

Use Hygrometer In Weed Curing

Branch Experiment Station Head Says Is Good Investment For Growers In Curing Tobacco

A hygrometer, which contains a dry and wet bulb thermometer, is a good investment for growers in curing tobacco, says E. C. Moss, in charge of the Tobacco Branch Experiment Station at Oxford.

A description of how this instrument works and the need for it are fully outlined in Experiment Station Bulletin No. 10, a copy of which may be obtained from the Agricultural Experiment Station, Raleigh.

Proper curing of tobacco is dependent not only on the temperature in the barn but also on the humidity, says the publication. "If tobacco dries too rapidly when the humidity is too low, the initial yellowing stage of the tobacco may cure a green color even though the temperature remains below 110 degrees. If the humidity is not properly lowered when the tobacco is completed yellowing, sponging will result. The critical stage of humidity is in the latter part of the yellowing period and the first part of the drying period.

At the present time, most tobacco curers estimate the humidity by the feel of the air. This is a rather poor means of determining the humidity because the feel of the air must necessarily be a comparison between the air one has just left and that in the barn.

Since the outside conditions generally vary, there is no simple way of making an accurate estimate of the humidity except by the use of a suitable instrument such as the wet and dry bulb hygrometer."

A cargo of gifts from Elihu during the first year of existence of the collegiate school at New Haven led the trustees to name the institution after its benefactor.

ADVISES KEEPING LAYING HENS COOL

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At the end of their laying year the regular laying houses can be made ready for the early hatched pullet crop. It will also make a good house for surplus chicks, cockerels, or hens.

With the first hot days of summer, chicken mites and lice also come. This is especially true of the first and they should be controlled when the first ones appear, because these little insects have a way of multiplying very rapidly. "It is a good plan to play safe by spraying all roost poles and roosting area whether mites have been found or not," Maupin says. A home-made spray mixture may be made with equal parts of used motor oil and kerosene.

Laying hens should be examined for lice several times during the year and be treated whenever the lice are found.

COUNTY AGENT HAS BALANCED PROGRAM

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proposed is not enough. Whatever other means are adapted, it is essential to expand public health work in urban areas. The services called for must include maternity and child hygiene, disease control and sanitation.

All children must have good diets if the coming generation is to enjoy that degree of vigor and health which science has shown how to attain. Since most school children eat one meal away from home, the school lunch program is very important. The difference between good living conditions and average conditions here in North Carolina is shown by the record of one of our N. C. Orphanages. While the state rejection from military services show that 58.6 per cent of all men called have been rejected, only one man out of 104 called from Thomasville Orphanage has been rejected—why—(1) regular habits, (2) adequate diets, (3) plenty of milk and plenty of work and good training. Yes, these children are known as the underprivileged, but are they?

BETTER HOUSING IS DESIRABLE:

Many rural families live in dwellings that cannot be considered acceptable by any standard. A large number of our farm homes are beyond repair, while an extremely high percentage of others are in need of major repair, and are seriously lacking in comforts. Few of our farmers have running water and fewer have bathtubs and for too few families have electric lights.

I don't mean that farm people should spend their hard-earned money on luxurious homes in preference to items which will increase the productive efficiency of the farm, but he must acquire better homes in order to hold his children on farms and to attain a modest plant of modern living. Landlords, in order to keep desirable tenants, must conform to minimum housing standards at

least. The most feasible means of improving farm homes lie in developing and making known the kind of houses and methods of construction and repair which will afford maximum satisfaction from the money spent. We have practically all the raw material here in our county for a program of better and more efficient housing, such as lumber, sand and labor. The need is for efficient plans for new houses and the cooperation of the farm people, business, and state and national agencies.

ELECTRIFICATION NEEDED:

In the county, electricity is not merely a convenience, but actually a necessity for efficient farming and living. Electricity on the farm will do more than furnish light, pump water, and operate household equipment. It will save many hours time of hard labor if properly harnessed. Two-thirds of the county's farms are without electricity, some, it is true, are not feasible to reach but most of them can be reached in our post-war program.

RURAL PEOPLE WANT RECREATION:

Recently the Bureau of Agricultural Economics made a study of Columbus County. This study showed the urgent need and want of better recreational facilities both with adults and the youth. Few communities have any place for any type of recreation, since schools have been consolidated. It is true that the consolidated school gives the child a better education, but it left a gap back around the old one-teacher school house that needs to be filled.

Farm communities need to recognize that what they do, or fail to do, in making the locality socially satisfying to both youth and adults, will influence greatly the kind of agriculture they will have in years to come. Adequate recreational facilities are a definite requirement of real importance, and cannot be safely neglected or indefinitely postponed.

