



**SANTA AT UPCHURCH** -- Santa Claus stopped by Upchurch Junior High School Monday morning for a pre-Christmas visit with the students of the three trainable multihandicapped classes. He is shown here with the students and their helpers. The students are in classes taught by Mrs. Carolyn Pagan, Mrs. Gwen Reeves, and Mrs. Janice Brock. [Staff photo].

## Jeter Retiring From Conservation News Job

Frank H. Jeter, Jr., of Raleigh, since 1970 Public Information Officer for the Soil Conservation Service in North Carolina, will retire from federal service Christmas Eve.

Jeter, 63, was a longtime North Carolina newspaperman before entering federal service in the early 1960's. He worked as a reporter, editorial writer, editor and publisher in Goldsboro, Greensboro, Forest City, and Fayetteville, and owned the *Spring Lake Times* prior to joining the U.S. Department of Agriculture as a public information specialist in Washington.

In his present assignment, he has been responsible for conservation news coverage for SCS in

newspapers, magazines, radio and television. He also prepared publications and wrote speeches. Since reporting to Raleigh in July 1970, he has been the official photographer for the North Carolina Press Association—a connection he will continue.

Jeter has also made plans to handle assignments for several agricultural and general circulation magazines "but I plan to work less than full-time" he explained. In recent years, he has written or co-authored more than sixty magazine stories each year, in addition to

newspaper stories and broadcast material.

No successor has been announced for the Soil Conservation Service information post.

Jeter's father for many years served as director of agricultural information for the North Carolina State University Agricultural Extension Service, providing information for newspapers, radio and television stations about what Extension was doing to help the farmers and what individual farmers were doing with the Extension help to help themselves.

## Churches' Choruses To Sing At Depot

On December 21, 22 and 23 the Raeford Merchants Association will be hosting local singing groups at the depot outdoors on Main

Street for the public to enjoy.

Hoping to provide simply a warm and meaningful atmosphere to the town during this Christmas season, the Association has arranged for several performances.

The Evangelical Methodist Church of Raeford will be performing with 30 voices on Monday, December 21, and will offer a portion of their Christmas Cantata, "An Old Fashioned Christmas," at 7 p.m. This same performance is scheduled at their church location on Green Street at 7:30 p.m. December 23.

Choral presentations are also scheduled for Tuesday, December 22, at 7:30 p.m. by Victory Temple Pentecostal Holiness Church, and on December 23 at 8 p.m. by First Baptist Church of Raeford.

The public is invited to attend.

# Reversible Drainage Key To Total Water Management

by Sam Warren  
District Conservationist  
A serious problem faces Americans today as ponds and residential wells dry up indicating diminishing ground water.

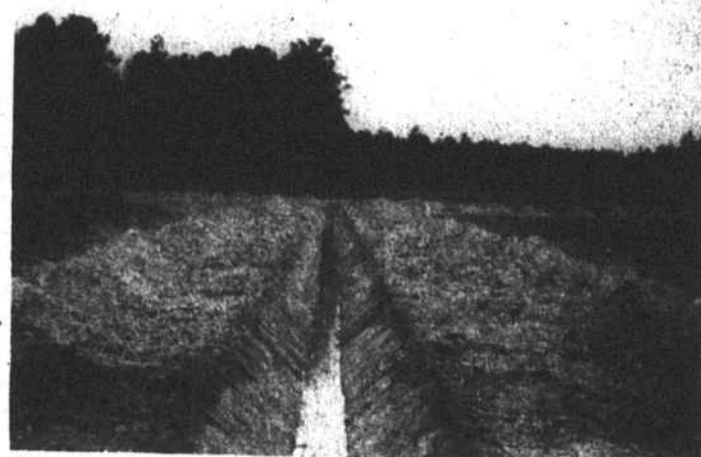
Recent dry spells worsen the situation and heavy prolonged rainfall would only provide a temporary solution. Geologists say that during our lifetime, "usable" water will become as precious as oil and irreplaceable.

The American farmer along with industry and residential high volume water users will need to take measures now to conserve water supplies for food and fiber production. Agriculture is on the threshold of proper water utilization and conservation measures termed "Total Water Management."

