

AROUND THE FARMS IN CHOWAN

By C. W. OVERMAN, Chowan County Agent

Commercial Egg Production For Additional Farm Income
Several young farmers in Chowan County are considering commercial egg production for additional farm income. C. F. Parrish, head of the Extension Poultry Department at State College, spent some time with the county agent visiting these prospective egg producers and some who have enterprises at present.

Jack Habit and his partner, Larry Dowd, have approximately 5,000 producing hens in cages at the present time. These producers began their operation three years ago with 2,000 birds. At the present time their birds are laying at the rate of approximately 75 per cent, which is quite good considering the cold and rainy weather we have been having.

They are producing high quality eggs which is very much in demand and is bringing a good premium over general farm run eggs. The eggs are picked up several times each day and those needing cleaning are cleaned. The eggs are placed in a cooling room to maintain quality and are moved promptly each week to consumers and other sales outlets. Mr. Habit and Mr. Dowd are planning to increase their operation several thousand more birds.

Willie A. Twine of Center Hill community has a pole-type 500 hen size laying house constructed in 1956. Willie has approximately 400 birds in his house at the present time which are laying around 65 to 75 per cent. This is on open house operation without cages.

Several things are very pertinent to a successful commercial egg producing enterprise. A good house with proper facilities and plenty of litter on the floor is necessary. However, it doesn't

have to be an expensive house. A good laying strain of birds is necessary for efficient production, preferably birds which will run in weight about four to five pounds. Good feed and proper management are also two very important items.

We have been duly informed that the Norfolk, Virginia area is a great potential market for eggs produced in this area. Carloads and carloads of eggs are being shipped into the Norfolk area each week. Therefore, we have an adequate market for our eggs but we must meet outside competition. This competition can be met by producing eggs of high quality and producing them as efficiently as possible.

Mr. Parrish informed us that it will cost approximately three dollars per bird to construct and equip a good laying house. In many instances producers have built and equipped houses for less than three dollars per bird by doing much of the work themselves and using lumber from the farm. It will cost approximately two dollars per bird to raise a pullet to profitable production. Thus, the initial cost of getting into commercial production will run about five dollars per bird.

With a good job done, the producer can expect to net a return of approximately one dollar to one dollar fifty cents per bird each year. A new flock of pullets is used each year and the old ones are disposed of when their production drops to 50 per cent.

People in Chowan County who are interested in information on commercial egg production should contact the county agent or the vocational agricultural teacher for information. We have house plans available for the asking and will be glad to assist anyone in considering and planning such an enterprise.

They need far more opportunities for recreation than the community provides them. I do not mean that we adults should interfere with our young people, for we would only make ourselves ridiculous. I do mean that we should see to it that they have places to go and things to do that are wholesome and constructive.

Our churches, too, could do more for the young people for whom God has made us responsible. Recreational facilities (such as a ping-pong table), weekday boys' and girls' clubs, and monthly outings would mean much to them. Larger churches should consider employing one or more full-time youth workers, people who are trained to work and counsel with young people. Young people should be given responsibilities, and should be encouraged to dedicate their talents to Christ.

There's so much I could say. Perhaps I had better just stop by wishing you all a happy youth week.



PICTURE WINDOW—Scoring canvas, Bulgarian artist Assen Peikov paints on framed glass in his Rome studio. A famed sculptor who has made a life-sized statue of Ava Gardner among other works, Peikov says the glass is less of an obstacle to artistic expression than canvas.

MILK PRODUCTION UP

Milk production on North Carolina farms during December totaled 143 million pounds. Production for December exceeded that for the comparable period of 1956 by 6 million pounds and the 1946-45 average by 24 million pounds. The preliminary estimate of the total milk production for the State during 1957 is presently set at 1,811 million pounds, an increase of 4 per cent over last year's annual output.

On January 1, 1958, milk production per total cows in herd averaged 17.4 pounds compared with 16.9 pounds a year earlier.

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New Book On Tree Information

Want to know more about the various kinds of trees that grow in North Carolina?

If so, you can get this information in the newly printed eighth and revised edition of "Common Forest Trees of North Carolina—How to Know Them". The publication contains 88 pages of information and illustrations of trees common to North Carolina and tells how to identify them.

It is a publication of the Division of Forestry, Department of Conservation and Development, Raleigh, N. C. It costs 15 cents per copy to all except school teachers and librarians and may be obtained by sending checks or money orders payable to the Department of Conservation and Development, Raleigh, N. C. Coins will be accepted for small orders.

Requests for the publication should be addressed to the In-

formation Office, Department of Conservation and Development, Raleigh, N. C.

New Program In Effect On WCDJ

WCDJ's new morning program schedule is now in effect. The Frank Roberts Show is still heard from 6:25 to 9 A. M., and morning devotions is still on the air from 9 to 9:15. That's followed by Boyce Williams' "Coffee Date," which is now on from 9:15 to 10:15. Next, from 10:15 to 10:45

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formation Office, Department of Conservation and Development, Raleigh, N. C. The air. Prizes will be given away, too. Then, at 10:45 comes the Pat Short Show, especially way telephone conversations are for the ladies. Also on Saturday mornings at 9:30 WCDJ will present "Window on the World," a program of extreme interest. All you have to do is call the station while "Party Line" is on friends.

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Weekly Devotional Column

By JAMES MACKENZIE

This is Youth Week throughout the United States. Churches of all denominations this past Sunday honored their young people; in many of them the young people were in charge of the entire morning worship service. This was the case in both the churches of which I am pastor, and I do not consider it any reflection on myself that the young people managed to draw far larger crowds than ever come out to hear me preach.

Certainly we in Edenton may be justly proud of the keen teenagers in our community. We have no "juvenile delinquency" to speak of, and no disrespect to elders. Many of our young people are employed at one job or another, and acquit themselves with credit. Some, such as the boys who work in the local radio station, have developed their abilities and natural talents to a degree that would be a cause of pride in any adult. Whatever the modern phrase "crazy, mixed-up kid" may mean, it doesn't mean too much here in Edenton.

In fact, we have a much better crop of young'uns than we deserve. Though we have provided some recreational facilities for our young people (and those adults who are responsible for these deserve the sincere gratitude of us all), the time still hangs heavy on their hands. For both their social and physical development

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