

Vast Improvement Being Noted In Tobacco Crop

Improvement in North Carolina's tobacco crop during the past three weeks was reported by the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service, which said all general crops are making good progress after receiving considerable rainfall recently.

The crop was described as "fair" to "good," with harvesting well underway in Eastern and Border belts. Some farmers have primed their tobacco two and three times in these belts, the report stated.

Crop-weather correspondents described the corn crop as "good" to "excellent," with an excellent color and unusually large growth. If present prospects continue throughout the season, all previous production records will be broken, the report said.

Cotton was described as being "fair" to "good" in most sections, with mostly "fair" being reported in the southern Piedmont, which is the main cotton producing district. Heavy weevil infestation was reported from coastal counties, while the Piedmont counties reported infestation as "light" or "usual." Cotton made good growth in recent weeks.

Prospects indicate a good peanut crop, although much depends on the weather from now until the end of the season. The sweet potato crop was reported "fair" to "good," with indications pointing to a yield of 110 bushels per acre, or only 10 bushels less than the high yield harvested in 1946.

Condition of the apple crop ranges from "poor" to "good" with the commercial orchards in the western counties promising to yield only 50 per cent of a crop. Prospects are for less than in some non-commercial areas in the eastern section, the report stated.

Farm labor remains scarce and expensive, and there are some complaints of inefficiency among the labor that can be hired, the report stated, adding that more farm labor is needed as tobacco barning gets into full swing.

During the week ending July 19, light hailstorms were reported over the north-central section of the state from Randolph county to Wayne county and northward to Virginia.

Hailstorms were also reported in Cleveland and Gaston counties, with the storms particularly severe in the Fallston section of Cleveland, where hailstones were reported to be the size of guinea eggs. Cotton suffered severely in Cleveland county, and there was severe damage to tobacco in the Mount Olive section and in Cunningham township in Person county.

At The Kiwanis Club

Hint that Washington will be asked to adopt a tobacco program calling for drastic reductions in the 1948 crop was given Monday night at the Kiwanis club by Bruce Sugg of Greenville, who appeared on the program as the guest of Ben Lewis.

Mr. Sugg, a member of the Greenville Kiwanis club, expressed his pleasure at receiving the invitation to appear on the program and stated that the Farmville club was the most progressive club in the district. He also paid high tribute to Mr. Lewis, who was termed as one of the finest gentlemen ever to serve Pitt county as a member of the Board of Commissioners.

After reviewing the tobacco control program, which was the brain-child of a meeting in Farmville nearly 15 years ago, Mr. Sugg compared present times with depression days and emphatically declared that tobacco growers will be forced to cut production. He cited the fact that Great Britain had been forced to withdraw from the market because of an acute dollar shortage and that, in the face of world conditions, the Imperial Tobacco company had announced that it would buy no more than half the usual amount. The speaker stated that the day's news on a world-wide scale showed that the tobacco industry was in a very precarious position.

New Secretary of War and His Wife



The Secretary of War and Mrs. Kenneth C. Royall

North Carolina received a signal honor several days ago when Kenneth C. Royall of Goldsboro, was appointed Secretary of War in the President's cabinet.

American Defense, Victory Medals Are Ready For Soldiers

American Defense Service Medals and Victory Medals World War II will be distributed to veterans, or next of kin, entitled to receive them, from four distribution points in North Carolina, starting Aug. 15, according to an announcement from the Third Army's headquarters in Atlanta, Ga.

In general, the American Defense Medal is to be awarded those who served honorably between September 8, 1939, and December 7, 1941, inclusive.

The World War II Victory Medal is for active service between December 7, 1941, and December 31, 1946, inclusive.

Application for these medals must be made by mail or by personal appearance by veterans or next of kin to designated distribution points. Each individual who applies in person will present his original discharge certificate, certificate in lieu of lost or destroyed discharge certificate, certificate of service or other adequate authenticated statement of service.

Ex-Army personnel, or their next of kin, may make application for these medals by mail to the nearest distribution point. Letters of application must be accompanied by a photostatic or notarized copy of either the discharge certificate or other authorized certificate that determine the service record of the individual.

The next of kin of those individuals who died while on active duty in the Army and who, consequently, do not possess the necessary documents to make application elsewhere, may apply to Chief, Demobilization Personnel Records Branch, Building 105, AGO, St. Louis, Mo. It will be necessary in such cases to give the full name, last grade and serial number of the deceased, also the complete permanent return address of the applicant.

Applicants are requested to defer inquiries as to action on their mail application. It is explained that many thousands of applications will necessitate care and time to make final checks and distribution.

