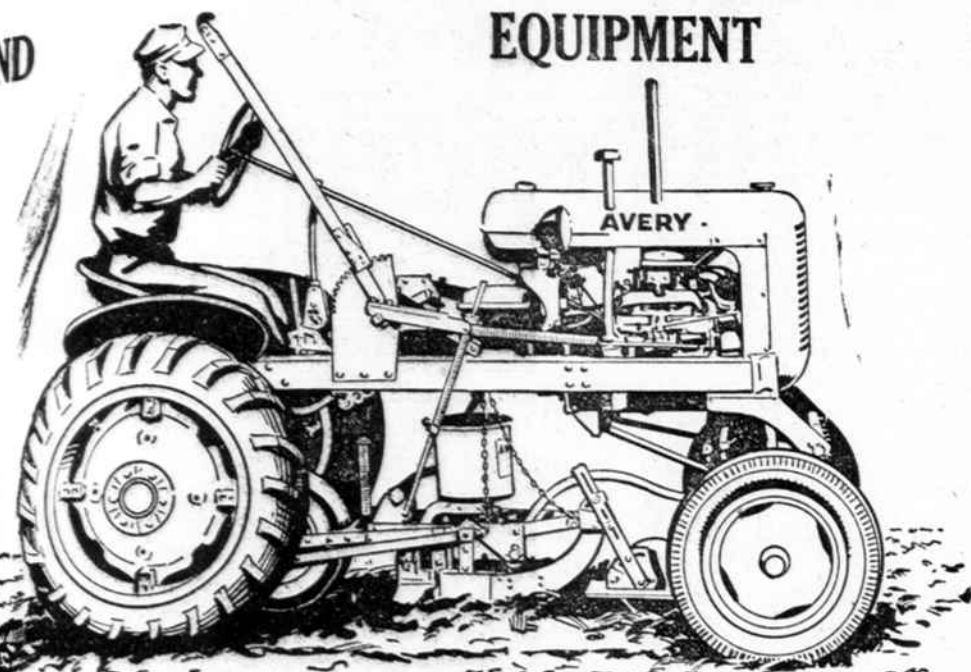


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## Better Farming For Better Living Looks To Future

(By Nell Bolton, Agricultural Agent, Tide Water Power Company)

To lose a dollar is a major catastrophe with many of us. To lose five becomes almost a tragedy and to lose eight isn't much short of a disaster. Someone has said "Every \$1.00 less farm income means about \$5.00 less business transacted in your community and \$8.00 less business in the United States. Farm income is basic. Perhaps most of us would recover from the loss of a single dollar, five, or eight. The serious part comes if and when many dollars are lost on individual farms. For example, Columbus County has somewhere around 5,500 farms. A loss of \$50 income on each farm would mean about a quarter million less dollars. If the above statement is true then it becomes a rather serious problem.

There are two schools of thought among farm management experts. Some say that it is best for farmers to specialize in one particular thing. Others say that it is best for the farmer to have several sources of income. If one thing goes wrong then there may be some income from another crop, or from livestock or poultry. Here in this area it is the considered opinion among most folks that the diversified way is the best. Most farmers are really tobacco specialists. However, many tobacco farmers are finding it profitable to add other things, to grow some hogs, keep some poultry and a few have found keeping dairy cows profitable. Most of these folks continue to grow about the usual amount of tobacco. Then another thing that counts is having a good home food supply, a good garden, milk, meat and eggs.

BETTER FARMING FOR BETTER LIVING is a program designed to encourage farmers in Southeastern North Carolina to get the best out of farming and homemaking by following the best-known farm and home management practices know, by making the best use of the land and by making the best use of added income. It had its origin in 1946 when agricultural leaders of State College, County Extension Workers and officials of the Tide Water Power Company sat down together to plan a farm and home improvement program. Tidewater's interest is in the long time results obtained rather than any immediate benefits. Tide Water, like all business concerns in the area, realize that it will prosper to the same extent as farmers prosper. BETTER FARMING FOR BETTER LIVING is really a community project and not a Tide Water Power Co. project. Actually all Tide Water does is provide the booklets used by the contestants, furnish a limited amount of prize money and some help from their agricultural agent.

