

4-H Homemaking Projects Rank High In Club Activities

"With more than a million homemaking projects being undertaken, 4-H girls are putting the 1949 theme 'Better Living for a Better World' into action," declared Guy L. Noble, director of the National Committee on boys and Girls Club Work. North Carolina girls carried 41,000 of these projects, and accepted the challenge to report good records of work well done in 1949, according to Mr. Noble.

Clothing, canning, home improvement, home grounds beautification, garden and poultry are among the activities considered in the National 4-H Girls Record award program. In addition to learning the job of homemaking, the girls come to know the basic principles for happy family relationships and community responsibility. The Cooperative Extension Service supervises the program.

For over a quarter of a century, Montgomery Ward has rewarded girls whose accomplishments in this contest have been outstanding. Six national scholarships of \$300 each—in place of the usual \$200—will be given this year. An all-expense trip to the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago will again be provided for winners in each of the 45 States participating, and for county winners, a gold-filled medal of honor. 4-H girls in Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico also enroll in the contest, and champions receive a \$100 U. S. savings bond.

For the 1948 record judged best in North Carolina, Lota Harrison of Old Trap, was awarded to the 4-H Club Congress. There were 49 county medal winners named.

Fate Plays Small Part In Accidents

"The tragic part of any accident is that Fate has so little to do with it and the individual so much," Commissioner Landon C. Rosser of the Department of Motor Vehicles says in connection with North Carolina's current campaign to emphasize the individual's responsibility for traffic safety.

"Drivers in nearly three-fourths of all fatal accidents in 1947, for instance, were violating some traffic regulation at the time, as were three out of four pedestrians who were victims of fatal accidents."

Personal responsibility and the fact that "It Can Happen to You," Commissioner Rosser pointed out, is the theme of the traffic safety educational program being sponsored by the Motor Vehicles Department during April. "Your Life Is In Your Hands" is the official slogan of the program which is part of the national campaign sponsored by the National Safety Council.

"Most accidents go back," Commissioner Rosser said, "to the unfortunate fact that Man is still his own worst enemy, and that a traffic fool is everyone's enemy."

"Traffic accidents cost North Carolina 734 lives last year in addition to 7,490 injuries," he said. "With a little more thought, or care, or both, most of these accidents would have not occurred. Every individual must take responsibility for his own safety, must assume that, potentially, every life around him is in his hands."

The current drive, Commissioner Rosser said, offers everyone the opportunity to save at least one life, his own. After all, the "other guy," the mysterious victim of so many accidents, might be YOU.

Small Fruits Offer Golden Opportunity

Growing of small fruits offers North Carolina farm families a "golden opportunity" to improve their diets and obtain extra income from their land, says H. R. Niswonger, in charge of horticulture extension at State College.

Niswonger says only a small proportion of farm families are now growing such crops as strawberries, dewberries, blueberries, and raspberries. All of these except raspberries, which do best in the mountains, can be grown in almost every section of the State. Muscadine grapes, best adapted to non-mountainous areas, bunch grapes, which can be grown in all sections, also offer good possibilities.

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Small fruits will enable families to enjoy jams, jellies, and juices for everyday use and will aid greatly in balancing the diet, the horticulturist asserts.

If labor is available, suitably located families may sell their fruits through a roadside market and thus develop a new source of farm income, Niswonger points out. Or the fruits, along with vegetables, flowers, poultry and dairy products, may be sold through curb markets which are located in many towns and cities. Families growing all of the fruits, including grapes, will have produce to market in succession from early summer to early autumn.

Another possibility is offered by freezer locker plants all over North Carolina, asserts Niswonger. These plants enable farm families to freeze their surplus production for use during periods when fresh fruit is not available. Managers of locker plants are anxious to buy good locally grown strawberries, dewberries, and raspberries in order to freeze them for their city patrons. Many city housewives, however, like to do their own preparing or use the berries for fresh consumption.

Control Of Root-Knot Discussed In Bulletin

A new bulletin on root-knot, a summer vegetable disease which is caused by microscopic eelworms or nematodes, has just been published by the State College Extension Service.

The publication was prepared by Dr. D. E. Ellis, associate professor of plant pathology for the Agricultural Experiment Station, who says root-knot causes a loss of at least \$1,000,000 in North Carolina gardens every year. Damage from the disease, Ellis says, includes the abandonment of many garden sites and the loss of thousands of bushels of fresh vegetables each year.

"Much of this loss is needless because highly effective and practical methods for combating nematodes have been developed," the pathologist declares.

The effects of root-knot are familiar to most gardeners. The most striking symptom is the conspicuous swellings or galls on the roots. These galls soon rot, new root growth is retarded or prevented, and the plant cannot obtain sufficient water and mineral salts for normal growth. Severely affected plants are stunted, frequently wilt on hot summer days, and eventually may be killed. Plants less seriously affected may survive but have a sickly appearance and yield poorly.

Control measures, says Ellis, include early planting of vegetable crops, rotation of crops on two or more garden sites, and treating the soil with chemicals which are known to be effective in controlling the root-knot nematode. Complete information on soil-treatment materials is given in a table on the back page of the circular.

