

YOUTHS RETURN TO FIELDS TO AID LABOR SHORTAGE

Schools Assist in Plan to Relieve Labor Shortage on Farm; United States Mobilizing 3,500,000 Volunteer Farm Hands to Aid in Food Production Program.

When America's 6,000,000 farm hands start their workers on daily chores this summer more than likely a number of them will be of high school and college age.

If this is a new experience for him farming will also be a new experience for most of the boys and girls who answer the call for Victory Farm Volunteers. Not that they will be "greenhorns" however.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has already set in motion a nation-wide plan to mobilize 3,500,000 persons in the U. S. Crop Corps for essential farm work. Of this number about 500,000 will be high school students, who will be provided with basic training before they actually get into the thick of the Food for Freedom battle. Widespread and successful activity on the land by non-farm youth during the 1942 summer and harvest season is pointed to by the department as a clear demonstration that they can and should make an even more worthwhile contribution to the farm labor supply in 1943.

America's giant agricultural war industry is turning to these young recruits, as well as to older men and women to help meet the labor shortage that developed when millions of farm workers were taken by the armed forces or went into the better paying jobs available in war plants. Without some such assistance, farmers are reported to face the possibility of losing important crops through lack of sufficient workers to harvest them.

They even need some help this spring in getting planting done so that there can be a harvest. Some of them have enlisted the aid of boys and girls through the schools.

There was a time when farmers were skeptical of "city folk" as hired hands, but their last year's experience was so satisfactory in most cases that 1943 finds more and more farmers asking if they're going to be able to hire some of those "smart young fellows" (and girls, too) when they need them.

Such concrete cases of satisfactory farm employment, and many others like them, encouraged the development by the department of agriculture of the Victory Farm Volunteers of the U. S. Crop Corps as a co-ordinated program to utilize non-farm youth in agriculture.

Transport Workers. Farm Volunteers may be classified in three major groups:

Workers who live with the farm family for the summer months and do general farm work.

Workers who live in supervised camps and are transported to farms where needed for either general farm work or for special jobs such as harvesting.

It is expected that about one-half of the young workers will live in farm homes or in camps located in farming areas for a continuous period of from one to four months.

The Victory Farm Volunteers will be engaged in two types of farm work: special jobs, usually harvesting operations, commonly paid for by the unit of work, and general farm work, paid for by the month.

School authorities will present the summer farm plan to the pupils, also explaining the program to parents and securing their cooperation and approval. Youth living in cities located in agricultural areas are to be utilized on nearby farms. Those living in large cities will be placed in areas needing their help, usually within 200 miles of their homes.

It is planned to make careful selection of student workers as to physical ability to do the job and interest in the project. Although boys and girls 14 years of age are to be included, emphasis is being placed on boys who are 16 and 17 and on girls who are 17 and older. Written consent of parents is a requisite for acceptance and the prospective worker must be in good health.

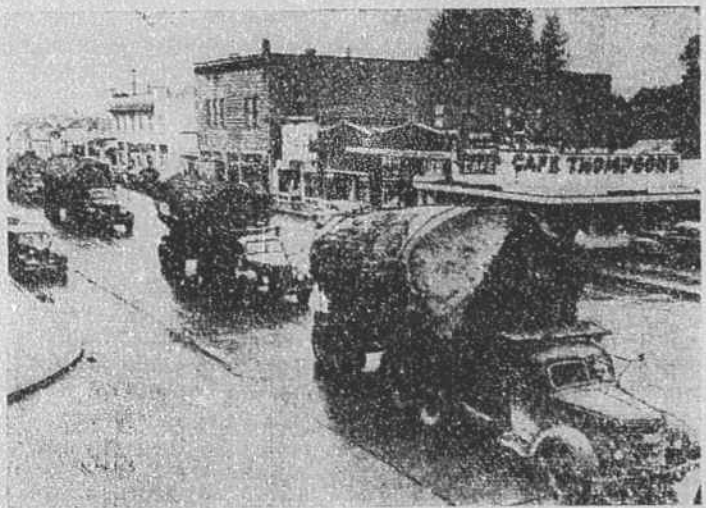
Youths who enroll will be expected to come prepared to work hard, and those who sign up for seasonal work, to stay long enough to make their contribution worth while. They

15-16-Year-Old Cannon Fodder for Hitler



Youngsters of the Hitler youth organization are shown receiving their orders as they report for duty with the Luftwaffe. Terrific casualties suffered by the German armies call for replacement by the 15-16 year-olds and men in reserved and vital positions. These youngsters, however, fed on Hitlerism and Nazism most of their lives, seem keen to serve their master.

Washington's Largest Fir Tree



Street scene in North Bend, Wash., as the four sections of the biggest fir tree in the state were hauled on four huge trailer trucks to a lumber mill to be cut into 35,000 board feet of lumber. The fir was 230 feet in height and was cut into 20-foot lengths, each about 10 1/2 feet in diameter, weighing 35 tons. There is enough lumber in that tree, experts say, to build a half dozen houses.

will be investing their services in victory as are their older brothers in the armed forces.

