

Town and Farm In Wartime

CIVILIANS AT WAR

The Government needs and asks its citizens in this 174th week of the war to:

1. Plan now to take a summer job on a farm, and be one of the four million workers who are needed to meet this year's wartime food production goals.
2. Drive your car slowly, check tires regularly, lubricate frequently. Your car must last until Victory—and then some.
3. Save kitchen fats. Every teaspoonful of waste fat is still needed, and the two red points per pound are more important to you than ever.

REMINDEES

The last date for use for the stamps listed below follows:

Meats, Fats—Red Stamps, T5, U5, V5, W5, and X5, April 28. Red Stamps Y5, Z5, and A2, B2, C2, D2, June 2. Red Stamps E2, F2, G2, H2, J2, June 30. New stamps validated April 1—K2, L2, M2, N2, P2, July 31.

Processed Foods—Blue Stamps C2, D2, E2, F2, and G2, April 28. Blue Stamps H2, J2, K2, L2, M2, June 2. Blue Stamps N2, P2, R2, S2, June 30. New stamps validated April 1—T2, U2, V2, W2, X2, July 31.

Sugar Stamps—35, June 2. No new stamps will be validated until May 1.

Fuel Oil—Period 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 coupons, good for ten gallons per unit, continue valid thru-out the country for the rest of the heating year.

Shoe—Airplane stamps Nos. 1, 2, 3, in Book Three continue valid indefinitely.

Seventh War Loan Drive

The Treasury will open the Seventh War Loan Drive on May 14, 1945, with a goal of 14 billion dollars, the Treasury Department announces. One objective of this drive will be the sale of \$7,000,000,000 worth of Government securities to individuals. This is the largest quota ever set for individuals in a War Loan Drive. As a part of the campaign to raise this amount, an intensive program for the sale of Series E Bonds in plants and factories will begin April 9. "It is clear," Secretary Morgenthau said, "that Federal expenditures are going to remain at a high level for some time to come. It is also apparent that funds in the hands of non-bank investors will continue to increase sharply under present conditions. It is highly desirable to channel as much of these funds as possible into Government security investment, and to put them to work in the prosecution of the war."

Time To Prepare Land For Alfalfa Sowing

Several farmers of Macon County have seeded alfalfa and are obtaining good results. For farmers who intend to seed alfalfa this year now is the time to start preparation of the land. Select a field that is well drained preferably a clay subsoil, plow the land well and apply two tons lime per acre. Around May 1 seed the land to soybeans using 400 pounds of 3-12-12 fertilizer per acre. Around July 10 either plow or disk the entire growth of beans into the soil. Apply two more tons of lime per acre at this time. Continue to disk the land to prevent any grass or weed growth and to make a firm seed bed. Around August 10 disk to a good seed bed and seed 25 pounds of Kansas grown alfalfa seed. At this time apply four hundred pounds of 3-12-12 fertilizer mixed with 30 pounds of boron per acre. After seed has been sown, go over land with roller. Farmers who have used this method of seeding alfalfa are well pleased with the results. During a normal season alfalfa may be cut three or four times with a yield of better than one ton per cutting.

On the basis of body size, chickens drink about twice as much water as the larger classes of livestock.

Club Boy Declares Profit Of \$123.85

Experiment station tests show that it costs more per bushel to produce a 20 bushel crop of corn than it does to produce a 40 bushel crop, says County Agent B. E. Grant of Bertie county, who has begun to campaign to double the yield of corn per acre in that section in the next few years.

Many other counties throughout North Carolina are conducting special corn contests this season because growers that higher yields of corn per acre give one of the best methods of supporting the state's rapidly expanding livestock industry.

"When we consider the fact that the better farmers make from 40 to 60 bushels per acre, we see that there is plenty of room for improvement in the crop that covers about one-third of the cultivated acreage of the state," Grant says. "We need a greater use of soil building crops and fertilizer, coupled with improved practices in growing the crop."

