

Libraries In North Carolina Provide 95 Per Cent State's People With Reading Service

Chowan County Ranks 63rd In State For Per Capita Circulation During Fiscal Year

Today over 95 per cent of the state's four million plus citizens have access to library service through a system of school, college, special, and public libraries. Statistics from 3,490 library systems for the fiscal year 1953-1954 showed a total book collection of 11,268,224. This figure represents 2,163 schools with a total bookstock of 4,958,642 volumes; 54 college and university libraries with 3,382,904 volumes; 8 special libraries with 267,493 volumes; 265 public libraries with 2,659,185 volumes. All figures from the special libraries are supplied voluntarily and consequently many have no reporting system established. Statistics from public libraries, include reports from municipal, branch, county and regional libraries.

Approximately three-fourths of the more than 11 million books available to North Carolinians are used almost exclusively by the respective memberships of the institutions owning them. Fortunately, the philosophy of cooperation has been constant with library development in North Carolina. This makes it possible for a wealth of library materials to be in easy access to most of the people through a system of interlibrary loans.

The necessity for current informational materials for all citizens

has been recognized by business and industry as well as education. One of the questions asked by both business and industry before selecting new site locations, requires specific information about library resources.

They may have their own technical library but want to know what supplementary materials may be anticipated for employees and what facilities are available for employees' families.

Libraries today are going far beyond the printed page in providing information for their patrons. Films, recordings, exhibits, lectures, and discussion groups have all been included in the modern library. New library buildings have made special provision for these new media. Older buildings have been renovated to accommodate an expanded library service program.

According to per capita circulation of books in public libraries from July 1, 1954, to June 30, 1955, Chowan County ranked 63rd of the counties in North Carolina. In that period the county had a total 11,909 volumes which is 0.92 volume per capita and a per capita circulation of 1.59.

Tyrrell County ranked first in per capita circulation with a percentage of 8.00.

young consecrated saints to be killed in such a way. Without making any pretensions to knowing the mind of God in this matter (except that I believe Romans 8:28) I would like to list a few possible reasons for God to allow this thing to happen:

1. To challenge young Christians to give their lives to full time Christian service. How many teenagers of today will be "challenged" by this incident to take the place of these five men by going to the mission field? Most of our modern mission boards began by some missionary laying down his life for the faith, and many others, challenged by his example stepping in to take his place. I dare say that

fifteen years from now, should Jesus tarry, there will be many scores of young men and women on the mission field who will be there because God used this incident to bring them to surrender their lives to full-time Christian service.

2. As a witness to the world that the Christian faith is able to give men courage and purpose in this life, and grace to face the life to come. The story of these five men has been broadcast to the ends of the world; by their death they raised a far greater testimony than they would have had they lived.

3. As a witness to the Aucas (the tribe of Indians that killed them) of what the love of God can do in a man's life. These Indians must realize that these white men, unlike other whites, came to serve rather than to be served, to give rather than to receive. God has promised that His word will not return unto Him void; the sacrifice these men made was by no means in vain. Perhaps it took something like this to call the attention of the Christian world to the existence and need of these Indians, and to prepare the Indians for the next messenger of Christ who will come with the message of the Gospel.

4. As a witness to the world of how a true Christian faces the death of a loved-one. To me, the most thrilling part of the account was the way the five widows received news of their husbands' death. Before the news reached them, one of them, childless, expressed the hope that if any were spared it would be those who had children. Said the article: "In their bereavement the widows . . . showed the same fortitude and acceptance of God's will they had displayed while serving at their husbands' sides. Their faith was communicated to their older children. Steve Saint asked of his father, 'How long will it take him to get to heaven?' The widows felt no bitterness toward the Aucas. They were glad when they heard that the Ecuadorian Government would not take any reprisals against the tribe . . . all of them wanted to see someone continue the work among the Aucas for which their husbands had given their lives."

Yes, God had a purpose in this, as He has in everything which comes to pass. We may not always discern His purpose, even by faith, but it is there, and none so happy as he who can say from his heart, "we know that all things work together for good to them that love God; to them who are called according to His purpose" (Romans 8:28.)

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FFA Conducts Tool Identification Contest

The Chowan Chapter of Future Farmers of America was host to the Albemarle Federation of FFA on December 15, at which time a tool identification contest was held.

The tools were loaned from the stock of Byrum Hardware Co. There were one hundred tools to be identified by members of the competing teams.

The teams consisted of three students from each school. The schools represented were Perquimans, Chowan, Gatesville, Sunbury, Elizabeth City, Central, Weeks-ville, Camden, Moyock and Griggs. The teams were composed of freshmen students studying vocational agriculture at the various schools.

