

L. C. Bunch and J. A. Webb, Jr., Attend Statesville Meeting

Ballentine Points Out Over Production Is Big Farm Problem

L. C. Bunch and Joe A. Webb, Jr., members of the Chowan County Board of Soil Conservation Supervisors, attended the eleventh annual meeting of the North Carolina Association of Soil Conservation District Supervisors which was held at Statesville on Wednesday and Thursday of last week.

Bunch and Webb reported a program schedule which included several interesting talks and discussions on pertinent and timely conservation topics.

The two-day meeting opened on Wednesday morning and concluded at noon on Thursday.

State Agriculture Commissioner L. Y. Ballentine addressed the Supervisors on Wednesday night. Commissioner Ballentine said that overproduction, the big farm problem now, is only temporary. The real problem, he added, is whether future generations will be able to produce enough to maintain a high standard of living.

The Commissioner said that this depended on two things—how well we use and conserve the soil, and whether enough economic stability can be maintained in agriculture to make it a thriving and progressive business.

Progress has been made in the soil conservation program, he asserted, even though it was started after the productivity of 100 million acres had been lost. Because of the progress that has been made and because of renewed efforts he felt there is some reason to face the future with optimism.

Farmers are learning to determine the capabilities of their land and to use it accordingly, he stated.

Ballentine spoke to the Supervisors at their banquet session.

David S. Weaver, Director of the N. C. Extension Service spoke to the group on "Water Conservation and Water Rights in North Carolina."

Weaver said that the era of the bulldozer has brought about destruction of forests and cover on a large scale. The result has been that the water supply is less dependable at a time when the demand for water is constantly increasing.

He emphasized the fact that a high percentage of farm problems is connected with water, which is usually too scarce or too abundant.

Weaver said that water laws in most states are obsolete and need to be brought up to date. He outlined some of the efforts being made in North Carolina along this line.

Officers for the 1954 year were elected as follows:

S. Vernon Stevens of Broadway, president; A. D. Swindell, Pantego, first vice president; Charlie Ladd, Durham, second vice president; Vernon W. Coltrane of Greensboro, secretary, and L. O. Page of Raleigh, treasurer.

J. T. Graham of Cleveland was president for 1953 and was in charge of the meeting. In giving his annual report, he told of progress made during 1953 and said that he was particularly pleased that the State's first pilot flood control project had been started in Alexander, Iredell and Rowan counties.

Other speakers on the program were Highway Commissioner June Scarborough of Statesville, Dean D. W. Colvard of N. C. State College, Lunette Barber and R. B. Hazel of the State Wildlife Resources Commission, Mrs. B. C. Parker of Albemarle, Katherine Hoskins of Sumfield, and Representative Hugh Alexander of Kannapolis.

In discussing soil and water conservation efforts, Congressman Alexander warned that "we are still using our soil resources at a rate faster than we are building them up."

He praised Congress for its passage of the Upstream Pilot Bill which authorizes 62 small watershed projects, including one in North Carolina.

On Thursday committee reports were adopted and four delegates were elected to the National Convention in New Orleans next month. The delegates were:

STORY OF THE MAN WHO SAW LINCOLN SHOT

Only one person is alive who saw Abraham Lincoln struck down by an assassin's bullet. He gives an eyewitness account of the fateful drama in an exclusive interview in the February 7th issue of

THE AMERICAN WEEKLY Magazine in Colorgrave with the BALTIMORE SUNDAY AMERICAN Order From Your Local Newsdealer

Farm Youths Talk Safety



What would you do if you had only one day to make your farm safer? That's what newsmen asked a group of young safety experts at the recent National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago. They were winners of awards presented by General Motors in the National 4-H Farm and Home Safety Program.

"I'd declare a 'safety day' and turn out the whole family to locate and mark all hazards on the farm," was the answer of Margie Sellers, 17, Whitesboro, Texas. Margie was one of eight national winners awarded \$300 college scholarships by GM, which also presented expense-paid trips to the 4-H Congress to both national and state winners among the 425,000 4-H youths who took part in the safety program.

All the youngsters agreed that although safety demands continuing, day-by-day attention, it might be good to set aside one day for eliminating hazards—and then go at the job as though there would be no more time for it.

"It would make you decide what safety improvements were most important, and then concentrate on them," said George N. Fleming, 18, Simms, Montana. "I would check the things that get most use, such as farm machinery and home appliances, and make sure that they were in safe operating condition."

Gayle Givens, 17, Frederick, Oklahoma, observed that a "safety day" would be a hard blow against one of safety's most dangerous enemies—procrastination. She and Erich Willen, 17, Westminster, Maryland, both national winners—said that if they had only one day for safety they would concentrate on the home.

"That's where most accidents happen," Erich explained. "I would check things like stairs, rugs, and medicines."

Hope E. Caswell, 17, Canton, New York, said she would concentrate on eliminating fire hazards.

"They are often the least obvious," she said. "And a bad fire is just about the most serious disaster that can hit a farm."

Other suggestions included proper storage of tools; building sturdy pens for livestock, and checking electrical equipment.

What would you do?

Stevens elected was President S. Vernon Stevens of Broadway, Past President J. T. Graham of Cleveland and Treasurer L. O. Page of Raleigh, and A. C. Edwards of Hookerton.