Here are some suggestions which the Extension agent has made to his cooperating growers. Improve the soil with leguminous crops. Do not plant corn on poorly drained soil because soybeans and lespedeza will make more feed on such land.

Use from 300 to 500 pounds of complete fertilizer in the drill. Topdress with the equivalent of 200 pounds of nitrate of soda, or more, and 100 pounds of muriate of potash. Use an adapted hybrid or a good local variety.

Cultivate shallow to control weed growth and lay by when the corn is 2½ feet high, if possible. Do not use turn plow as a cultivator or cultivate deep enough to destroy corn roots. Put plenty of plants per acre and space in accordance with fertility of soil, plant feed used, and expected yield.

State College Answers Timely Farm Questions

Q. How can I establish a turkey breeding flock?

A. Prof. Roy Dearstyne, head of the poultry department at State College, says there is a need for a large increase in turkey breeding flocks and in facilities for hatching turkey eggs in North Carolina. You will find N. C. Experiment Station Bulletin No. 350, entitled "Improving Turkey Production," very helpful. A free copy may be obtained by any farmer writing the Agricultural Editor, State College, Raleigh.

Q. Do you advise the use of limestone on my permanent pasture?

A. Almost all pastures that have not been limed in recent years need lime, says W. W. Woodhouse, Jr., associate in agronomy with the Agricultural Experiment Station at State College. He also explains that lime will increase yields of the pasture materially and at the same time bring the desirable plants into production. The lime also improves the nutritive value of the herbage. Moderate amounts of lime are best. Woodhouse points out that lime alone is not sufficient for best pasture yields and that the grasses and clovers will benefit from a topdressing of phosphate.

J. How much space should baby chicks have in the brooder?

A. Start 2 chicks to each square foot of floor space and increase the amount of space as the chicks develop, says Prof. Roy Dearstyne, head of the Poultry Department at State College. He explains that young chicks double their weight approximately every two weeks up to about six weeks of age. This accounts for the fact that brooder space which is adequate for day old chicks soon becomes inadequate and more space must be provided. Overcrowding is responsible for a great deal of mortality in young birds. When figuring on the space for laying hens, give the Leghorns 3½ square feet each and the heavier breeds 4 square feet.

BESSIE AND THE BEES

By BOB BROWN



Bessie Vanhook could do almost any work a man or woman could do around the farm, I was told, and does it, since her three brothers are in the service. Any girl as pretty as she, who works as a wartime farm hand, would make a good picture for the Farmers Federation News. So, over I went, to her home in the Hickory Knoll section of Macon county, to get her picture.

Bessie was entirely non-committal on the way over. She didn't seem to know just what she would like to be doing in the picture. But as we drove in, I saw a dozen bee hives, and got an idea.

"How about a picture with the bees?" I asked.

"Okay," Bessie answered.

"You're not afraid of them?"

"Not at all."

"Will you open a hive without veil or gloves?"

"Sure."

Her father, however, was not so sure. (He is Sam Vanhook.)

"Them bees are not in any good humor today," he warned. "You'd better be careful."

"They won't bother me," Bessie answered. So she went in to change from her school clothes to work clothes. We wanted the picture to look authentic.

"We may be taking too much chance," I told her.

"You'd better wear gloves," the father warned.

"Yes, you'd better wear gloves, maybe," I added. "I'd hate to be the cause of your getting stung."

"I don't need anything," she answered.

"Well, take along a smoker, anyway," I said. "We need it in the picture." Then she went in and got the smoker, and fired it up.

"I'm not afraid of bees," Bessie told me.

"Did you know that two women in Western North Carolina were stung to death by honey bees last year?" I asked.

"No, I didn't know that."

"Well, they were. And now, aren't you just a little bit afraid?"

"No."

And Bessie meant just that. It was a warm day, and the bees were working briskly. As she opened the hive, and held up a frame full of honey and bees, the bees would alight on her hand and get in her hair.