BETTER FARMING FOR BETTER LIVING includes the same things that have been recommended by the Experiment Station, Extension Service, Vocational Agricultural teachers, and other agricultural agency workers for many years. It lays emphasis on growing, preserving and processing a home food supply. Making the best use of time and energy. Fixing up the place to make it attractive and convenient for the farmer, his wife and children in one big part.

The booklet mentioned is divided into six sections so the family can check themselves to see what progress is being made. Section one has to do with their taking part in Community Activities, farm organizations, school, church, 4-H, papers, and magazines read, etc. Section two concerns "Feeding Our Family". This section deals with the garden, cows kept, chickens, meat animals, food canned, frozen, or dried. Section three—"General Appearances and

Efficiency of our Farmstead and by this year in numbers of folks Homemaking Practices" provides taking part. 163 families are en- a place to check up on the yard, rolled. Sponsorship in the county state of repair of the house both inside and out, water supply, county BETTER LIVING FOR laundry, refrigeration, heat, light- BETTER FARMING council who- ing, storage, arrangement, cloth- has the backing of the White- ing made or repaired, state of re- ville, Tabor City, and Chadbourn pair of farm buildings, cleanliness Merchants associations. Mr. Rufus Marks is Chairman of the Council. Four hundred of the fifteen hun- Mr. C. R. Yoder is Vice-Chairman, and Miss Gayle Wells, Assistant Demonstration Agent, serves as the next section has to do with secretary. Others on the council the Care of the Land. It en- encourage the making of a com- plete farm plan. This year a Ivey C. Brown, Mrs. H. H. Bul- special part on corn production lock, N. B. Chestnut, Willard G. Cole, L. Paul Cook, Kenneth Dor- has been included with this sec- ward, Bill Hooks, Dr. J. R. Ho- tion. Section five has to do with "Our Farm Business". It deals with the planning part, use of son, Charles Raper, Nan Ratliff, labor, number of sources of in- Henry B. Wyche, J. J. Barnhardt, come, etc. The final part has to E. S. Lloyd, B. J. Brady, R. L. do with the total production of Jones, Jr., J. P. Huggins, F. L. crops, livestock, and livestock and poultry products.

Acceptance of a thing is a will be awarded to the families pretty good test as to whether showing the greatest improve- it is any good or not. In 1947 ments. Incidentally awards are there were 350 families in the 13 made on improvements made con- county-area who took part. In sidering the opportunities afford- 1948, 430 took part. This year ed rather than on who has the 780 families are participating, most or best. Awards probably Columbus county is the top coun- will be made at a barbecue sup-

per as was the case last year when Mr. and Mrs. Ernest D. Hayes were selected for the highest honors. Mr. and Mrs. Clarence P. Benton were top winners in 1947. County winners will take part in the regional sweepstakes competition for recognition in the entire thirteen county area. At present the county council is making visits to the 163 families enrolled for the purpose of encouraging and helping those who are taking part.

The motives behind BETTER FARMING FOR BETTER LIVING may be somewhat selfish. However, it is a form of enlight- ed selfishness for which no apolo- gies need be made. It all adds up to this: Better Farming means better incomes which means Bet- ter Living. Better Living means Better World. There is everything turn can help in the building of a Better World. There is everything to gain and nothing to lose.

### There's A Difference

When Mrs. Taylor emerged from her house and started down the street, she seemed to be in a great hurry.

"Going shopping?" her next door neighbor called out.

"Oh no," she called back over her shoulder, "I haven't the time. I'm just going to get some thing I need."

—Christian Science Monitor.

### Clipping Lowers Bacteria Count

Clipping of cow's udders and hindquarters has been shown to lower the bacteria count in milk, according to a recent report on experiments at the University of Wisconsin.

The value of clipping was tested in connection with both hand and machine milking. The average decrease in numbers of bacteria in milk from clipped was compared to unclipped, was about 30 per cent.

In machine milking tests there was small difference in the bacteria count after clipping, the experiment showed.

Great care was taken to prevent outside contamination of the milk during the experiment and the most modern methods of quality production were used.

To do a good job of clipping, say the researchers, run a line from the pinbone near the base of the tail diagonally down to the milk well, then clip all hair below that line, except the tail switch.

Two clippings are generally required in winter, one in December and another in February, the report stated.

Early detection of cancer is the best chance of cure. Frequent medical examinations are the best safeguard against cancer.

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