



**OUR SOIL ★ OUR STRENGTH**

**Open Ditch Maintenance**

Each year around \$50,000 is spent on drainage in Chowan County. A lot of this is for constructing new ditches and installing tile drains but a lot of it is for cleaning out old ditches. Constructing a new ditch and not including the adequate maintenance provisions such as seeding the side slopes and a border along the edge to some type of grass and installing surface inlets is the same as when a person buys a new car and never changes the oil or makes any repairs until the car is worn out and will not serve its function any longer. Then the car is traded for another new one—only in the case of the ditch, it is cleaned out again. Almost all ditches have to be cleaned out sometime but most of them today are having to be cleaned out more often than they should be.

David Warren recently constructed some new ditches and installed wood box type surface inlets for the surface water to run through into the ditch. This gets the surface water into the ditches without washing the side slopes. The cost of the surface inlets and installing them is very small compared to the cost of cleaning out these ditches. Surface inlets can be made out of several things, ranging from old tin to scrap lumber. Various kinds of pipes can be purchased for the job also. Carroll Privott

also recently installed several surface inlets along the edge of a newly constructed ditch. Wallace Goodwin seeded the side slopes and a strip along the edge of a newly constructed ditch to festucous grass to prevent it from washing. Every ditch has a need somewhere along it for a surface inlet. Open ditch maintenance is saving money instead of spending it.

**Stubble Mulch Planting**

Mulch planting is a once over planting operation without prior land preparation that makes maximum use of crop residues. One place where it is applicable in our area is the planting of soybeans immediately behind small grain harvest in a once over planting operation without destroying the straw.

Fahey and Carroll Byrum have been stubble mulch planting soybeans for a number of years and have been getting good results.

A lot of valuable plant nutrients are destroyed each spring when we burn out small grain straw after grain harvest. Why not conserve the straw and at the same time plant your soybeans much cheaper. Mulch planting is cheaper when you consider it is a once over planting operation in comparison to the many trips needed for the conventional method of planting. It improves the soil's tilth, increases the water intake, conserves moisture, reduces erosion and maintains the organic matter. Actual experience has proven that mulch planted soybeans will yield about the same as beans planted using the conventional method. So by mulch planting you make more money and leave your land in a much better state of condition.



**OLD SEAL LAUGH**—Barbara, of Miami's Seaquarium, is giving the old horse—or is it seal?—laugh to Deanna Lund's attempt at cigar smoking. Deanna, on the other hand, is either laughing at the sea lion or the fact that her cigar isn't lit.

Borg. Where the Wild Things Are, Peter the Wanderer by Edward story and pictures by Maurice Ardizzone. Sendak.

**OUTDOOR TIPS**

from the Ancient Age Sportsman's Idea Exchange

**RECORD BREAKER**

Put this tip away in your mind for the time you score on a big one. If you are carrying a potential prize winning fish to the weigh-in station, always wrap it in wet burlap. A fish can lose as much as 10 per cent of its weight drying out.

**STOP CARPING**

When dough baits fail on carp, a raw potato might do the trick. Carp are strict vegetarians. Also sweet corn or red cherries work in some localities.

**FOILED AGAIN**

Wrap sandwiches in foil for early spring fishing trips. Warm them over campfire or on hot automobile engine and they'll reciprocate by warming your insides.

**WAXED LINE**

Another early season tip calls for waxing your line and rod guides slightly. Then if temperatures drop below freezing,

**CHUM, CHUM**

Want good fishing? Fill a gallon can with fish scraps, chicken entrails, old meat, sink in deep water near a good fishing spot. Next day watch out for the big ones.

**SAND HANDS**

Trotline fishermen along the Mississippi use this tip to make their job of handling fish easier. They fill a bucket with dry sand before setting out. Then as their hands get slippery, they stick in sand so fish can be held securely while unhooking.

**MONOFIL KNOTS**

Regular knots tied in monofilament will slip. To be sure your lure will never come off, heat knot with a match or cigarette until the line fuses together.

