

The Foothills View

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1983

BOILING SPRINGS NC

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Slim Pickings For Cattle Feed

'Worst
In Memory'
—Brooks
Piercy

Pete White had a cornfield on Patrick Avenue in Boiling Springs that was, in the spring, the joy of cornfield-lovers all around. This week, after more than two months of baking sun and nearly no rain, White and relatives cut the field for silage. An occasional ear and a few scattered grains lay between the rows, but as a grain crop the field was a major loss.

"It made about a fourth of what it should have," said Pete White's nephew Bobby, "but it's better than nothing." The Whites will use the crop for cattle feed.

Brooks Piercy, who deals in farm equipment at C.J. Hamrick's store in Boiling Springs, has just come back from a John Deere dealers' meeting in Wisconsin. "Up in the part of Wisconsin where we were, up above Milwaukee, they had beautiful corn, beautiful alfalfa," Piercy says. But the picture other places he's been recently is



SILAGE FROM THE RUINS

Bob White cuts silage from a cornfield on Patrick Avenue that started large and ended small.

about as bleak as ours, he says. "I was in Shelbyville, Tennessee at a walking horse meet, and everybody was talking about it there, how dry it's been. It's bad in the mountains. The only places where there's any corn is in the bottoms. Around Hendersonville, they've had a little."

Roadside merchants in the

mountains say that people watch for the corn truck to come in, and it's gone as fast as it's unloaded.

Hay also is in short supply, Piercy says. "Nobody's got any to cut. Some cattlemen have got some stored from last year. But some are going to be short." The prospect is that feed will have to

be shipped in; in bad times it comes from Wisconsin, Michigan, even from Canada. "It can be brought in in a truck in a couple of days," Piercy notes. "But it's high."

It is, says Piercy, and others in farm-related businesses, the worst summer in modern memory.

Half Price At Fair For 65 And Older

The annual Cleveland County Fair will open on Friday, September 30 for a nine-day run. General admission tickets are \$2.50 for adults, 50¢ for children 6 to 12, and children under 6 are admitted free. Parking is free. All public school children in this section will receive one free ticket which may be used on either of the designated school days (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday); also they will receive a ticket which will enable them to purchase a student ticket at the gate for one-half

price which may be used on any one day of the fair.

Fair Manager Joe Goforth has announced that senior citizens, ages 65-74, will be admitted to the fairgrounds every day for one-half price, and those 75 years of age and over will be admitted free.

An outstanding grandstand program has been lined up for the 1983 fair. The North Carolina Tractor Pull Association will present a Tractor Pull at 7:30 p.m. on October 1, and again at 2:00 p.m. on October 2.

A Demolition Derby is scheduled for 7:30 on September 30 and on October 3. The Christy Lane Show will be presented at 7:30 p.m. on October 4. The Joie Chitwood Thrill Show is scheduled for 8:00 p.m. on October 5 and 6. Championship High School Rodeo will be presented at 7:30 p.m. on October 7 and 8th.

Jimmy Green's Variety Show (Sponsored by Coca-Cola Bottling Company Consolidated of Shelby) will be presenting two free performances daily, at 7:00

p.m. and 9:00 p.m. There will be free admission to the grandstand on October 2 at 8:00 p.m. for a big gospel sing. The Best Bread fireworks displays will be a free attraction in the grandstand at 10:00 p.m. on October 3, 4, 5 and 6th.

The fair will again have the fine exhibits of agriculture, livestock, arts and crafts, home demonstration clubs, 4-H clubs, school booths, etc. Goforth stated that anyone needing information about entering an exhibit should telephone 487-0651.

Ralph Thomas: Cook, Father, "Good Mom"

Ralph Thomas died Monday night after a heart attack suffered at his Boiling Springs home. He was 63.

Born in Mecklenburg County on June 3, 1920, Thomas was brought to Cleveland County as a small child, and grew up in the Shoal Creek Community, where he went to the Old Camp School.

He was retired from Cone Mills, at Cliffside. Married to the former Eunice C. Baxter, he was the father of seven and grandfather of 13. As a young man, he had served in the U.S. Army and was trained as a chef. His children remember him as an excellent cook, who found great pleasure in serving fine meals to his family.

"He was a good old man, my daddy," says his daughter Willie Mae Little.

A member of Maple Springs Baptist Church, Thomas will be buried there in the churchyard after services at 4 p.m. Friday, conducted by Rev. Robert L. Dover.