Following are the distribution points in North Carolina where application for the medals may be made:

Commanding General, Post Bragg; Commanding Officer, North Carolina Military District, Raleigh Building, Raleigh; US Army Recruiting Station, Post Office Building, Charlotte; US Army Recruiting Station, Depositors National Bank Building, Durham.

If Interested In National Guard See Marvin Hinson

The Greenville battery of the National Guard, officially known as Battery C, 6888th Central Postal Directory, North Carolina National Guard, is being activated at the Farmville station tomorrow in enlisting new members. Marvin Hinson, who serves as battery liaison officer, is attending the national convention of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen.

Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Johnson, Sr., left last week for a six week trip to California. Their destination was San Francisco where Mr. Johnson is attending the national convention of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen.

Mr. Johnson is a general clerk in the Greenville post office.

Mr. Johnson is a general clerk in the Greenville post office.

Here Are Some Extra Tips On Driving Tests

One of the tests which will probably be given to North Carolina drivers who are being reexamined during the next four years will be a road sign test. Road signs are divided into three general kinds and four individual sizes. The three types are: Regulatory, Warning and Guide.

Regulatory signs, which are fully enforced by law, regulate traffic at certain points on the highway and serve, at all times, as useful information concerning traffic conditions in any locality.

There are two divisions of regulatory signs: The eight-sided yellow sign means STOP. This octagonal sign does not mean slow down but STOP. After obeying this marker, the driver should look both ways carefully and then proceed slowly.

The other regulatory signs give speed limits, local rules, right turns and are white, upright oblongs that usually have black letters. Signs with red letters usually tell you not to park at any time or at the times stated. Green lettered signs usually tell how long to park or how to park.

The second important type of sign is the warning marker. Warning signs are extremely useful and call attention to dangers which may not be obvious. A warning sign should automatically put the driver on the alert, causing a reduction of speed and more cautious driving. Warning signs on strange roads at dusk are particularly helpful.

These signs are primarily of three kinds: the round railroad crossing sign, the slow sign and the caution sign. Round signs are a sure indication of railroad crossings. A large cross is painted on the round, yellow sign and the letters "R. R." can usually be found. Also at the crossing there may be a blinker light, a crossbar on a post, a flash, a zig-wag signal or crossing gates. Watch for these individual protection measures after you spot the round warning sign.

Diamond shaped signs mean reduce speed for there is some obstacle ahead which requires careful driving. Some of these have written messages while others have drawings to indicate what is ahead. For example, an "S" curve simply has a black "S" painted on the sign. When the road veers sharply, a pointing arrow may be found on one of these diamond-shaped yellow signs or the words "Winding Road" may be found spelled out.

A square yellow sign is a caution sign and is also the signal for reduced speed and careful driving. Such a sign may be placed to indicate a road crossing, men working or a school zone.

The third type, the Guide Signs, have various shapes and these direction markers, in addition to naming present road, may indicate distances to nearby towns.

After reading this article, you should be able to answer the following:

1. Name three types of signs.
2. What significance does the shape of a sign have?
3. What is the meaning of a square traffic control sign?
4. Name two places where square signs might be used.
5. What is the meaning of a round control sign?
6. Are round signs usually followed by individual protection devices?
7. What is the meaning of the diamond-shaped traffic control sign?
8. Would a diamond-shaped sign be found on a twisting road?
9. Does a eight-sided sign mean slow down or STOP?
10. Do guide signs have any definite shape or may they vary?

It must be remembered that sign shapes are vitally important to drivers. You should know instantly the meaning of octagonal signs, round signs, diamond-shaped signs and square signs.

The next article in this series of "What You Should Know in Order to Obtain a Driver's License in North Carolina" will be concerned with Road Rules and the last article in the series will be an explanation of safe-driving practices.

BURNETTE-ROUSE POST HAS INTERESTING MEETING

The Burnette-Rouse post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, had an excellent meeting Thursday night attended by more than 50 members who feasted in the hall on barbecue.

The discussion here for the evening was on the new traffic laws which will be in effect when the new license is issued.

Mr. Langley's invention is a simple little gadget, made of a polaroid product, which fits over the rear view mirror for night driving and is so constructed that it can conveniently be rolled out of the way when it is not needed. The view allows the driver to see the approaching car to be avoided, but the glare

Town Asking For Bids On Addition To Electric Plant

Supt. McAdams Finally Gets Plans Approved; August 15 Date Set For Commissioners To Open Bids

Another of the obstacles standing in the way of town officials charge, with enlarging the Farmville power plant was cleared several days ago when W. A. McAdams, superintendent of the water and light department, finally had plans for the new building approved. Mr. McAdams has been trying for some time to get specifications so contracts for the work could be let.

