Heel cotton crop was classified under this program.

Preliminary figures show that 62 per cent of the crop was classified during 1956-57, Tussey says. In 1955-56, some 50 per cent of the crop was classified.

Tussey urges all cotton farmers to plan now to use this service this season. He points out that under the classification program the cotton grower can be sure of getting the best price for his crop.

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**SAND TESTED**  
L. C. Copeland of the Center Hill community has a sand pit on the back of his farm as a result of the Highway Department taking sand for road building. Mr. Copeland is interested in using sand from this pit for manufacturing cement blocks. A sample of the sand was sent to Extension Agricultural Engineer Howard M. Ellis, to be tested for this purpose.

**STATIONED IN KOREA**  
Army Pvt. Carroll W. Ward, son of Mr. and Mrs. Rosley Ward of Tyner, is a member of the 7th Infantry Division in Korea. Ward, a cook in Service Company of the division's 32d Regiment, entered the Army in April, 1955, completed basic training at Fort Jackson, S. C., and arrived overseas last February.

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