

# Farmers In Southeastern North Carolina Re-Seeding Tobacco Beds

**FARM ACTIVITIES IN PENDER TOLD**

**Demonstrations And Meetings Scheduled Throughout Week**

(By The Star)

BERGAW, Feb. 23.—In order to take full advantage of the best of the new seedling unit, demonstrations and meetings are being conducted throughout the county.

The county agent, and the county farm agent, are given on the products used to an advantage in the cold storage unit.

The new seedling unit, built and op-

erated on a cooperative basis by the farmers of Pender county has been in operation approximately one month. Rich said, and is the greatest project the farmers of this county have undertaken.

County Agent Rich estimated a loss of \$100,000 to the county's lettuce crop due to the freezing temperatures. The strawberry crop of Pender has also been damaged a great deal by the red spider insects, he said.

The Pender county 4-H club boys have been engaged in a corn producing project for the past month in an attempt to produce 100 bushels of corn per acre by the use of hybrid seed, proper fertilization and cultivation. The Lions club and the Chamber of Commerce are offering prizes to the county champion in the project.

The annual meeting of the Four County Electric Membership Corporation is to be held in the Bergaw school auditorium on Tuesday, Feb. 25 at 10 a. m. Hon. J. Melvin Broughton is to be the principal speaker.

## Sampson County Taking Precaution After Cold

(Special To The Star)

CLINTON, Feb. 23.—Many Sampson farmers are re-seeding their tobacco beds as an added precaution against recent cold snap, according to county farm agent E. J. Morgan.

Not too many plants have been reported killed, he said, but farmers in several sections of the county are taking no chances and are adding seed so as to insure a sufficient number of plants come setting season.

The county agent reported that so far no disease in the beds has been reported to his office, with the chief reason for the state of affairs being that few farmers have plants large enough as yet.

He revealed, however, that an extensive program calling for the application of ferimate to plant beds as a guard against blue mold is being planned just as soon as the plants reach a size comparable with a dime or a quarter.

Farm specialists point out that ferimate can be used in either a dust or liquid form, with dusting performed with the use of a good crank duster. Application in liquid form, however, is by use of a sprayer.

Morgan gave no definite time for the program to begin but pointed out that the start of the application period depended upon the individual farmer's need according to the size of his plants.

## CHURCHES BUILD STRONGER FARMS

**Relation Between Churches And Better Farms Cited By Authority**

RALEIGH, Feb. 23.—(P)—Employment of an extension specialist to work with rural pastors and their churches in North Carolina is planned by the agricultural extension service at N. C. State college on the principle that the rural church promotes better farming and better farming promotes the rural church.

The extension service is asking the general assembly to appropriate money for a church-minded extension specialist who would work with country churches in building better farming in North Carolina.

Dr. I. O. Schaub, director of the extension service, said today the interests of agriculture and the rural church are so closely linked that a prosperous farming community can be found wherever there is a prosperous, influential church. On the other hand, he said, country churches rank high in influence and service wherever there is a modern farming community.

"For instance," Dr. Schaub explained, "wherever you find a flourishing livestock program, there you'll find a strong rural church."

Dr. Schaub emphasized that the rural church has a vital place in every community not only for what it does to build the spiritual level of that community but also for what it does in raising the economic level.

Land prices, he pointed out, are higher in communities with strong rural church, and general property values are more stable. People seem to live better. There is more neighborliness and the community appears more progressive and alert.

"Ordinarily, one finds more painted homes and farm buildings," Dr. Schaub continued. "The people have more conveniences. Their yards are beautified, and they do better farming. The church teaches home life, and home life leads to home ownership. The resident farmer, owning his own place, is a more devoted workman and consequently a more successful farmer."

"When all of these are taken into consideration, there is a great work which the rural church can do in helping to build better farming in this state. By having someone to work with the rural ministers, studying their problems in relation to the farming areas about their churches, North Carolina can

## USE OF RESEARCH FUNDS UNDERWAY

**Effect Of Soil And Weather Variation On Vegetables Studied**

The first step in the utilization of funds for agriculture research authorized under the Flannagan-Hope Bill and recommended by President Truman in his budget message to Congress has now been taken. Regional agricultural research projects, one of the most important aspects of the Federal measure, have been decided upon for the first year of activity.

The decisions were reached early this month in a meeting of agricultural research heads gathered in Washington to consider and agree upon the cooperative projects. The group deciding this matter, known as the Committee of Nine, is headed by North Carolina's Agricultural Experiment Director, Dean L. D. Baver of State College.

"This Committee," Dr. Baver says "is charged with the responsibility of approving all regional research projects to be undertaken as a result of Public Law 733 (the Flannagan-Hope Bill). These projects are those in which two or more experiment stations of a region work together to solve cooperatively a pressing problem that affects their respective states or their entire region."

A problem in which North Carolina has a major responsibility is the project designed to study the effects of wide variations in soil and weather on the nutritive value of vegetables. This project was chosen by the Committee of Nine.

Dr. Baver says, because it has long been common knowledge that different conditions showed a great variation in their nutritive content. "In this project as many as 10 states will be growing the same vegetables with the same fertility treatments and using the same experimental techniques. The major differences will be that the soil and climate will vary from state to state.