Contractors interested in submitting bids on the work, which will consist of a structural steel building with concrete base for the new generators, have until August 12th to file their bids with the Town Commissioners.

Funds for the expansion program were voted more than a year ago by Farmville citizens but strikes and a scarcity of materials have been responsible for much of the delay.

Board And Room Needed For Four Farmville Teachers

Last Minute Resignations By Faculty Members May Take Place Unless Living Quarters Obtained For Three Women, One Man

John B. Lewis, chairman of the Farmville school board, and Sam D. Bundy, superintendent of the school, are seeking board and room for four teachers, three women and one man, who have not yet been able to find satisfactory places to room and board.

According to the school officials, failure to find living quarters presents a serious problem and could result in last-minute resignations. It has been fairly easy to induce teachers to come to Farmville but once they have signed contracts it has been difficult to find places for them to stay.

An appeal is being made for local people to help out in this important matter. Anyone interested in providing board and room for teachers should get in touch with Mr. Lewis or Mr. Bundy.

Rapid Change Made In Farmville Faculty

Vacancy Created By Resignation Of First Grade Teacher Filled In Six Hours

A vacancy on the Farmville school faculty existed Friday for six hours. Miss Floribelle Garner of Newport, who has been teaching in the first grade, tendered her resignation in a letter which Supt. Sam Bundy received at 10 o'clock Friday morning. By 4 o'clock that afternoon, the vacancy had been filled by the election of Miss Antoinette Darden of Como.

A graduate of ECTC, Miss Darden has had teaching experience in Burgaw, Leggett and Ahoakie.

Bill Rasberry Gets Diploma From UNC

William (Bill) Rasberry, son of Mrs. C. H. Rasberry and the late Mr. Rasberry, received an A. B. degree in chemistry from the University of North Carolina at exercises held Tuesday, July 22, marking the end of the first summer school session.

A 1941 graduate of Farmville high school, he entered the University that year, where he studied until joining the Navy.

Bill is a member of Kappa Alpha social fraternity and was one of the 366 students on the dean's list for the spring quarter.

After spending the remainder of the summer here, he will enter the University of Pennsylvania dental school.

Farmville Man Patents Device to Aid Night Driving

The safety driving crusade now in progress in North Carolina has been given a helping hand by G. L. Langley, Farmville jeweler, who has recently obtained a patent on a night driving aid device that should materially reduce the chances of automobile accidents which result as drivers lose control of their cars when they become blinded by lights of vehicles approaching from the rear.

Mr. Langley's invention is a simple little gadget, made of a polaroid product, which fits over the rear view mirror for night driving and is so constructed that it can conveniently be rolled out of the way when it is not needed. The view allows the driver to see the approaching car to be avoided, but the glare

ATTEND BUFFALO MEETING

\$1.35 Tax Rate Adopted By Town Commissioners

Teachers' Meeting Held In Greenville

Home economic teachers of the eastern counties of North Carolina held their annual vocational home economics conference at Greenville July 21-25. Studying newer methods of presenting home improvement, foods, clothing and child development were 145 teachers in the public schools including Miss Ruth Parker of Farmville high school.

Visual aids and new equipment suitable for home economics departments were exhibited and demonstrated. Adult education for homemakers and the work of the Future Homemakers of America were discussed.

Mrs. Adelaide Bixton, director of the department of home economics at E. C. T. C., and Miss Mabel Lacy, faculty member at the college, were in charge of plans for the five-day session.

The opening session took place Monday afternoon at the Classroom building on the E. C. T. C. campus with President Dennis H. Cooke extending the welcome. Appearing on this initial program were Mrs. Bixton and Dr. Carl V. Gilbert, head of the music department.

Assisting with the conference were Misses Catherine Dennis, state supervisor of home economics education, Rose Mary Codell and Sarah Burton Jenkins and Mrs. Will Francis Sanders, assistant state supervisors of home economics, of Raleigh; and Miss Louise Lowe, field teacher trainer in home economics at the Woman's college, Greensboro.

MISSES MORRIS AND MOORE ARE LOCAL ENTRANTS IN WILSON TOBACCO FESTIVAL

Miss Betsy Morris, Farmville's contestant for queen of the North Carolina Tobacco Exposition and Festival to be held in Wilson August 14 and 15, and Miss Minnie Mae Moore, choice of the local Kiwanis club for Farmville's entrant in the festival bathing beauty contest, received instructions this week regarding their participation in the sixth annual program, which will include parades, contests, broadcasts and dances, and will doubtless surpass any of the other events held up to this time.

