

## AROUND THE FARMS IN CHOWAN COUNTY

By C. W. OVERMAN, Chowan County Agent

### Crop Damage By Rain and Wind:

During the last three weeks excessive rain and some wind have damaged crops considerably in Chowan County. The total damage at the present time is estimated at over 9 of a million dollars, which amounts to at least 20% of what our expected production was prior to the rains. Estimated percent of damage ran as follows: Tobacco, 30%; cotton, 20%; peanuts, 15%; corn, 20%; soybeans, 10%; cantaloupes, 80%; watermelons, 50%, and other vegetables, 10%.

Since June 13, the official rainfall recorded at Edenton shows 8 1/2 inches. Harry Venters' record at his home in Center Hill showed 12 inches of rainfall. My record at my home showed 11.4 inches of rainfall. There has been considerable variation in the amount of rainfall in various areas of the county and it is possible that some areas have had even more than 12 inches.

### Peanuts:

On Monday many cultivators were at work, yet some fields were still too wet. Diazinon should be applied to peanuts this week if at all possible, but certainly the first half of next week. A 10% material should be applied at the rate of 20 pounds per acre, evenly distributed over the row in a band 18 to 20 inches wide with cultivators immediately following. Applications of copper-sulfur dust should have been started last week but it isn't too late to start right now. At least three applications and preferably four applications, should be made at two-week intervals. At this time, 15 to 18 pounds of dust, properly applied, per acre is ample. Later applications should be at the rate of about 20 pounds per acre.

### Cotton Insect Situation:

Boll weevils and boll worm damage is showing up in many fields where the early applications were not made. The weather has been, and is, very suitable for the boll weevil to multiply and work. Fields that did not receive the four early insecticide applications are showing weevil punctures and damage. Fields that did receive the four early applications appear to be in good shape.

The second series of four applications should begin on July 23. We will give you further information on this next week, but in case we fail, be sure to start your second series about July 23-24 and then make applications every five days.

### Grain and Feed Grain Payments:

According to ASCS Office Manager Handy West, I give you the following information:

Twenty-four points throughout the State have received corn from CCC's surplus stockpile. This is in line with the policy of the Department of Agriculture of moving surplus stocks of grain out of costly storage and making it available where needed.

Relative to recent inquiries, it is not yet known when final wheat and feed grain program payments will be made. When such information is available we will notify all participants accordingly. It is not expected that such payments will be made before August.

All farmers are urged to start thinking about what practices they intend to carry out this fall with the assistance of ACP cost-sharing. The initial fall sign-up will be conducted during the last two weeks in this month, at which time requests will be accepted from all interested farmers.

Swine feeders and others interested in purchasing corn might purchase in carload lots through

cooperative orders. To get the best price, five cars at the time would have to be ordered. I also understand that Edward Ward of Tyner and possibly some other truckers have trucks moving produce into the CCC grain storage area. These truckers will usually haul about 500 to 600 bushels at a load and can render the farmer a saving by purchasing the corn there and hauling it on his return trip.

### Apologies:

Last week in my news column which was written on Monday morning, I suggested that Diazinon not be applied yet. Tuesday morning I mailed the farmers a letter telling them to apply Diazinon immediately. These were certainly conflicting statements which I would like to explain.

This is my first experience with Diazinon. We were advised to wait as late as possible to put it out so that the effective period would last longer during the pod forming stage. After I had written the news column, Tuesday morning I received a letter from Mr. Astor Perry, peanut specialist, stating that here might be danger of residue if Diazinon was applied after July 15. The conflict was due to the lack of sufficient information at the time I wrote the news column.

## The Billings Years—Part I

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The football program at the local school had lost money during 1953, and the various clubs in town sponsored a ticket selling campaign to clear the budget in 1954. "Some fans say the Aces will be the best team at the Edenton school in four or five years, but Coach Billings was reluctant to make any predictions . . ." reported The Herald prior to the season.

Billings' first game was against Roanoke Rapids, and he started a team of Sid Campen at left end; Robert Kennan, left tackle; Wayne Keeter, left guard; Billy Hardison, center; Lyn Bond, right guard; Cecil Miller, right tackle; Chan Wilson, right end; Tay Byrum, quarterback; John Earl Whitson and Milton Stille, halfbacks; and Stuart Holland, fullback.

Against Roanoke Rapids, the Aces found themselves behind 8-0 going into the fourth quarter. Tay Byrum broke a collar bone and was out for the season. In his place came Stuart Holland, and one of the greatest quarterback stories Edenton has ever known. The team came alive, scored three touchdowns, and won their first game in over a year, 19-6.

Holland got all three touchdowns the next week against Morehead City as Edenton won 20-13. One of the scores was set up by what proved to be an indication of the brand of football Billings played: a fake punt from Holland to Jimmy Harrison.

The Aces roared on through the next two games, pounding Williamston 33-0, and Spring Hope 40-0. Sonny Wright scored three touchdowns, Stille and Holland two each, but Edenton found a new and deadly weapon in the passing combination of Holland to Ray Rogerson.

