

### Pioneers Found Indians Using Hickory Handles

On practically every American farm the hickory tool handle is in daily use in some form, and it is to be found in thousands of American homes as essential parts of equipment. It has displaced native woods in many foreign countries where skilled workmen demand handles of good value. The first American colonists made their axe handles from various woods of the forest, but they early found that the Indians preferred hickory for their crude axes and tomahawks. For these implements they needed a wood that was hard, tough, strong, stiff, shock-resistant, and resilient and they found it in the hickory. No other wood has been found to surpass the hickory in these combined properties, according to the Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, Wis., of the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The first tool handles were probably made from small, straight branches and used in their rough shape. But modern handles for thousands of tools have come a long way since that time. On the farm the hammer, axe, sledge, fork, pick, and shovel are indispensable. Buildings must be built and repaired, fences erected, land cleared, fuel cut, and much of it is done with tools with hickory handles.

Hickory grows in every state east of and in several states west

of the Mississippi River. "Hickory" is commonly used as if it all came from one kind of tree but actually from about 30 different kinds of hickory trees only four supply most of the hickory for handles. Formerly handles were made from the white sapwood, the red heartwood being discarded, but the Forest Products Laboratory after tests on more than 7,000 samples of red and white hickory showed conclusively that weight for weight, sound hickory has the same strength, toughness, and resistance to shock regardless of whether it is red, white, or mixed red and white.

A reliable indication of the strength of hickory is its density, that is, of two pieces of the same size and dryness, the heavier will have the better strength properties. As a further guide in choosing a good tool handle, the best hickory shows an oily or glossy side-grain surface when smoothly finished and has a clear, ringing tone when dropped on a hard surface in comparison with the dull sound produced by an inferior quality.

The Laboratory also points out that the practice of requiring all white wood in handles is both wasteful of our valuable hickory timber and unscientific, since color alone is not a factor of quality in a hickory handle.

### Mrs. Mary Billings Claimed By Death

Mrs. Mary Ann Billings, 83, died Thursday at her home near Zephyr, north of Elkin, from an illness resulting from infirmities of age. She had been a member of Rachel Baptist church since girlhood.

Surviving are eight children, Harrison Billings, Mrs. Walter Sparks, of Traphill; Jesse Billings, of Thurmond; Dallas Billings, of Roaring River; Guy Billings, Wilkes county; Mrs. Thomas Childress, of Elkin; King Billings, of Benham; Mrs. M. S. Owens, of Elkin; 35 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

The funeral service was conducted Friday afternoon by Rev. Lewis Everett Sparks and burial was in the family cemetery.

### Birthday Sale At The Rexall Store

North Wilkesboro Drug company, local Rexall store is announcing the 37th February Birthday Sale, which is now in full swing.

During this sale big reductions have been made in prices of Rexall products and in many instances these well known drugs and other drug store merchandise can be purchased at less than half price. The store's management cordially invites everybody to share in the savings.

### Nancy Lunsford Rites Held Sunday

Funeral service was held Sunday at Shady Grove church for Miss Nancy Lunsford, age 66, resident of that community who died Friday afternoon. Rev. W. G. Myers conducted the last rites.

She leaves the following brothers and sisters: Francis Lunsford, of Union Grove; Henry Lunsford, of Cycle; and Mrs. Moodie Combs, of Valdeese.

### Finns Relief Fund Acknowledges First Local Contribution

Appreciation Expressed For Cooperation In Appeal For Relief Fund

Raymond Sawtelle, treasurer of the Finnish Relief Fund, Inc., an organization headed by Former President Herbert Hoover for the purpose of raising funds in America to alleviate suffering in war torn Finland, has acknowledged by letter receipt of the first local contributions through the medium of The Journal-Patriot.

The first local contribution was by M. J. Beardlee, of this city, and was for \$2.00. This newspaper will gladly serve as a medium to forward donations of any people in this vicinity to national headquarters and each contribution will be acknowledged in The Journal-Patriot.

The letter of Mr. Sawtelle acknowledging the receipt of Mr. Beardlee's contribution follows: February 13, 1940.