AAA Auto Races At Charlotte June 5th

The first program of AAA big car auto races to be presented anywhere in the Carolinas this year will be staged at the Southern States Fairgrounds, Charlotte, Sunday, June 5, it is announced at Charlotte headquarters.

Dr. J. S. Dorton, manager and secretary at the Southern States Fair, disclosed that the fairgrounds opening would be directed by Sam Nunis Speedways. Among numerous other state and sectional events, Nunis annually conducts AAA races at the Southern States Fair.

Among the "name" chauffeurs already singled out for the Charlotte entries are Tommy Hinnerhitz of Reading, Pa., and "Spider" Webb from Dayton, Ohio. Both pilots are of champion calibre, Hinnerhitz being top driver of the East Coast AAA ranks, and Webb reigning supreme in the Midwest. The Readingite was runnerup to the late Ted Horn in last year's standings.

Seven events on the program will be capped by a 25-lap championship sweepstakes.

Improved Barns Cut Down Curing Cost

Many North Carolina tobacco farmers could save more than one-third on their curing fuel bill by improving their barns and their curing methods, says R. M. Ritchie, Jr., agricultural engineer for the State College Extension Service.

Defective barns and outdated methods are causing the waste of several million dollars worth of fuel in the State each year, Ritchie asserts.

The biggest fuel thief in curing, says the State College specialist, is excess ventilation and too much air moving through the barn at times during the cure when very little air is needed. This wasted heat can be saved by stopping up air leaks in the barn and by using a controlled ventilating system.

All holes at eaves and gable ends should be closed. If a considerable amount of air leaks through the walls, they should be covered with some material which will stop the leaks.

Ventilation during the cure should be obtained by means of a ridge ventilator which can be closed tightly when not needed. Bottom ventilation, if needed, is best obtained by a large number of small holes well distributed around the foundation.

A well-built barn can cure tobacco economically without the addition of insulation. However, insulation will save some fuel in all barns. Over a number of years insulation will pay for itself in any barn, particularly in one that is poorly built. Several forms of insulation are available.

Farmers interested in improving their tobacco barns may obtain complete information from Extension Circulars 316 and 322. These publications may be obtained free from the

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county agent or by writing the Agricultural Editor, State College Station, Raleigh.

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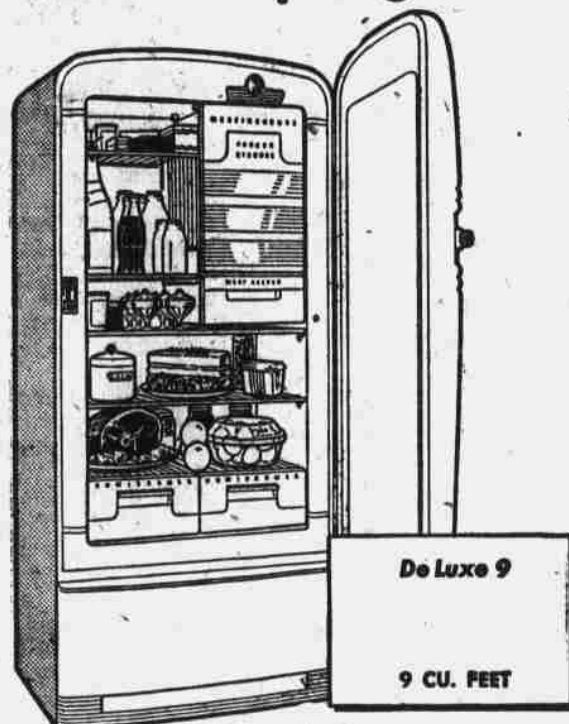
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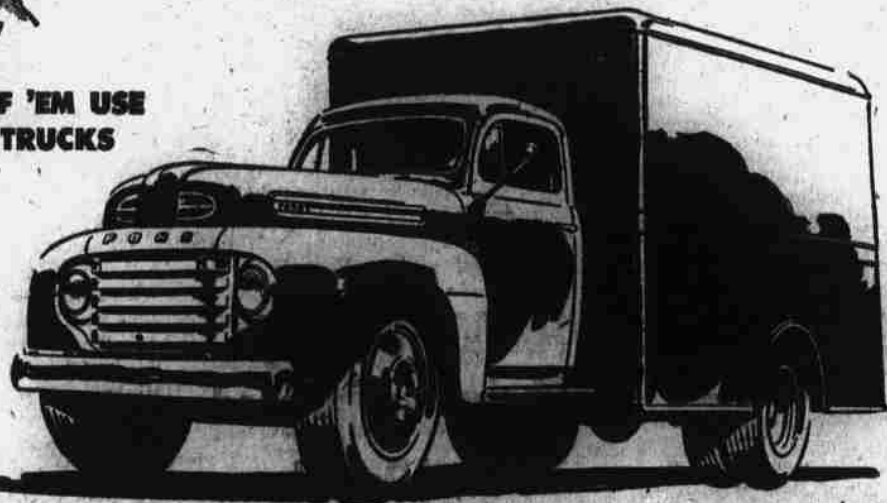
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