Over 200 supervisors from all parts of North Carolina were at the meeting.

E. B. Garrett, State Soil Conservationist of the Soil Conservation Service, addressed the association meeting briefly before adjournment.

L. C. Bunch as president of the Albemarle Soil Conservation District, represented the district as well as Chowan County in the association meeting.

Other supervisors representing the Albemarle District were George Winslow of Perquimans County and Reginald Gregory of Pasquotank County.

C. D. Fetzer, Area Conservationist from Elizabeth City, accompanied the Albemarle supervisors.

Would you trade a Penny for a Dollar?

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Sodium builds up the productivity of your land—more each year. It's an essential element for some crops...beneficial to most and necessary for maximum yields of many.

Pennies-per-acre difference in cost may mean dollars-per-acre difference in value to you. Chilean "Bulldog" Soda is the best fertilizer your money can buy. Use it for all of your top-dressing and side-dressing needs.

CHILEAN NITRATE of SODA



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Nick George Defends State School System

(Continued From Page One)

learn," George said, in answer to the second question. "In spite of the numerous compositions required of children in former days, few children who started in the first grade ever acquired this ability by the time they left school which, in most cases, was very early." The speaker pointed out that the modern school tries to teach and to interest children to express on paper their own opinions, discuss their own experiences, and explain what they do and what they read to other children and even to adults.

"The problem of good writing is not a simple one," George continued. "It involves first of all having something to say and the writer must have the necessary vocabulary and be able to arrange the words in sentences and paragraphs that will adequately express what he may have to say. Then comes the matter of spelling, punctuation, and penmanship. All these things present problems to the child which he must master before he can do satisfactory written English—problems that require a great deal of practice on his part and ingenuity on the part of the teacher."

"The subject of spelling has always been a disturbing one," declared the speaker. "There has been a tremendous amount of research to discover just which words should be taught to every child. In former days spelling was done by drill, today the child must know the meaning. No modern school neglects spelling, and no former generation can prove that the average child in its school was a better speller than the average child in ours. The fact that so many children left school early is some sort of proof that the result could not have been too successful."

"Every national survey shows that more children are learning to read, write, and do arithmetic today than was true in our previous generation. Although methods of teaching may have been improved, there has been no let-up on the 3 R's, for reading,

writing, and arithmetic are still the foundations of the curriculum. Some people are disturbed by the fact that teachers use different methods to teach the 3 R's than were used with the older generation. Others were disturbed because some of the subjects have been rearranged and some of the facts in them are no longer stressed as they used to be. These same people are not disturbed by the changes in other walks of life—that they call progress, yet they are surprised when they find that education, too, has made progress."

In conclusion Mr. George stated, "To some people the word 'Citizenship' has only a vague meaning—something connected with voting for the right candidates, upholding the Constitution and the laws of the United States, being loyal and patriotic. To the school, Citizenship means all these things and more. It means being first of all a person of good character, a good neighbor, a good worker, and one who thinks of the welfare of other people in the community and in the country besides his own. This cannot come from a textbook alone. Habits of behavior are developed early in a child's life. The kind of citizen he eventually becomes, he must be trained. Therefore, parents and teachers together, begin working on the growing child, and throughout his entire school career he is being trained in good citizenship habits."

"No large nation in all history has ever tried so hard as ours to help every individual regardless of race, creed, wealth or residence to make the most of his God-given talents. While we are still a long way from perfection, the fruits have been conspicuous and magnitude of the enterprise is immense."

Mr. George was introduced by Miss Inez Felton and Mrs. Evelyn Jackson, president, presided.

A letter was read from Mrs. Inglis Fletcher, in which she thanked the club for the telegram congratulating her on the recent award she won. Mrs. Adelaide Chesson reported that the Hotel Joseph Hewes has been selected as a location for the USO Club. Mrs. Leon Leary told the group that

plans for the proposed swimming pool are shaping up rapidly, and Miss Inez Felton announced that plans are underway for a card party to be held sometime in February. The date will be announced later.

Senior Hi-Light

BY JANE YOUNT

Well, exam time has come and passed. The excitement is all over and everyone has gotten back into the old swing. Exam grades are not known, but we sincerely hope everyone had real good luck and passed.

For our Senior girl this week, we have chosen Miss Helen Marie Jones. Helen is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Erie Jones of Route 3, and was born in Chowan County on June 9, 1936. Helen is the quiet type, but prefers sports to anything else, except, of course, Ray. She is in the Future Homemakers of America Club, and has been in it for four years. Helen's future plans are undecided, but we feel this plucky gal will make some lucky guy a fine wife.

And for our Senior boy, we have chosen Rufus Ray Alexander. Ray was born September 1, 1935, and is the son of Mrs. Johnny Scales. Ray must like nature for he told me that he liked fishing, hunting, and tinkering. The latter being proved as he is in the Stagecraft Club here in school. Ray is one boy that has definitely decided his future. After graduation he plans to enter the Navy and after the Navy into a diesel school, and finally, as a last step, a job as a diesel engineer. There isn't any doubt about it, he will succeed. That's how much faith we seniors have in him.

SHOWN SAFETY FILM

Rotarians at last week's meeting were shown a safety film which was arranged by Marvin Wilson. The picture, "The Case of Tommy Tucker," was projected by Robert Marsh and had to do with highway and pedestrian safety.



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