Occasionally one would hit me on my head, and I would wince. But Bessie seemed to know what she was talking about. Neither of us got stung.

When it was all over, Bessie told me the story why she is not afraid of bees.

"When I was five years old," she began, "my little brother was three. We thought that, if we hammered on a bee hive with a sourwood stick, the bees would call 'Come in!' We tried it, and instead of calling us to come in, the bees came out."

"What made you think the bees would call 'Come in' if you beat on their house with a sourwood stick?" I interrupted.

"I heard Daddy tell an Irishman a story about it," she answered, "and I thought it was true."

"Didn't you get stung?" I asked.

"Didn't we!" she exclaimed. "The bees covered us, my little brother and me, all over. They stung us all over. They were so thick mother had to sweep them off with a broom."

"I still get stung once in a while," she continued, "but ever since that day, when I was five years old, bee stings haven't hurt me. That's why I'm not afraid."

And that is the story of Bessie and the Bees.

Cows Tell Farmer To Plant Alfalfa

T. E. Huff's thirty dairy cows got mad when the alfalfa hay gave out and cut their production by 20½ gallons of milk a day. So says County Agent Philip R. Elam about happenings in the Mars Hill section of Madison county.

Huff thought he had enough good, leafy alfalfa to last through the winter. When the supply finally ran out, he had to substitute legume hay off average or poor quality. The cows registered their displeasure at the change and suggested that he grow more alfalfa, by reducing the amount of milk almost immediately. The amount and kind of concentrates fed remained the same.

Speaking from his experience in feeding alfalfa hay, Huff says that "if a farmer will feed dairy cattle all the good quality alfalfa hay they will consume, he can produce between two and three gallons of milk a day per cow and leave off the concentrates."

He lists high quality legume hay in abundance as the No. 1 requirement for the dairy herd. He attributes the drop in production of his cows from 85½ gallons of milk a day down to 65 gallons a day solely to the change in the type and the quality of the hay fed to them.

"The dairy cow is a very sensitive individual and you can't fool her on the quality of the hay she eats," says Elam. "Most of us cut our hay too late for best quality and we do not use enough care in curing it. There is no use in growing hay and then harvesting nothing but a crop of stems. It's the leaf that counts."

A good garden furnishes extra, fresh food; lots of blisters and sunburn and backaches; and down-right contentment.

Ample Fruits From June Until Frost

The families in the Timberland community of Person county have adopted a plan which many North Carolina counties may follow to give them a continuous supply of fruits from June until frost for homemade pies, jellies, jams, and shortcakes. The bushes, vines, and trees can be a part of the ornamental planting of the grounds around the homes.

The plan was worked out by the Neighborhood Leaders with the assistance of the Extension farm and home agents. "It will be about three years before they get much fruit but just the same they are beginning the plan now," says J. Y. Lassiter, Extension horticulturist at State College.

There will be strawberries and peaches in June; raspberries, and peaches in July; apples and blueberries in August; grapes in September; and muscadines until frost. The plan provides sugar-rich, vitamin-rich fruits from the first strawberry in June until the last grape at Thanksgiving.

"Many other communities in North Carolina know the value of plenty of fruit in the diet," says Lassiter, "but the families do not take definite steps to encourage fruit growing."

"Let's take the apple, for example. What this fruit can do sounds like the 'spiel' of the medicine man on a tobacco market. Apples aid digestion, disinfect the body, relieve constipation, clear the complexion, improve the appetite, help prevent colds, help build sound bones and teeth, correct the acid conditions, and prevent and cure diarrhea. According to Dr. H. T. Knighton, chewing apples is the best tooth brushing and mouth cleaning a person can get.

"He said that chewing apples eliminated 96.7 per cent of the bacteria while three minutes of tooth brushing plus a mouth rinsing eliminated only 64.3 per cent of the bacteria."

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