

## County Benefits In Road Program

Perquimans County has benefitted considerably, during the past 16 months, from the road program being carried out under the supervision of the State Highway Commission.

A comparison of reports issued by the Commission reveals that during this past 16-month-period Perquimans County has had a greater number of miles of highway paved, widened or resurfaced than during any recent three-year period.

Projects completed or scheduled during this period called for 74.2 miles of roads in the county to be improved.

During the period from January 1, 1949 until September 30, 1952, which was a period during which the Commission was carrying out an extensive program on secondary roads, Perquimans County had 42 miles of highways paved, widened or resurfaced. An additional 16 miles was scheduled for completion prior to January 1, 1953.

Resurfacing projects, expected to be carried out in the very near future include the re-paving of Church and Edenton Road Streets in Hertford and the resurfacing of N. C. Route 33 from the causeway, north of Hertford, via Winfall and Belvidere to the Chowan-Perquimans county line.

### SOIL CONSERVATION NOTES

A. T. Lane recently had one of his lead ditches enlarged and cut to grade with a dragline. Mr. Lane reports that he can tell a difference now in the way the water gets off after a rain. He is trying some sericea lespedeza on the side slopes of the ditch as a vegetative cover to help prevent slopes from eroding.

A. H. Edwards had several of his top ditches enlarged and cut to grade with a backup blade on a bulldozer. Mr. Edwards has set out some Bicolor lespedeza and several Sericea lespedeza on some sloping land around the edge of his fields to prevent erosion and to provide food for quail.

Ditching has about come to a stop now due to crops in the fields, but several farmers are planning to start construction on ditches as soon as they can get crops harvested from fields this fall.

J. M. Fleetwood, Jr., is planning to complete his farm pond this summer. He is planning to dig a deep ditch from his pond to near his buildings to provide a water supply in case of a fire.

### SPIVEY FAMILY REUNION

The family of Mrs. R. L. Spivey celebrated Mother's Day at a family reunion at the cottage of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Clark on Perquimans River.

### CATHOLIC SERVICES

On the first Sunday in every month first mass is in Palace Theatre, Windsor, at 8 A. M. Also mass at 10 A. M., on that Sunday in St. Ann's Church, Edenton, stated Father John Beshel, pastor. All other Sunday masses in Edenton will be at 9 A. M., and 7:30 A. M., on week-days, he said.

### Futile

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## DEPENDABILITY



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## High Yield Important In Producing Yams

This year's North Carolina sweet potato acreage is expected to be about the same as last year. Prices received by farmers at harvest will remain about the same also, says Henry Covington, horticulture specialist for the State College Extension Service.

Covington says that for farmers to make a "reasonable profit" they must pay particular attention to farming practices so they will produce high yields of U. S. No. 1 potatoes, or better.

"It costs almost as much to produce and market an acre with a low yield as one with a high yield," says Covington. "Recent field records show that it costs \$1.25 per bushel to produce and deliver sweet potatoes to the market if the field was 180 bushels per acre. At the same time it costs \$1.86 per bushel if the yield was only 100 bushels per acre (state average)."

Covington recommends the following: 1. Use highly productive, well-drained, sandy loam soils. Avoid coarse sandy or dark, heavy, poorly drained soils. 2. Rotation is also important—the best crops to follow are cotton and corn. Avoid following spring planted truck crops such as Irish potatoes and also legumes such as lespedeza, soybeans, peas, and alfalfa. 3. Use rows 3 1/2 feet wide or as near that as mechanical equipment will permit. 4. Have your soil tested—if you must guess, use 1,200 pounds of 3-9-9 fertilizer per acre (in eastern North Carolina) in the row and mix it thoroughly with the soil before ridging. 5. Make ridges high (13-14 inches) and broad. One secret in sweet potato growing is high ridges. Many farmers make the mistake of starting potatoes on a low ridge and during cultivation gradually develop a high ridge.

Spacing plants in the row is also very important if high yields are to be obtained. For a fall harvested crop, it should vary between eight and 12 inches depending upon planting date. Average recommendations are, if planted May 15 or earlier, eight inch spacing; if May 15 to June 1, eight-10 inches; and from June 10 to June 30, 12 inches. It is not recommended that potatoes be planted after July 1. 7. Use healthy, vigorous plants—discard the small, weak, slender-stemmed ones. To reduce scurf and black rot, and also improve shape of the potatoes produced from early set plants, cut the stems of the plants above ground rather than pulling them. With or without roots, use plenty of water when setting in the field.

## Says Storage Of Eggs Influences Hatchability

The hatching egg business in North Carolina goes on the year 'round and one of the problems of producers and hatcherymen alike is that of maintaining a high rate of hatchability.

R. S. Dearstyne, head of the department of poultry science at N. C. State College, says many things go to make a high rate of hatchability. Inheritance and individual characteristics of birds, the diet, management practices, all are important. But there is another important factor—the care and storage eggs receive until they are placed in the incubators.