Raised an only child himself, he is survived by six daughters, Willie Mae Little, Loretta Brewton, and Mattie Moore, all of Shelby; Carrie Battle of Mooresboro, and Veronica Thomas and Carolyn Thomas of Boiling Springs; one son, Ralph James Thomas Jr. of Boiling Springs, and his wife, Mrs. Eunice Thomas, of the home on West College Avenue.

Enloe Mortuary is in charge of arrangements.

Extension Looking For Crafty Residents

Residents of Cleveland, Burke, McDowell, Polk and Rutherford counties are invited by the county extension service to participate in a craft workshop. The workshop will be held at the Rutherford County Office Building in Rutherfordton, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Eight classes will be taught by area craftsmen: baskets (an egg basket will be made), fabric pain-

ting, pine cone creations (a 15" wreath will be made), quilted hoop hanging, rug hooking, sculptured lamp shades, stained glass and stenciling.

There will be a \$3.00 registration fee and a fee to cover materials. For further information and to pre-register, call the Extension Office at 482-4365. Registration deadline is August 31.

Wall Street Meets Cleveland Tech

Cleveland Tech's Continuing Education Department announces a course entitled Investments and Securities to be taught by Collis Townsend. The course will deal with the stock market and its current problems and prospects. Participants will gain an understanding of the New York Stock Exchange and learn how to invest and why.

The course will begin Thursday, Sept. 8, 1983 at 6:30 p.m. and meet once a week for 11 weeks at Thomson McKinnon Securities, Inc. at 208 E. Warren Street. Persons 18 years or older may register for a \$10 fee. Anyone age 65 and older may register free. For additional information please contact Tech at 484-4015.

Dove Hunters Cautioned To Beware Baited Fields

Dove hunters enjoying the season's hunt are cautioned to avoid shooting in a baited field, stated a state wildlife spokesman.

"Many sportsmen and farmers are confused by what constitutes a baited dove field," said Gene Abernethy, chief of the Division of Enforcement of the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission. "Distributing salt or corn and other grains in a field for the purpose of attracting doves is considered baiting, and it is illegal to hunt doves in a baited area. Also, baited fields are closed to hunting for 10 days after the bait has been removed because doves will continue to visit the area out of force of habit. However, many normal agricultural practices are very attractive to doves, and are not considered baiting—and farmers may use these practices to improve dove hunting on their farms. As long as a normal agricultural practice is being followed, it is legal to hunt doves in that area. If landowners are attracting doves to an area with methods that are not considered normal agricultural practices, then the area is considered to be

baited—and hunting is illegal. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which prohibits baiting of migratory game birds (including doves,) offers the following guidelines on what constitutes baiting and normal agriculture practices."

—It is legal to hunt in an area where wheat has been top sown (the seed is scattered evenly on top of a prepared or unprepared seedbed, and the seed may or may not be covered with soil) because this is a normal agricultural practice for this crop. Normal planting rates must be followed—a bushel-and-a-half of wheat seed per acre is considered average—and information on planting rates is available from county extension offices. It is also legal to hunt in an area where wheat has been planted in the fall because this is a normal agricultural practice for this crop. It is illegal, however, to hunt in an area where several wheat crops have been planted in quick succession—say every several days on the same piece of ground—because this is not a normal agricultural practice, and would be con-

sidered baiting.

It is illegal to hunt in an area where sunflowers and millet have been top sown—or planted in the fall—because these are not normal agricultural practices for these crops.

It is legal to hunt in areas where portions of crops are being harvested throughout the dove season because this is considered a normal agricultural practice. For example, many farmers harvest strips of corn in fields during the dove season, and these newly harvested areas offer excellent dove hunting. Planting the newly harvested strips with wheat would also be considered a normal agricultural practice. However, it would be illegal to hunt if corn or millet were added to the field because this is not a normal agricultural practice for these crops.

For more information on dove hunting regulations, a pamphlet entitled "Dove Hunting The Right Way" is available from the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, Division of Wildlife Management, 512 N. Salisbury St., Raleigh, N.C. 27611.

The Inevitable Offspring Kudzu Making Trouble

The flowers that bloom in the fall, Tral-La, bring promise of terrible vines. Garlanded now with tassels of purple blooms, sweet-smelling as grape lollipops, this kudzu bower on College Road is making plans for its inevitable offspring. Its children will blanket all these fields, it says; they will smother crops, devour pastures (and cattle, some are sure.) They will make heaven for snakes, and steal small children, and make pitfalls of quarries and ponds. They will thrive, one writer noted, on motor oil for fertilizer and poured cement for mulch. They will put down roots in solid rock. And lo, though a backhoe pass over them, they shall not be moved.