Training arranged by the schools will include material aimed at familiarizing the student with farm life and farm work. Group meetings are scheduled to explain the program and the working conditions for Farm volunteers. Where possible, weekend trips to nearby farms will be arranged. Emphasis is placed on physical conditioning.

Recruiting will be directed by the U. S. Office of Education in cooperation with the Extension Service of the department of agriculture. The latter also has the responsibility for determining the number of boys and girls needed, and will familiarize farmers with details of the program, see that housing facilities and working conditions are satisfactory, and take orders for youth labor.

Because many farmers will be employing non-farm youth for the first time, it is believed to be exceedingly important that they be given a complete understanding of the conditions of employment and of what should and should not be expected from workers inexperienced in farm activities.

Will Decide Wages. The program in each state, according to the department of agriculture will be in conformity with existing federal and state laws, regulations and standards governing the employment of youth. State and local advisory committees are to assume the responsibility of formulating local standards on working conditions and agreeing upon a suggested schedule of wages and hours governing the employment of school workers.

Careful supervision throughout the Victory Farm Volunteer program is intended to make certain that non-farm youth are not exploited and that farmers in turn, receive a reasonable return for the wages paid.

Last year proved that boys and girls, with a little training, can take over many farm jobs. Young people who grow up on farms do them every day—there's no physical impossibility involved for the normally healthy—and with needs for farm products increasing as labor supplies diminish, a two-fold opportunity appears open to urban youth to help themselves while helping their country.

Parents of the 1942 "vacation workers" reported that their children learned to adapt themselves to unusual situations and gained in independence. Disciplined labor, important to character building, also brought with it training in punctuality, reliability and co-operation.

Everywhere that youth power is being turned into farm power, is also found cooperation of schools, representatives of the department of agriculture, the U. S. Employment Service, the U. S. Office of Education, and last, and most important, the parents and farmers.

The average annual mean temperature in North Carolina is 59 degrees.

News Of Week At Blowing Rock

Blowing Rock, May 1.—The Chamber of Commerce has opened offices in the Yonahlossee Theatre building for the season. Mrs. Rob Greene has been employed as executive secretary, and Walter K. Keys as publicity director. F. W. Webster, recently-elected president, will direct the work as a whole. Membership cards are being printed and form letters will be mailed to all summer clientele soon. Assurance has been given that all the hotels will open this year, and the advance inquiries about summer accommodations are beginning to come in rapidly.

Miss Julia Keys of Queens College spent the week end with her parents, Rev. and Mrs. Walter K. Keys. She was accompanied by her classmates, Misses Irene and Kathleen Hardee and Miss Betty Howard.

H. P. Holshouser, Jr., of Lees-McRae College, Banner Elk, had as his guests over the week end, Miss Lois Tufts of Banner Elk, Miss Mariann Combs of Leaksville, and John Ellis of Andrews.

Dee Hollars who is spending a two-week furlough with relatives in Blowing Rock, has been in the South Pacific area for 12 months before returning to the United States.

Miss Louise Prevette of Greensboro spent the week end with her mother, Mrs. C. S. Prevette. She had as her guest Miss Elizabeth Hunt of Greensboro, Miss Mary Louise Williams, also of Greensboro, spent the Easter season with her family in Blowing Rock.

Mr. and Mrs. Cameron Williams and Mr. and Mrs. Duke Custer, who are employed in defense work in Bristol, Tenn., spent the week end in Blowing Rock. Bill Williams came up from Fort Jackson to be with his family.

Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Grier of Statesville are now in Blowing Rock making ready their home here for the summer opening. They will come to Blowing Rock early in the season.

Prof. E. C. Coker of the department of mathematics in the University of South Carolina spent several days recently at his home here. He was especially interested in finding

mountain wild flowers, but because of the recent cold weather, few are yet in bloom.

Sgt. James Barnett of Fort Oglethorpe, spent the past week end with his grandmother, Mrs. Bessie Harrison and aunt, Mrs. Edgar Hart.

Miss Emogene Klutz left Blowing Rock Tuesday for Sarasota, Fla., to spend the summer with her sister, Mrs. Mary Cook.

The music for victory club met at the home of Mrs. Brown Thursday. Officers elected are: Barbara Gerald, president; Jane Benfield, vice-president; and Patricia Bolick, secretary. A program of music was given by the students of Mrs. Hattie Brown and other club members. Taking part were Norma Banner, Bonnie Jean Knight, Barbara Gerald, Jane Benfield, Emma Jean Councill, Frank Brown, and Billy Brown.

State College Hints For Homemakers

By RUTH CURRENT
N. C. State College.

Play is a necessary part of the development and education of every child. For wholesome constructive play children need toys; they need a place to play; they need playmates and they need sympathetic adults. In time of war, it takes thought and careful planning by parents to see that the children's needs are met as well as conditions will allow.