Elizabeth City, at their peak with Mike and Jerry McGee and Dickie Darling, turned the tables and won 19-6. Jerry McGee passed for two touchdowns and intercepted a pass during the game. Tarboro, eventual Albemarle Conference champion, was held by the Aces to a 27-27 tie the next week.

Edenton defeated Hertford 20-13 on Stille's winning touch-



**ALL IN TUNE**—Pupils in Centerport, Long Island, N.Y., have to keep their band in tune during the summer. Perhaps the only jug and bottle orchestra in the nation, the band came into being as a sixth graders' science class special sound project.

down with five minutes to go, but the next game they lost to Ahoskie, 19-13, for their last consecutive loss in eight years. Tarboro, in the meantime, withdrew from competition because of an ineligible player, and the Aces cancelled a game with Farmville to whip Plymouth 19-14, and force a three-way tie for the championship.

Edenton was chosen by a draw of straws to represent the conference in the State Class A playoffs. Holland ran one of his famed option plays for 91 yards against Scotland Neck in the district finals, which the Aces won 30-0 on Hicks Field. Edenton played at home the next week for the regional title, and took it over E. M. Holt High School 27-20, as John Earl Whitson ran a kick-off back 85 yards to score with just minutes remaining.

LaGrange would not come to Edenton, for various reasons, so the Aces played in the East Carolina College stadium in Greenville, which became a second home over the next seven years. LaGrange was completely outclassed, 42-0, as Holland passed for three touchdowns and ran for another.

The Aces went to Greensboro on December 4, 1954, to play

Bessemer for the state title. Billings was at his best in that game. Harrison took a fake kick 55 yards to score, and made another brilliant 50-yard run early in the game. Wright lateral to Whitson for a 40-yard marker. Stille scooted 50 yards for another, and Holland galloped for two more touchdowns as Edenton won 41-20.

The Aces returned to a wild celebration that Sunday afternoon, but little did the citizens of Edenton realize that in the next seven years they would see four more championships, two on Hicks Field, and the 10-2-1 record of 1954 topped in years to come. The marvellous reign of Bill Billings had begun.

## LASSITER REASSIGNED

Staff Sergeant Charlie E. Lassiter, Jr., of San Antonio, Texas, is being reassigned to Kelly AFB, Texas, following his graduation from the United States Air Force technical training course for air armament mechanics at Lowry AFB in Colorado.

Sergeant Lassiter learned to interpret data flow and theory of operation of the F-101 and F-102 aircraft weapon control systems. A graduate of Edenton High

School, the sergeant is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie E. Lassiter, Sr., Route 2, Edenton. He and his wife, the former Doris L. Schuennaman of San Antonio, have seven children.

## Dodgers Leading In Negro Softball

## Competition Is Keen Says Robert Shields, Supervisor

Robert F. Shields, supervisor of the summer recreation program at the North Oakum Street playground, reported early this week that competition has been strong among softball league teams since the start of the program.

Top batters in the softball league through last week were Sylvester Sutton, Johnny Gregory, Jerry Harris, Eddie Charlton, Charlie Bonds and Joseph Austin of the Dodgers; Major Berry, Franklin Fleming, James Riddick and Ronald Norman of the Skylarks, and Alvin Lewis, Bernard Taylor, Earl White and James Moore of the Bluejays.

## The program at the playground for the remainder of this week is as follows:

Thursday—9 to 12: Softball league drills, conditioning exercises, horseshoes, dodgeball and volleyball; 3 to 8, volleyball game, two softball games, horseshoes, dodgeball, badminton and games for small children.

Friday—9 to 12: Conditioning exercises, relay races, softball league drills, volleyball; 3 to 8, championship volleyball game, championship softball game, horseshoes, dodgeball, games for small children.

Standings in the softball league through last week's action were as follows:

	W.	L.	Pct.
Dodgers	6	1	.857
Angels (girls)	4	1	.800
Skylarks	6	3	.666
Bluejays	3	5	.375
Braves	2	4	.333
Indians	2	6	.250
Midgets	1	4	.200

## Police Make 45 Arrests In June

Chief of Police Leo LaVoie reports that Edenton police made a total of 45 arrests during June, of which 43 were found guilty as charged. Miscellaneous traffic arrests led the list with 17, followed by nine charged with drunkenness.

Of those arrested 18 were white males, one white female, 22 colored males and four colored females.

Fines amounted to \$247.50 and 25 seconds.

costs \$414.40 for a total of \$661.00. Of this amount \$23.95 was turned back to the town in way of officers' fees.

Activities during the month included 67 calls answered and investigated, six automobile accidents investigated, eight funerals worked, 22 courtesies extended, 36 doors found unlocked, two fire calls answered, 1,813 traffic citations issued, 35 lights reported out and six house checks made. The police made 953 radio calls and were on the air one hour, 19 minutes and 25 seconds.

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