**TWO RUBBER BANDS**

1.—Why chance losing your wallet by having it slip out of your pocket? Tie a wide rubber band around it. Rubber will catch on pocket, prevent loss.

2.—For can goods that you

use out of the can (condensed milk, juice, etc.) punch holes in the side of can, not the top. Then a wide rubber band around the lip will close and you can store or transport without spilling.

**Fifty-Fifty**

"Hello, Henry," an Alabama Negro called out to a friend he had not seen for several months. "How's everything?" "Ain't you heard, Joe?" Henry replied. "I've been divorced." "Do tell," said Henry. "What did you and your woman do wit dat house you-all owned?" "Oh, we divided it up." "Divided yo house?" rejoined Joe, looking slightly puzzled. "How?" "Fifty-fifty," said Henry. "She takes de inside an I takes de outside."



**STRANGE HEADPIECE**

"This cap may not seem too strange in many parts of the country, but for David Tankersley, it is really something strange. He lives in St. Petersburg, Fla., and the hat will be worn when the temperatures drop.

that they'd burn his thumb with out one—he doesn't want his fishing mechanized, or automated, any more than is necessary. But drags are a boon to less experienced anglers who, without them, might break their lines through excitement in playing fish.

One of these latter almost invariably sets the drag so hard that a fish making a long run stands a good chance of breaking the line anyhow. Why?

First: He'll generally pull line directly from the reel by hand, judging when the tension is safely below listed breaking strain.

All wrong! He's not allowing for the comparatively great friction of the line against the guides when the rod is held well up in playing a fish. This may easily add enough tension to break the line.

Second: Even though he allows for guide friction, there's another factor he's almost certain to overlook: As the diameter of line on the reel decreases during a long run, the force necessary to pull it off increases greatly—which, of course, also may lead to a break.

Third: The strongest knot possible, which is the barrel or the blood knot is, even when tied perfectly, at least a little weaker than the line without a knot. If something should, unknown to you, go wrong when

you are making it or drawing it tight, there's a possibility of its weakening the line by perhaps 20 per cent.

How, avoiding these three errors, can you set the drag so that there will be no danger of a fish's breaking your line—and still so that one cannot make an unnecessarily long run, perhaps to tangle up in weeds or brush and thus be lost?

Jason Lucas, Angling Editor of Sports Afield Magazine, suggests the following: "Tie the end of your line to something and walk off until you have paid out the greatest amount of line that you expect a fish to take on a run. Then, pulling with the rod bent the most you'll bend it in playing one, set the drag to what you feel is a safe tension."



**DISMAL LOOK**—Duncan Sandys, British Commonwealth and Colonial Secretary, passes through the dismal hall of Whitehall in London.



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**SPORTS AFIELD**  
By Ted Keating

The experienced angler thoroughly dislikes a drag of any sort on his reel, except with fish that make such long, fast runs

**Carolina Coins**

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Last week I offered prices for certain Lincoln cents. I was amazed at the response. Evidently, most people were not aware that coins today are of so much value. Quite a few were brought in and received CASH for them. I am sure there are more in this neck of the woods. This week I can offer the following for your Lincoln cents. I rely on Coin World as my guide in buying and selling. Please save each copy of this ad as not all coins are listed each week.

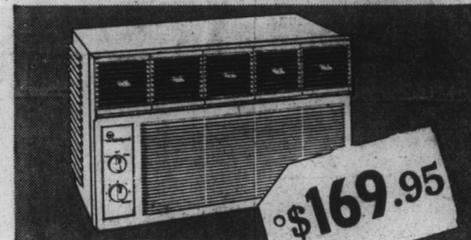
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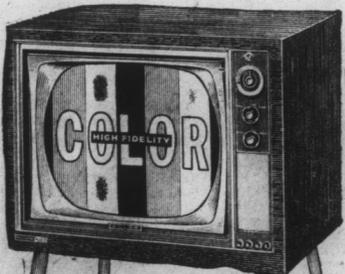
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