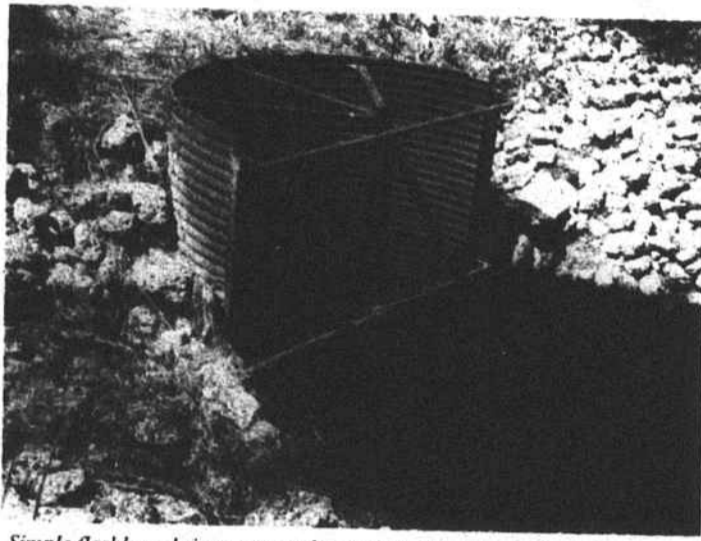
Past practice on wet fields has been to remove water in a rapid and complete manner with ditch and tile systems. In many cases, this removal is too rapid and complete, allowing millions of gallons of this precious resource to escape unutilized to our oceans.

There are new drainage methods already used by South Carolina and many other states. These systems termed "C.A.R.D.S." short for "Controlled and Reversible Drainage Systems" manage water through a combination of retaining runoff water and soil water table levels, metering water allowed through outlet structures, and reversing water back through ditch and tile systems. These systems won't work in every situation but it does have potential on over a million acres of North Carolina's croplands.

With economic situation as is, most farmers can't afford expensive irrigation systems. C.A.R.D.S. permits subsurface irrigation with existing drainage systems at a fraction of the cost.



Flat grade ditches in bays work well with C.A.R.D.S. system with outlet control structures.



Simple flashboard riser to control water flow through outlet and water table in field.

### Comparison of Subirrigation vs Sprinkler Irrigation

- Pros**
1. Utilizes rainwater
  2. Pump water only to supplement retained rainwater.
  3. Most efficient use of pumped water - less evaporation and runoff.
  4. Low pressure - low energy pumping is required.
  5. Reduces nutrient leaching.
  6. Uses soil for rainwater storage.
  7. Far less investment per unit of yield increase.
  8. No irrigation runoff causing erosion.
  9. Low level of labor required.

- Cons**
1. Requires uniform topography.
  2. Requires near flat drainage grades.
  3. Requires water control structures in outlets that may be a hassle in a storm situation.
  4. Requires high level of water table management.
  5. May be low drainage time following storms.
  6. For "optimum" level of irrigation requires 25% more tile (closer spacing).

The key to this system is partially stopping the runoff water in spring after land preparation and planting. By maintaining springtime water tables (1-2 feet of soil surface) we use soil storage to hold rains that we normally allow to escape. In most cases - nine years of ten - this soil storage supplemented with some rainfall will be adequate to get the crop over-the-hump during summer dry spells without additional pumping, therefore, optimizing yields and net returns.



At banquet: L-R. Bishop and Mrs. Robert Douglas, and Pastor of Rockfish Grove and Assistant Pastor Minister Vera Hollingsworth.

## Community Brotherhood Holds Banquet

The annual Banquet of the Community Brotherhood was held Sunday evening at Western Steak House in Fayetteville.

The speaker, Minister Atkinson, gave an inspiring talk on brotherly love.

The Community Brotherhood would like to thank everyone who contributed their time and donations to help the Brotherhood complete another successful year.

The officers and other members wish each and everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The officers are: president -- Dec. L. Graham; vice president -- Elder T. Adams; secretary -- Dec. P. Dockery; vice secretary -- Brother S. McIntosh; treasurer -- Dec. E. Everette; and program adv. -- Brother J. Peterkin, Jr.

## Students Write About Teachers

by Holly Hobson  
Teachers are people, too  
My teacher helps me learn. She is a very nice teacher to me.

Both of my teachers are pretty. They give me a pencil to write with. My teachers help us spell our word. She tells me how to make my banks. Both of my teachers help me write. My teacher gives us tests. She lets us have a play. Both of my teachers have to tell us over and over to be quiet. I think Mrs. Rose and Mrs. Tew are the nicest teachers I ever had. I know they are my best teachers I ever had. My teachers work very hard. Both of my teachers have to do

work. My teacher helps people learn not to play and not to be grumpy. My teacher has to help 26 people learn to write neat. My teacher gives us easy work to do. She expects you to be quiet, not to be loud.

by Anthony McGregor  
Teachers are people, too  
A teacher helps in many different ways. She helps when you don't understand. She helped me with work. She is a wonderful teacher. We help her do things. She tells us things we need to know.

Join Us For Christmas Dinner  
**THIS SUNDAY**  
11:30 - 2:00  
**WAGON WHEEL RESTAURANT**  
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Image of Santa Claus

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