Good toys are toys with which the child can do things; playthings that are just looked at are of little advantage. Many of the best toys are used by children of widely differing ages. Blocks and sand and painting materials, for example, are used in a simple way by the toddler but their use continues all through childhood. It is good for a family to have some of these toys that interest children of different ages. They help to keep the family together. They interest the children of the neighborhood and pave the way for companionship among children of different ages as well as the same age—companionships which mean much in the development of children.

The French are said to add a pinch of salt to their coffee. Such a pinch should be added just before the coffee is served, and does add the last flavor touch to coffee-making in the

tastes of many people.

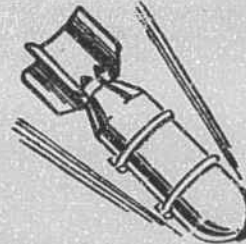
The scum which forms on cocoa as it cools should not be discarded, since it contains bone-building material which is healthful. Just beat the cocoa with an egg beater lightly and the scum will be broken up so that the cocoa can be enjoyed with its full nutritional content.

TEXTILES AND TOBACCO

North Carolina leads all states in textile manufacturing and in the manufacture of tobacco products. North Carolina farms also lead the nation in tobacco production.



American flyers with the RAF are raining demolition bombs on Nazi cities today. These instruments of destruction so important in razing Nazi war plants, interrupting railroad transportation, and other war objectives, range now unto several tons.



The 500-pound demolition Bomb is one of the lighter ones. Bands are attached to facilitate handling and the fns are not attached until the Bomb reaches the airfield, because bending would injure accuracy. They cost up to \$500. Your purchase of War Bonds through the Payroll Savings Plan will help provide Bombs for our airmen. Let's "Top that Ten Percent."

U. S. Treasury Department

Will Pay Cash

for late model Cars and Trucks. If you are going away, and don't need your car.

SELL IT FOR CASH.

W. R. WINKLER

BOONE, N. C.

The Dead Shark That Solved Legal Problem

Mrs. C. G. Hodges of Boone, R. F. D. 2, asks for the publication of the following from the American Weekly. Mrs. Hodges states that the Captain Hodges referred to is believed to be of the same general family of Hodges in Watauga county.

When a Nazi submarine blasted his ship to the bottom in the Caribbean north of Cuba, Captain George Dewey Hodges, of Norfolk, Va., came to the end of his long seagoing career. A letter written to his widow shortly before his tragic death probably would have stood up in court as a bona-fide last will and testament—but the skipper wasn't legally dead.

Months might have elapsed until the courts considered the skipper dead instead of missing—but that was before a fisherman in Cuba opened up a man-eating shark, to find among some human bones, two simple rings. One was described with the initials G. D. H. on the outside and E. R. G. inside.

The rings were turned over to the authorities, who, recalling that the missing master of a recently torpedoed ship was named George Dewey Hodges—letters that matched the initials—wrote to the headquarters of the ship's owners pointing out this similarity and describing both rings in detail. They also mentioned the fact that the spot where Hodges' ship had sunk is a great fishing ground for sharks.

The owners sent a copy to Attorney Denny of Norfolk and this was presented in court as clinching evidence that Hodges really was dead. This letter arrived some days after Mrs. Hodges had presented to Judge Allan R. Hanckle in Circuit Court the last letter she had received from her husband as his will. Mrs. Hodges recognized the rings, described them in detail, and their mute testimony cleared the last obstacle.

A large signet ring with the initials E. R. G. on the inside, she said, was her gift to the Captain in 1917 and the letters stood for her maiden name of Edna Randolph Greene. On the outside were the Captain's initials. The other ring was a bone-like affair that her husband wore.

People's Responsibility

Eight billion dollars of the 13 billion dollars in this Second War Loan Drive must come from non-banking sources, so the responsibility for the bulk of this 13-billion-dollar drive rests with the American public.

Indications are that Americans generally need only to be reminded of this responsibility and how much they should lead their government in order to reach this goal. Americans are backing up their fighting men on the battle fronts. They are supporting the Second War Loan. "They give their lives... You lend your money."



Hats Off to MOM

Be sure to remember mother on Mother's Day next Sunday May 9, with one of the handsome gifts we have assembled for this occasion. There is an endless variety of gifts mother would like, such as:

- Dresses
- Hats
- Lingerie
- Hose
- Robes
- Bags
- Gloves
- Shoes
- Slippers
- Costume Jewelry

These and many other gifts are priced to suit every purse. Be sure to visit our big store before definitely determining what you will give mother... But be sure to remember her, in any event.

Belk-White Co.

Belk's 200 Stores Sell It For Less

Boone, N. C.

Watch Repairing

Your watch needs the very best attention, if it is to give you the dependable service you should expect from a modern timepiece.

Drop by our store, and let us check up on your watch and put it in first class condition. We use only the best materials and our workmanship is guaranteed.

WALKER'S
Jewelry Store