Mr. Dwight Nichols, Journal-Patriot, North Wilkesboro, N. C. Dear Mr. Nichols:

This will gratefully acknowledge the receipt of your letter of February 6 enclosing a check for \$2.00 representing a contribution to the Finnish Relief Fund, Inc. received through the medium of your paper. Our official receipt will be sent you separately.

Mr. Hoover has asked me to express his appreciation for your cooperation in the appeal for funds for the relief of the civilian population of Finland.

He requests that you remit each week the contributions received by you, to the Finnish Relief Fund, Inc. at 420 Lexington Avenue, New York City. In the event that funds you have collected have been deposited in one of your local banks, kindly ask your bank to remit.

We ask that you acknowledge contributions in your columns to avoid the expense of issuing receipts from this office to the individual donors. If, however, this is impossible, it will be necessary for us to receive the names and addresses of all contributors, with amounts, so that we can do so.

We are sure you will be interested in knowing that our contributions have now passed the \$1,600,000 mark.

The cooperation of the press has made it possible to secure the multitude of contributions without the usual expense of offices and accounting staffs in every town, and in furtherance of this spirit Mr. Hoover has arranged from private sources, that the small expense of the head office will be paid. Thus one hundred cents out of every dollar you send us is going to Finland.

Millions. Murder. Misery — Will they haunt the motion picture beauty forever? Adela Rogers St. Johns, famous motion picture commentator, tells why the former star may never escape the ceaseless feuds and tragedies which shattered the career she never really wanted. An illustrated feature in The American Weekly Magazine, with next Sunday's Washington Times-Herald, now on sale.

Ads. get attention—and results!

### Practice Contest In State This Year

Raleigh—Students of vocational agriculture in 348 high schools in North Carolina are eligible to compete in the Supervised Practice Contest, sponsored by the Division of Vocational Education, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, in cooperation with the Chilean Nitrate Educational Bureau, announced Roy H. Thomas, State Supervisor of Vocational Agriculture.

A trip to the annual convention of Future Farmers of America, which will be held in Kansas City this fall, will be awarded to the State winner and his teacher. Trips to Kansas City will be given to each of the five district winners, and a cash award of \$2.50 will be presented to the Federation winners.

The rating of each contestant will be based upon scope, ownership, improved practices, cultural and marketing practices, amount and variety of purebred seed or animals, home improvement, earnings, savings and cost accounting.

Mr. Thomas pointed out that regular books and forms may be used for keeping records in this contest, but the summary report should be made on forms furnished for this purpose.

Record books must be submitted to the teacher of agriculture by March 1st 1940 and summary reports are required to be submitted to the district supervisors by April 1st 1940.

James Francis, a F. F. A. member of Waynesville, was State winner in the Supervised Practice contest last year.

### It's Time, Or Almost Time to Plant Garden

Dean I. O. Schaub, director of the State College Extension Service, illustrates the value of a garden by telling this story: "A man decided to attend the horse races, but before starting out he bought a round-trip ticket so that he could get home no matter how much he lost gambling."

The same philosophy should apply to North Carolina farmers. Dr. Schaub declared, "If we are going to gamble with tobacco and other so-called 'cash crops,' we should buy a round-trip ticket by planting a garden so that we will have something to eat if we lose our tobacco bet."

It is time now to start planting home gardens in all parts of the State except the mountain Region. By March 1, it is usually safe to set out lettuce, cabbage, onion sets, and the hardier greens in the mountains.

Elsewhere in the State it is safe now to plant cabbage, lettuce, spinach, garden peas, beets, carrots, and mustard.

Dean Schaub recommends that for a family of 7 to 10 persons, a one-acre garden be planted. It should be laid off in 70-yard rows. For a family of five or less, a one-half acre garden will suffice, or 35-yard rows.

