

\$143,940 Is Earmarked For Research Work In Field Of Agriculture

Another "Nickels For Know-How" Referendum October 25

Meeting at State College during the recent Farm and Home Week, the executive committee of the North Carolina Agricultural Foundation approved allocations totaling \$143,940 from "Nickels for Know-How" funds to finance research and education projects at N. C. State College during the 1954-55 fiscal year.

Agriculture Commissioner L. Y. Ballentine reported at the same meeting that the "Nickels for Know-How" program had brought in a total return of \$342,472.10 from its beginning in January, 1952, through March 31, 1954.

The program was approved in a special referendum in the fall of 1952, when farmers voted by a heavy majority to contribute five cents a ton on feed and fertilizer purchases to a fund to be used for promoting agricultural research and the dissemination of research information.

E. Y. Floyd of Raleigh, director of the Plant Food Institute of North Carolina and Virginia and chairman of arrangements for the next "Nickels for Know-How" referendum to be held October 25, told of plans to hold the referendum and said an effort is being made to inform the farmers of the accomplishments already made.

Drunken Driving Costs 4,577 Driving Licenses

Liquor—whether transported or imbibed—cost the greatest number of Tar Heel drivers their driving privileges for the first six months of the year the Motor Vehicles Department reports.

In June 668 drivers were required to surrender their drivers' license, bringing the half-year's total of drunken driving offenders to 4,557.

Speeding was in second place with 3,852 convictions, most of them the results of speeding over 70 mph in an automobile.

Driving after license revoked resulted in additional penalties for 308 motorists during the first half and two offenses of reckless driving got 179 more.

The six month's report showed miscellaneous violations and subsequent convictions as follows: habitual violators 318; larceny of auto 71; improper use of driver's license 47; and unsatisfied judgment 267.

The "D. T.'s" Maybe

"What is it that has horns, a long-pointed tail, and carries a pitchfork?" "I give up."

"I don't know either, but it's been following us ever since we left that last bar."

HEALTH HORIZONS

The Right And Wrong Way To "Cheer" The Sick

To visit a sick friend is a most thoughtful thing to do—and yet many of us are thoughtless, or mistaken, in our notions of how to cheer the sick, according to a recent article in *The Canadian Medical Association Journal*. As authority, they quote Florence Nightingale, the revered "mother of nursing." Though she lived almost a century ago, her keen and sympathetic observations are still worth listening to, the *Journal* pointed out.

Some Wrong Attitudes

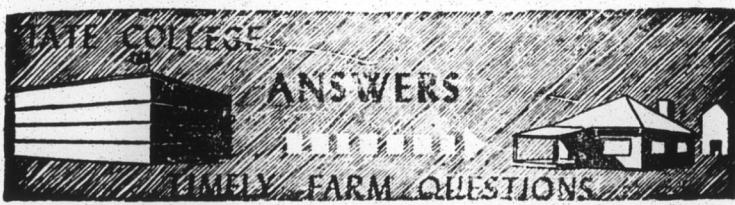
"I would appeal most seriously to all friends, visitors, and attendants of the sick to leave off this practice of attempting to 'cheer' the sick by making light of their danger and by exaggerating their probability of recovery," wrote Florence Nightingale in 1859. In other words, though well-meaning, a hearty "Oh, you'll be good as new in no time" only depresses and wears the patient. "He feels that a convenience it would be if there were any single person to whom he could speak simply and openly, without pulling upon himself . . . this shower-bath of silly hopes and encouragements."

Perhaps, with equally good intentions, you may tell your ill friend of some new treatment you've just read about, or urge him to see your doctor. The result is that "everything is upset, confidence is destroyed or disturbed, everybody is annoyed, but only one person is injured, and that is the patient." The treatment you've read about may not be feasible or safe in that particular case and, much as you trust one physician, don't forget that your friend may feel the same way about his—and with as much right.



What Sick People Enjoy

But Nurse Nightingale's advice is not confined to "Don'ts." "A sick person does so enjoy hearing good news, for instance, of a love and courtship, while in progress to a good ending"—not, she hastens to add, with an unhappy ending. "A sick person also intensely enjoys hearing of any material good, any positive or practical success . . . He has so much of books and fiction . . . tell him of one benevolent act which has really succeeded practically, it is like a day's health to him." And, unless it is against doctor's orders, you might take a child along for a short visit. "It freshens up a sick person's whole mind to see 'the baby,'" Florence Nightingale says.



Question: Some of my Irish potato plants not only have potatoes growing underground, up on the stems, too. How do you explain this?

Answer: What you see forming on the stems of the Irish potato plants are the true seed balls of the plant and are not uncommon at all. These seed balls invariably form in years when the weather is cool and moist

during the blooming season. This occurs more often in Western North Carolina than in the Coastal Plain.

Question: What is 2, 4, 5-T?

Answer: The chemical 2, 4, 5-T (2, 4, 5-Trichlorophenoxyacetic) is similar to 2, 4-D weed killer in common use in North Carolina at present, except that it is more effective

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than 2, 4-D on some plants and less effective on others. It appears to be particularly more effective on some woody species such as blackberries, poison ivy, sweet gum, some oaks, rose and ribes. The chemical is more expensive than 2, 4-D. In some cases increased concentrations of 2, 4-D will do the job nearly as well and more economically than 2, 4, 5-T. The chemical is available as amines and esters. Esters are generally more effective.

Question: What are the plant diseases which most often attack alfalfa grown in North Carolina?

Answer: Downy mildew, leaf spot, leaf blotch, black stem, anthracnose, and rust. But there recently has developed another serious threat to alfalfa in this state—the alfalfa stem nematode which has spread into North Carolina from Virginia.

Question: Is it advisable to store unshucked corn?

Answer: Generally speaking, no. It is very difficult to control insects in unshucked corn, unless it can be put into a tight area for fumigation. Dusts containing synergized pyrethrum may suppress the spread of insects from ear to ear in unshucked corn, but will not control weevils within unshucked ears. Some of these dusts, however, when used on shelled corn that is dry, unfested, or very slightly infested, appear to prevent insect damage for two or three months. It must be noted that a few of the different dusts on the market cause a down-grading of the corn.

Question: Do legume crops require large amounts of lime in the soil?

Answer: Legumes generally have a high lime requirement. Ladino clover, a legume, showed an increase in value of \$40 per acre after one ton of lime was added on highly acid soil, \$49 when two tons were applied, and \$52 when three tons were added. The

soil being highly acid insured a return from money spent for lime over a longer period.

Question: How should I fertilize my soybeans without a soil analysis?

Answer: The soil analysis would have been your best bet. The phosphate application should range from 0 to 40 pounds and the potash from 0

to 80 pounds. On the basis of soil samples received, the most common fertilizer needed would be medium in phosphate and high in potash, such as 400 pounds of 0-10-20, or 300 pounds of 0-9-27. You don't usually get a yield increase from fertilizer on soybeans following heavily fertilized crops or on soils with very high phosphate and potash levels.

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