"All this work," he explains, "will be done at the respective stations on funds other than those earmarked by the Flannagan-Hope project for regional research. However, the group has requested that the monies specifically set aside for regional research be allocated to the North Carolina station for this project to handle all the statistical work associated with the planning of the research and the analyses for the cooperating stations.

"In other words, this will be the only station doing statistical and soils work in this project," Dr. Baver concludes.

Other projects with which he indicated the station will be cooperating include: Cotton genetics, farm structures for crop storage, poultry breeding potato marketing, and milk and dairy products marketing.

As time goes on, other projects will be added to the regional agenda, and various other types of projects have already been given tentative approval by the Committee of Nine.

"This group," he points out, "will have the responsibility for coordinating a total of \$5,000,000 worth of research if the full ap-

## DR. NATHAN HALL TO HEAD PROJECT OF SOIL RESEARCH

Dr. Nathan S. Hall, a former student at N. C. State College, has been chosen to head the new research project set up by the N. C. Agricultural Experiment Station in which radioactive phosphorus will be used as a means of studying the fundamental principles of phosphorus fixation and release from soils. The announcement comes from Dr. Ralph W. Cummings, head of the Agronomy Department and Assistant Director of the Station.

Dr. Hall began work on February 1 at Beltsville, Md., where he and a group of scientists from the USDA and Cornell University, cooperating with the local Station are setting up the initial phases of the project. Work is being financed by a group of fertilizer manufacturers.

Propriation, as authorized by Public Law 733, is forthcoming from Congress.

"The benefits to the farmers of the South and the Nation as a whole, however will be worth many times that amount."

## PRESIDENT TRUMAN ISSUES MESSAGE TO 4-H CLUB MEMBERS

President Truman has issued a message to all 4-H Club members, who are observing National 4-H Club Week, March 1-9.

The President said: "We are proud of your 4-H clubs which are spread across our great nation. They constitute an outstanding body of youth aiming to attain worthwhile goals in life. 4-H Clubs have become a significant influence in developing the cultural, social and recreational as well as the practical aspects of modern rural life. As a character-building influence they are unsurpassed."

Additional Farm News On Page Eight

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## ROBESON COUNTY FARM AGENT ILL

(Special To The Star)

LUMBERTON, Feb. 23.—O. P. Owens, Robeson county farm agent has been confined to his home for several days, but expects to resume his duties again tomorrow morning, he said last night.

The farm agent said a series of meetings with the farmers in his area had just been completed. "I am not quite up to date on the farming events here at the moment," he told a representative of the Morning Star. "I have been ill for several days," he continued.

He disclosed that his assistants have quit, including the home demonstration agent. "The work with the 4-H clubs has been getting along nicely," he reported.

Owens said he would report to his office Monday morning. The main problem facing him at the present time is the securing of additional assistants to replace the resigned members, he reported.

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take still another step in the direction of a better rural life."

Dean Schaub said three or four states, including Ohio and Wisconsin, have extension specialists working with rural churches.

## Farm Notes Of Interest

By EPLALIE McDOWELL

United Press Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—(U)—Although the dreaded foot-and-mouth disease is still 350 miles from the United States-Mexican boundary, livestock and dairy interests in this country are worried over possible infection of their herds.

Congress has been asked by Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson to act quickly to give the Agriculture Department experts the authority they need to go into Mexico with a control and eradication program. Pressure also is great for the completion of a fence along the border.

Agriculture Department scientists have mobilized their manpower for immediate action should the infection develop in herds in this country.

While they wait for action from Congress they must face the fact that approximately 151,800 cattle entered this country from Mexico between Oct. 18 and Dec. 27, when the quarantine was temporarily suspended. While they stare across the border and realize that the most contagious cattle disease known to science is prevalent, they know, however, that to date no cases of the infection have appeared either in this country or in northern Mexico.

**Treaty Violated**

Basis of the present threat to the cattle industry from foot-and-mouth disease can be laid to violation by Mexico of a preventive treaty. Lack of authority for Agriculture Department officials to cooperate with other countries on a scale sufficient to control and eradicate the infection, on the other hand also has played a major role in the present situation.

Anderson's request that Congress act with emergency legislation to meet the peril carries with it the suggestion that a large appropriation will be needed. With an estimated 2,000,000-plus cattle in the quarantine area of the neighboring country, livestock destruction undoubtedly will have to be on a grand scale and at a great price. How much of the bill this country will have to pay as a price for keeping the infection out of our domestic herds cannot be estimated now.

The history of the present outbreak can be traced back to 1930, when the two governments executed a treaty to safeguard livestock interests by prohibiting the importation of livestock from countries where foot-and-mouth disease is known to exist.

**Infected Cattle Admitted**

Fifteen years later, in October, 1945, the Mexican government, in what the Agriculture Department interpreted as a violation of that treaty, permitted the entry into that country of a consignment of approximately 130 head of zebu cattle from Brazil, where the infection is known to exist. That was the start of the present crisis.

Last September, a second consignment of 327 head of cattle was permitted to enter. On strong protests from this country, Mexican authorities undertook precautionary measures. But the infection had already gained a foothold.

As for the thousands of cattle which entered this country late last year when importation restrictions were dropped for a while under the impression that the disease was under control, they are under constant surveillance by official veterinarians.

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