The number of plants or amount of seed needed for a 70-yard row follows: Cabbage, 200 plants; lettuce, 200 plants; spinach, 2 ounces of seed; wrinkled garden peas, 1 pound; beets, 2 ounces; carrots, 1 ounce; mustard, 1 ounce; Irish potatoes, two bushels for 10 rows; turnips, 1 ounce; snap beans, 1 pound; corn, one pound for four rows; tomatoes, 100 plants; sweet potatoes, 200 plants for 10 rows.

### Thurmond Man Passes After Illness

Joel Simmons, 80, passed away at his home at Thurmond Tuesday following an illness of several days. The deceased was a highly esteemed man and was a member of the Roaring Gap Baptist church.

He was married 63 years ago to Miss Ellen Sparks, who survives him, together with the following children: Mrs. John Cox, Mrs. Charles Brown, Mrs. Walter Spicer, Traphill; Mrs. J. A. J. Royall, Thurmond; Mrs. Wint Holcomb and Jodie Simmons, of Thurmond; R. A. Simmons, of Elkin; Mrs. James W. Brown, Miles; Clarence Simmons, Mountain Park, and Mrs. Josie Berrier, of Winston-Salem. Sixty-one grandchildren, 80 great-grandchildren survive, a total of 152 descendants.

Funeral services were held Thursday from Roaring Gap Baptist church. The rites were in charge of Rev. Grant Cothren and Rev. George W. Miles. Interment was in the family plot in the church cemetery.

Pallbearers were grandsons of the deceased and the flower girls were granddaughters.

### HELPED

Although the recent cold weather did extensive damage to the small grain crop in Hoke county, it helped to reduce the number of over-wintering insects, says Farm Agent A. S. Knowles.

### Mountain View Club In Meeting

The members of the Mountain View Home Demonstration club met at the home of Mrs. Grady F. Miller, February 14th, with nine members present. The president, Mrs. Glenn Dancy, presided for a short business session. The club collect was given and a poem "Patch Work" was read by Mrs. Chas. Wood. The members present responded to the roll call with the name of a friend which they would like to enroll in the club. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. A report of Achievement Day was given by Mrs. Grady Miller and the county council meeting on January 20th was made by Miss Harriet McGoogan.

An interesting discussion on the care of poultry was conducted by different members of the club. Miss McGoogan talked on the topic "Interior Walls and Finishes." The club also was given some helpful suggestions on picture selection. "The Gleaners," a beautiful rural scene, was studied.

For recreation a valentine poem contest was conducted. Mrs. Chas Wood was the winner. At the close of the social hour, Mrs. Miller, assisted by her daughters, Lillian and Doris, served refreshments.

### Mrs. M. J. Davis Is Taken By Death

Mrs. Matilda Jane Davis, wife of the late Rev. W. N. Worley, passed away at 8:10 o'clock, February 14, Wednesday night at the home of her son, Ezra Worley, of High Shoals, North Carolina. She had been seriously ill for some time, with a complication of diseases. Her husband died October 24, 1937. Since his death she had been living with her children. She was 64 years old and a life long member of the Baptist church. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev.

Blaine Ray, of Roaring River, assisted by Rev. Collins and Rev. Baker of High Shoals. The last rites were held at Rock Bottom Baptist church and interment was in the church cemetery. She is survived by nine children, Garland Worley, of North Wilkesboro route 3; Jethro Worley, of North Wilkesboro, route 3; Bunton Worley, of Spurgoon; Abe Worley, of Moravian Falls; Ezra Worley, of High Shoals; Mrs. Daisy Hooks, of Harding; Mrs. Ruby Parlier, of Pores Knob; Mrs. Lou Ella Durham, of Union, S. C. and Mrs. Vortee Hutcherson, also of Union, S. C. Many grandchildren also survive, also

two brothers, George Davis, of Spruce Pine, and Willie Davis, of Union, S. C., one sister, Ella Arrowood, of Virginia.

How the explorer found the Little Horses of the Grand Canyon. Old legends of a herd of Pygmies, some only 3 feet high that lived in a closed-in canyon of the Big One, declared true by Explorer Jack Tooker. Read his story and see the pictures of the little animals in The American Weekly Magazine, with next Sunday's Washington Times-Herald, now on sale.

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