Page Two

Ford

Garden Time

Story of Green Leaf **Explained By Expert**

in

the

turned the leaves brown

before color development

reached the maximum

stage of beauty. In our

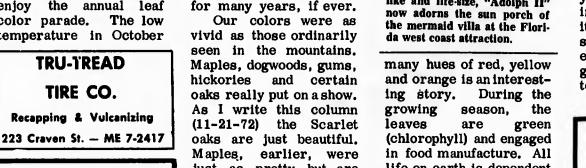
area, this same low tem-

perature triggered the

finest display I have seen

By M. E. Gardner N. C. State University

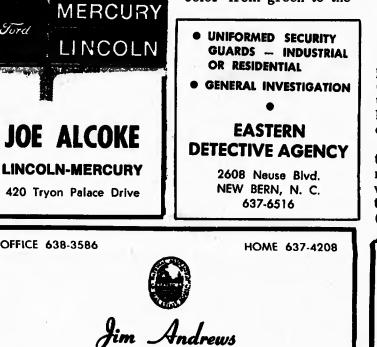
It was not necessary for people in the lower Piedmont and Coastal Plain to travel to the mountains this year to enjoy the annual leaf color parade. The low temperature in October



mountains

just as pretty but are now naked and ready for their rest period and dormancy. The change in leaf

color from green to the



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LOOK MOM, NO SADDLE! ... Mermaid Diane Gray amuses spectators as she breaks in new dolphin "prop" between shows in the underwater theatre at Florida's Weeki Wachee. Lifelike and life-size, "Adolph II"

life on earth is dependent upon the green leaf because the leaf is the source of food and fiber to support our daily lives and that of our animals -flowers, fruits, vegetables, grains, grasses, seeds, wood, gum, resins and many other plant products. Leaves are of enormous importance to us, quite apart from their beauty or diversity of coloring.

In the summer, when they are green and manufacturing plant food, we are not conscious of the many other colors (pigments) that are also

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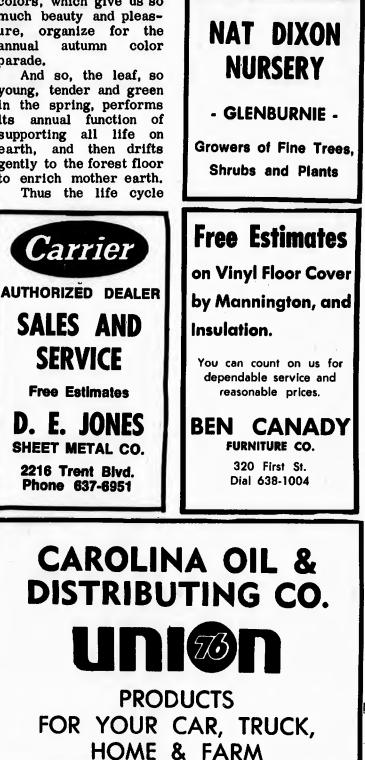
present in the leaf. In the fall when the days become shorter and the temperature cooler, the manufacturing processes slow down and the production of chlorophyll is reduced. This continues until the green color disappears and the other colors, which give us so much beauty and pleasure, organize for the autumn color annual parade.

And so, the leaf, so young, tender and green in the spring, performs its annual function of supporting all life on earth, and then drifts gently to the forest floor to enrich mother earth. Thus the life cycle

Friday, February 9, 1973

of the leaf is completed but the energy stored in the roots, stems and seeds of plants will renew the cycle in the spring.

The integrity of men is to be measured by their conduct, not by their professions.-Junius.



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