Each team had a possibility of making a total score of 300 points and each team member a chance of making one hundred points. The Perquimans team won with a score of 294 points and the Chowan team scored 293 points. Lloyd Wayne Evans of the Chowan team was the high scoring individual in the contest with a score of 99. Other members of the Chowan team were Frank Evans and Gerald Harrell.

ATTENDS SPRING SALE

Robert S. Marsh, assistant agent, attended the spring sale of the Albemarle Purebred Swinebreeders' Association which was held at the Hertford Livestock Market on Friday of last week. A total of 23 registered hogs of various breeds such as Duroc, Hampshires and Yorkshires were sold. The prices received were the lowest of all such sales to date. No doubt the current low prices which are being paid for fat hogs affected the price paid for the purebreds.

The only secret a woman can keep is one she doesn't know. —Arab Proverb.

CARD OF THANKS

I wish to take this means to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to my friends for the many expressions of sympathy and deeds of kindness on my behalf during the illness and death of my mother, Mrs. John C. Badham. JACK BADHAM

Jr.-Sr. H. S. Menu

Menus for the week beginning February 6 at the Edenton Junior-Senior High School lunch room will be as follows:

Monday: Beef vegetable soup, sandwiches, crackers, celery and carrots, cake, milk.

Tuesday: Roast pork, rice, gravy, garden peas, apple sauce, radishes, hot rolls, butter, milk.

Wednesday: Meat loaf, mashed potatoes, string beans, hot rolls, butter, cookies, milk.

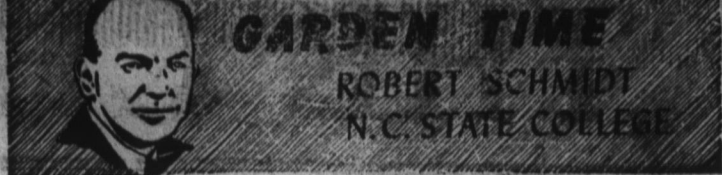
Thursday: Luncheon meat, macaroni and cheese, cole slaw, beets, hot rolls, butter, cake, milk.

Friday: Sliced ham, steamed cabbage, lima beans, hot rolls, butter, milk.

Preparation Tobacco Beds Moving Along

Preparation of and seeding tobacco beds is moving along nicely in Chowan County, says County Agent Overman. There is a considerable increase in the use of gas treatment of tobacco beds to control weeds. The unfavorable weather has handicapped tobacco bed preparation but growers are making use of every suitable day.

"There are several important things to remember when treating tobacco beds with gas," says Mr. Overman. "Be sure the cover has no holes. Fasten the cover securely around the edges of the bed so that the gas will not leak out. Apply the correct amount of gas that is recommended, nine pounds per 100 square yards. Apply fertilizer and prepare the bed in perfect order for seeding before gassing so that when the gas cover is removed the bed is ready for seeding. In extremely cold weather, allow the gas cover to stay on at least 48 hours after applying the gas."



GARDEN TIME
ROBERT SCHMIDT
N.C. STATE COLLEGE

We hear a lot about certain plants requiring acid soils—for example, azaleas and camellias—but most gardeners have no idea of how acid the soils should be for such plants or what the present acidity of their soil is.

Most North Carolina soils are quite acid in reaction unless lime has been applied during the process of cultivation. Therefore the acid loving plants such as azaleas, camellias, hollies, blueberries and native wild plants will often do quite well in our yards without further treatment. However, if they do not thrive, or it is suspected that the soil is not acid enough, a soil test should be made.

Your county farm agent is probably equipped to make a quick test for you or you may mail soil samples to the State Soil Testing Laboratory, N. C. Department of Agriculture, Raleigh, N. C. Soil acidity tests are generally reported in terms of pH. This is a technical symbol used to denote the relative acidity of the soil tested. A pH of 7 is neutral; anything above pH 7 is alkaline, and any reports below pH 7 denote acid soils. A soil having a pH between 6 and 7 is slightly acid, one with a pH between 5 and 6 is moderately acid,

and one with a pH between 4 and 5 is very acid.

Most of the above named plants, camellias, blueberries, etc., do best in a very acid soil. On the other hand, most vegetable crops do best on soils with only a slightly acid reaction although many of them—tomatoes, potatoes, snapbeans, turnips, and others—will tolerate moderately acid soils.

In order to reduce soil acidity use some form of lime—ground limestone, hydrated lime or marl. Lime should not be applied to soils unless a soil test shows that the soil is too acid for the crops or plants to be grown. Beets, spinach, lettuce, muskmelons and celery will not make their best growth on soils which are more acid than a pH of 6.