OTHER NEEDS

A few other needs are telephone services, all-weather roads, farm people in on policy-making conferences, forest resources developed, improvement of tenant-landlord relationship, credit system to protect borrower and of the farm, but he must acquire lender, and farm produce markets. After due consideration of these few points, I am sure that you will agree with me that farming is a basic industry. As stated by Quenton Reynolds, Vice-president, National Council of Farm-

ers Cooperatives, most of what we eat, wear, and otherwise require, comes from the land—from the field, meadow or farm.

Mr. Reynolds states farther: "The farmer still finds himself a manager, a laborer, a handyman, a buyer, a seller, a bookkeeper, a

biologist, a teamster, a chemist, a first aid nurse, a mechanic, and sometimes a veterinarian. Frequently he is capable of matching

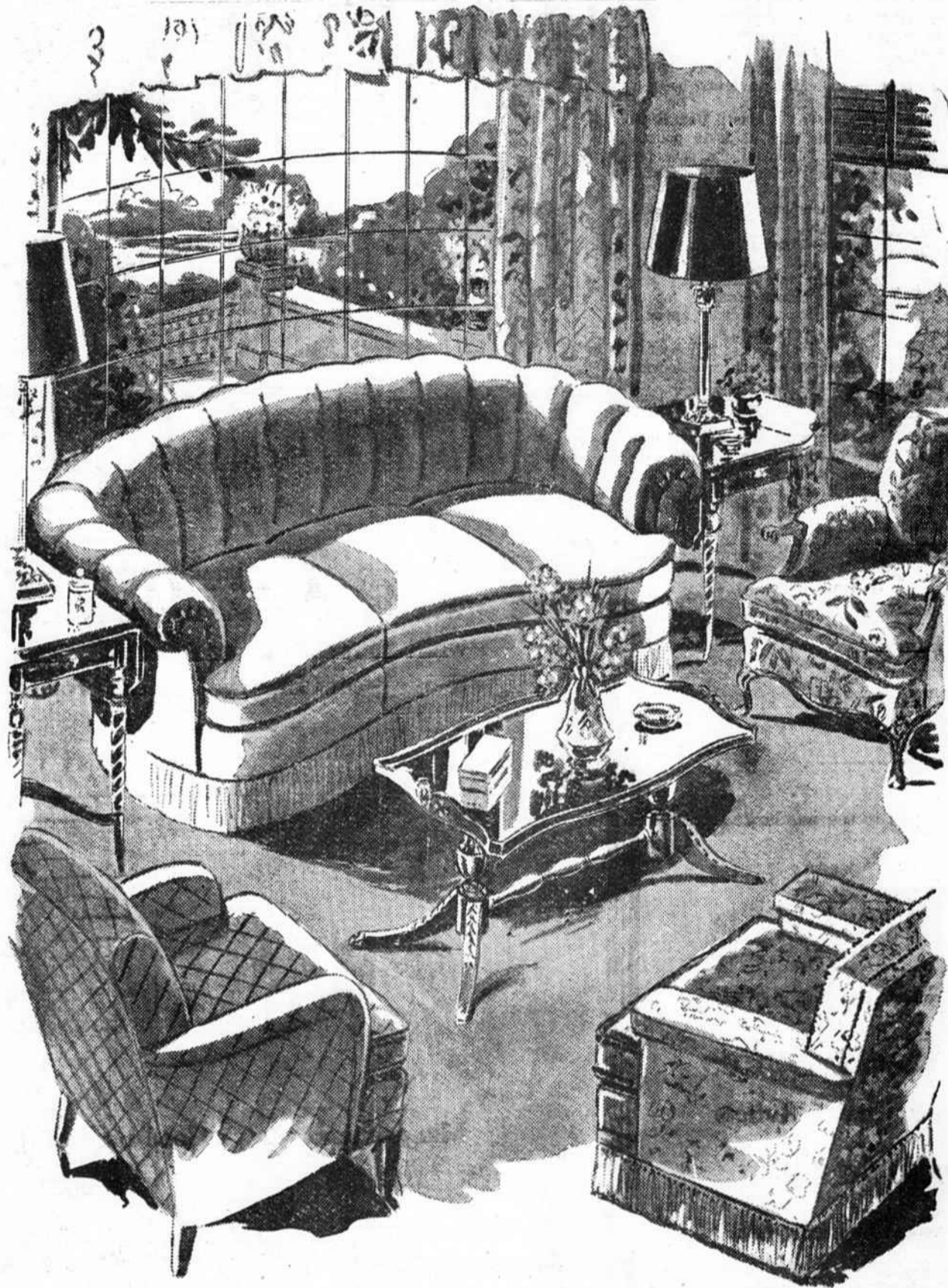
natural talent with trained personnel in any of these fields." I hope and believe that in a few years after the war, when

you or any of us look back at the progress made by the farmer, we will be able to say "By golly, there's life in the old girl yet."

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