Dearstyne explains that when hot weather sets in, maintaining a suitable temperature and humidity for eggs is a real problem. This is especially true in Eastern North Carolina where the water table is high and where it is difficult to construct an egg-holding room six to eight feet below ground level.

The best temperature for holding hatching eggs is from 45 to 55 degrees, says Dearstyne. Fertile eggs start to germinate at about 70 degrees. The relative humidity should be about 75 per cent.

As suitable below-ground egg-holding rooms are difficult to construct in Eastern North Carolina some other

approach becomes necessary. At the Willard Test Farm in Pender County researchers have solved the problem. They built, for less than \$300, an insulated egg-holding room with suitable cooling machinery. During the hot summer months last year the

room proved its value. It is 7 1/2 by 10 by 8 feet and holds 20 cases of eggs.

Education makes a people easy to lead, but difficult to drive; easy to govern, but impossible to enslave.

Henry Broughman.



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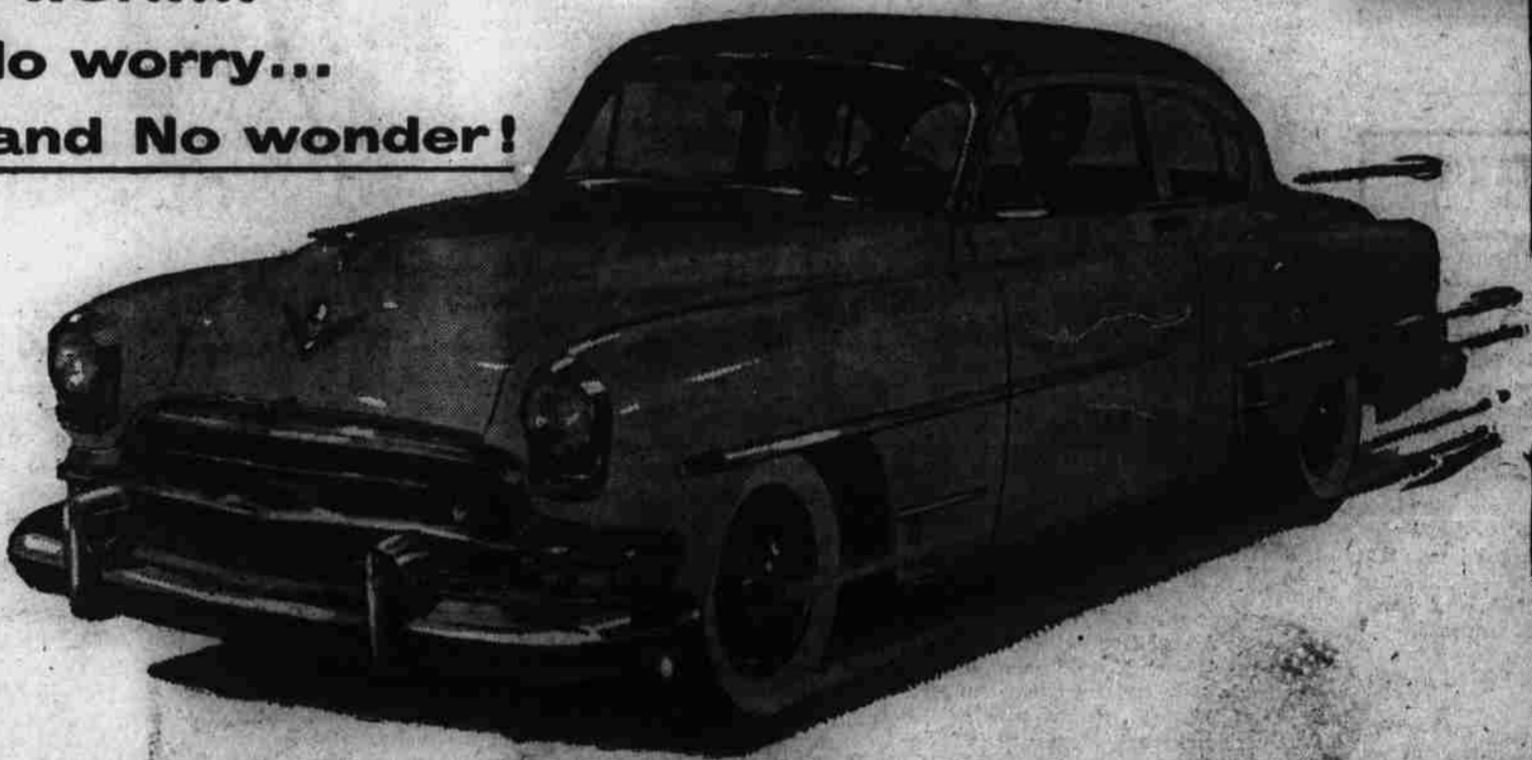
By order of the Town Council, in regard to 1953 delinquent taxes in Hertford will be a June 11, 1954.

The sale of the same will be held on May 12th. Please make settlement now and save costs of advertising.

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