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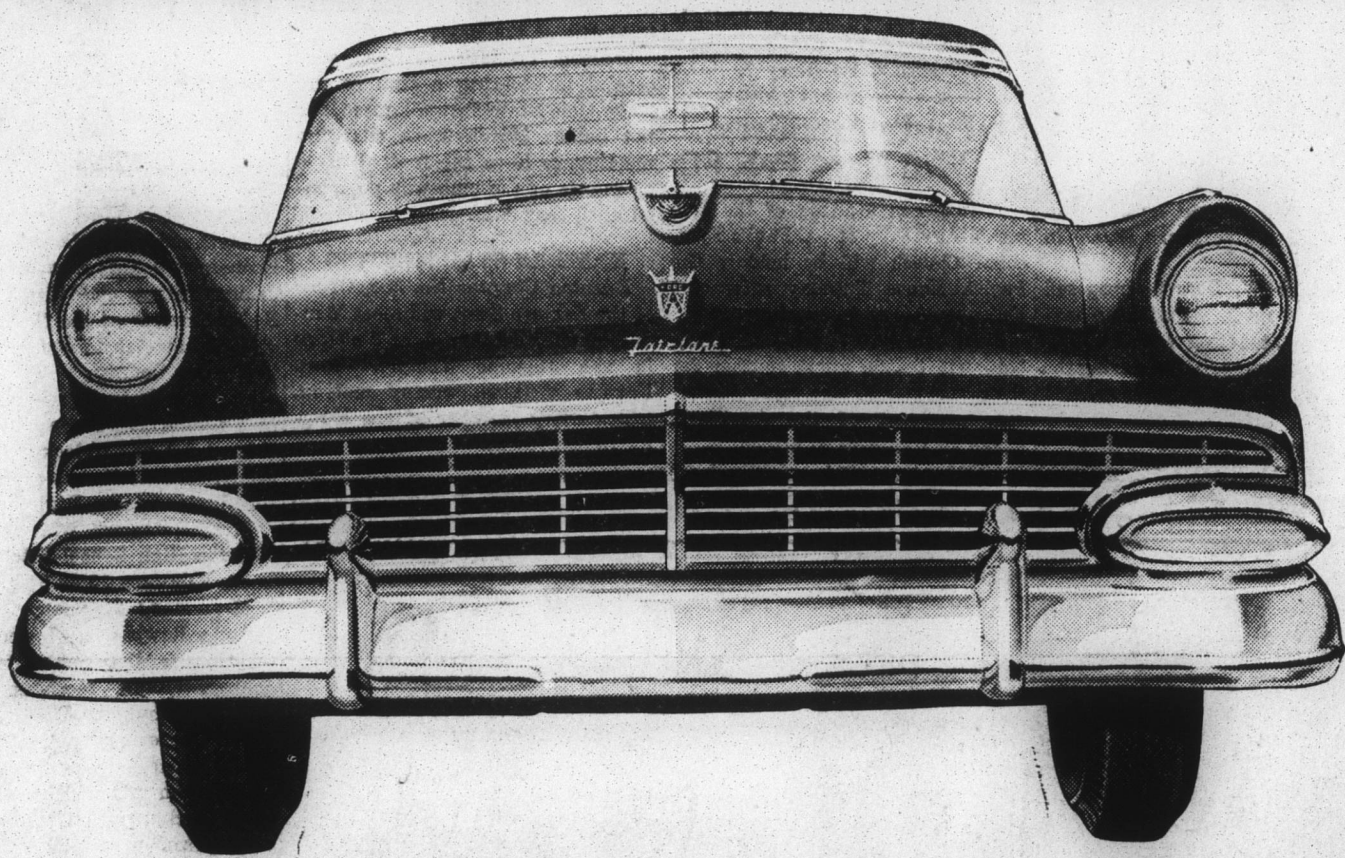
666

Weekly Devotional Column

By JAMES MacKENZIE

The current issue of Life Magazine (January 30) devotes ten pages and a lead article to the stirring story of the five young fundamentalist missionaries who laid down their lives a few short weeks ago for the testimony of the Gospel. (By way of contrast the same issue carries an account of an "Un-churchlike babble and confusion" caused by cheap, petty, self-serving politicians in a Brooklyn, New York Church). It may be that some what purpose God could possibly have in allowing these fine

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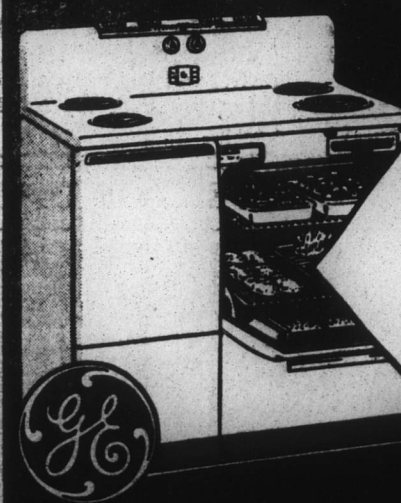
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