The contest for queen of the 1947 festival will be held at Wilson theater at 10:30, Thursday morning, August 14.

Miss Morris, Farmville's contestant, was graduated from Farmville high school this spring. She is the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leth Morris, Leth, who is connected with the tobacco industry here, is well known throughout footballdom as "Tarzan" and is an ardent enthusiast giving his support to the University of North Carolina.

Miss Morris is a talented young musician and a young lady of much personal charm. The festival bathing beauty queen will be selected at 5 o'clock at the Wilson municipal pool, Thursday afternoon, August 14.

Miss Moore, local entrant, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe H. Moore. She was graduated from Farmville high school, received her nursing degree from Rex hospital, Raleigh, and has studied at the Cleveland (Ohio) clinic hospital. For the past few months she has been associated with Dr. R. T. Williams.

She is an attractive and vivacious young woman and has already done outstanding work in her chosen vocation.

Watch these columns for further news of Farmville's contest entrants and the Wilson festival.

Commissioners In Short Session Set Tax Rate And Officially Adopt Budget; Street Committee Bargains For Trailer

Called together Monday night by Mayor J. W. Joyner for the special purpose of officially adopting a tax rate for the new fiscal year, the Board of Commissioners without argument or extended discussion officially approved the budget as tentatively adopted three weeks ago, providing for a rate of \$1.35, an increase of 25 cents per \$100-valuation over the 1946 rate.

That the rate would be increased was a foregone conclusion and the question had been thoroughly discussed by the executives in two July meetings. The amounts required for street improvements and expanding the power plant exceeded expectations and there was nothing else for the Commissioners to do except raise the rate since citizens had already voted to make the improvements for which the money is being used.

The only other item of official interest discussed at the special session had to do with the purchase of a tractor trailer which will be used by the street department in the collection of trash and garbage. It was the expressed opinion that the purchase of a trailer for use with the tractor now owned by the town would eliminate the necessity of purchasing another truck. The street committee was authorized to buy a trailer.

The board was also told that auditors had completed an annual audit of the town's books and would meet with the Commissioners Tuesday, Aug. 11.

Carolina Telephone Company Is Granted Increase In Rates

Business Phones Upped 75 Cents And Residential Users Will Pay 50 Cents Per Month More On One-And-Two-Party Lines

Farmville business people or one- and two-party lines will pay 75 cents and \$1 per month more than heretofore for telephone service while rates for residential phones have been upped 50 cents per month on one- and two-party lines as the result of rate increases granted the Carolina Telephone and Telegraph company by the State Utilities Commission. The new rates will become effective August 26, the start of a new billing month for the telephone company. There have been no increases in multi-party or rural lines.

Rate expert Edgar Wamble of the Utilities Commission stated that the increases were made necessary by the greatly increased cost of materials, supplies and labor, especially the several wage increases, the last of which went into effect in May and on an annual basis will amount to \$170,000.

Officials of the company are calling attention to the fact that rates for Farmville have been less than they were in 1935, although the number of telephones has more than doubled. For instance, in 1935 Farmville had 286 phones; in 1947, the town has 614.

From now on, rates on one-party business lines in Farmville will be \$4.25, an increase of \$1.00; two-party lines have been upped from \$2.75 to \$3.50. The charge for residential users will be \$2.50 for one-party lines and \$2.00 for two-party lines. These represent an increase of 50 cents. In Fountain, business one-party phones will be \$3.50, an increase of 25 cents. Business two- and four-party lines remain the same, \$2.75 and \$3.00 respectively. Residential phones have been increased 25 cents to \$2.25 and \$1.75 for one- and two-party lines respectively.

The telephone company has headquarters in Tarboro and serves almost 66,000 subscribers.

Special Tobacco Program Will Be Given Saturday

In an effort to inform the tobacco farmers of the Carolina and Virginia just what type of tobacco to market to make the top dollar this year, WTTA's "Farm Magazine" of the Aie broadcast for August 2, will feature a round-table discussion of this vital subject by top men in the tobacco industry.

Participants will be W. Z. Hedrick, executive secretary of the N. C. Tobacco Advisory Council, representing the commercial buyers and manufacturers of tobacco; J. Con Lanier, general counsel for the Tobacco Association of the U. S., and for the Export Leaf Dealers Association; E. Y. Floyd, secretary of Tobacco Association, and Dr. W. E. Caldwell, in charge of tobacco research at the N. C. Experiment Station. Ed Lanier, WTTA's farm program director, will act as moderator.

The broadcast will be held at 11 o'clock Saturday.