

STORM AND SANCTUARY

By JOHN D. McCREADY

Editor's Note: This is one of a series of articles written by John D. McCreedy, head of the English Department at Chowan College. Mr. McCreedy for 15 years was pastor of the First Baptist Church at Morganton and served as army chaplain in World War II and was state chaplain for the American Legion. Since connected with Chowan College, Mr. McCreedy has preached at many churches in this area.

Spring had come, though the weather was far from spring-like. The skies were as lead, and the atmosphere was chill.

"But we can't expect sunshine all the time," said a young man to himself as he made his way home late one afternoon; "some days must be dark and dreary, and are nothing to worry about."

Suddenly, however, he changed his mind. The wind began to blow with a strange fierceness and the clouds above him turned rapidly black and churned with an ominous fury.

A cyclone was coming—in seconds!

He looked about for shelter. Across the street was a church. He ran toward it.

And now the drama that nature was staging opened with terrifying swiftness. As he stepped on the porch of the church he saw large objects, two blocks away, borne by the blast. He tried the door of the church. It was locked. He dashed around the side of the building, hoping the other door would admit him. Thank heaven it did!

Inside the edifice he waited until the moaning of the tempest died out. Then he started through the streets, which were strewn with trees and other debris, toward his home. Finding all safe there, he joined a crowd who were making their way toward the poorer section of the town. There the flimsier houses had furnished the storm many a pathetic object for its wrath.

And now tales began to come in from other communities which had been in the cyclone's path. In a village sixteen miles distant a young man who worked in a large general store had rushed toward a shed back of the building, thinking this would provide better protection. In doing this he made a tragic mistake; for as he ran alongside the store an avalanche of bricks, blown from the "over-hang" above the second story, descended and crushed him to death.

Not every one knows from experience the terror of a tornado. But many a man, before he has lived out half his threescore years and ten, finds himself in tempests of other kinds just as fierce and formidable, and realizes, perhaps in dismay, his need of a refuge.

The young clerk, running beside his place of business to his death, is like many a man who trusts in things material. The other who found safety in the sanctuary, suggests a wiser way. A wealthy connoisseur once commissioned an artist to paint a picture for him which would express the idea of rest. He imagined him as choosing some tranquil scene, such as a beautiful meadow where sheep grazed happily beside a quiet stream, while the late afternoon sun bathed all in its gentle rays. What was his astonishment when he was shown the artist's production. It portrayed a lake in the midst of a storm. The skies were dark, the lightning flashed, and the waves beat madly against the cliffs at the water's edge.

"I wanted a picture of rest!" the man exclaimed, with distinct disappointment in his voice. "I don't see any rest here." "Please look more closely," came the quiet reply. And then he looked—and saw.

There, in a cleft in the high steep face of the rock, far above the swirling waters, sat a mother bird on her nest, quiet and serene in her perfect protection from the wind and waves that raged roundabout.

A sentence written thousands of years ago speaks of a man who would be "as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest." Many have found in Him their refuge.

The Man of Galilee promises no easy way, no freedom from tribulation, but in the midst of life's tempests something secure and satisfying.

"My peace," He says, "give I unto you." "Come unto Me . . . and find rest unto your souls."

CENTER HILL CLUB MEETS

The Center Hill Home Demonstration Club met on March 18 at the home of Mrs. Emmett P. Jones with Mrs. B. P. Monds, president, presiding.

Announcements were made of County Council meeting which was held on March 19 at the Center Hill Community Building with that club as hostess, and of the "Womanless Wedding" to be held on April 9 sponsored by the County Council.

A report was heard from the publicity chairman of a meeting of publicity leaders held earlier in the month which voted to sponsor a "Homemaker of the Month" project. This is to be done by secret ballot.

Miss Mairdred Morris, home agent, in her demonstration of Fabrics—Blends and Synthetics, urged each one to read the labels on garments before buying. Samples of various materials and blends were shown which wear and wash well and require little or no ironing. "It is well to remember to handle a blended fabric as if it were made entirely of a fibre needing the greatest care," the group was told.

Hints for caring for various blends of synthetic fabrics and how to keep nylons white were discussed which proved very helpful.

During the social period refreshments were served by the hostess.

OAK GROVE CLUB MEETS

The Oak Grove Local 4-H Club met March 19, at the Oak Grove Community building. The meeting was conducted by the president, Judy Privott. The devotional was given by Carolyn Evans.

The roll was called and minutes read by the secretary. There were 32 present with one new member, Linda Forehand, and one visitor.

The group welcomed the new assistant home agent, Miss Catherine Aman. They expressed the hope that Miss Aman would be here for sometime, and they looked forward to working with her.

After the business was transacted Robert S. Marsh made several announcements and gave a demonstration on "How To Give A Demonstration". After the meeting, recreation was enjoyed by all. Delicious refreshments were served by Judith, Leon and Lewis Evans. Mrs. Percy Nixon and Mrs. Marvin Evans were the adult leaders who attended.

Student Of Concentration

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Farmers Turn To Tile Drainage



Above is pictured tile being laid on the farm of Carroll Byrum, where six-inch tile is being installed to drain in a field of fall fescue. Mr. Byrum is receiving ACP assistance in carrying out this conservation practice of his soil and water conservation plan.—(Photo by James H. Griffin).

Fabrics Discussed At HD Meeting

"If you have it you eat it, otherwise you don't," said Mrs. Paul Ober at the recent Beach Fork Home Demonstration Club meeting at the home of Mrs. Cora Harrell. As garden leader, she stressed the importance of home gardens and everyone agreed foods can be raised much cheaper than they can be bought at the stores.

Mrs. Bertha Layton gave a report on flowers. "Prune out dead growth and fertilize moderately when new growth starts," she said. "Camelion can be pruned. Feed lawns when growth starts with 8-8-8."

Mrs. Mattie Halsey gave the devotional, reading Psalm 96 and followed with prayer.

The meeting was conducted by Mrs. W. H. Saunders. Everyone was urged to attend the County Council meeting at the Center Hill Community Building. The radio program in June was discussed. It was decided to pay membership for the Hospital Auxiliary. The outstanding homemaker of the club was chosen.

The demonstration "Fabrics—Synthetics and Blends" was given by Mrs. T. S. Leary. To add to her demonstration she passed out samples of different fabrics so they could observe the characteristics of the various fabrics. "Be careful when buying materials to know what you are getting and save all labels and washing instructions that might come with garments," urged Mrs. Leary.

Record For Soybean Acreage Is Indicated

Tar Heel farmers have reported intentions to plant a record 513,000 acres of soybeans, alone for all purposes, according to the North Carolina Crop Reporting Service. The previous record of 495,000 acres was planted in 1943. The prospective 1958 acreage of 513,000 acres is six per cent above 1957 plantings of 484,000 acres.

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Tree Farming Is Seen As Permanent Primer Of Nation's Economy

Tree farming is the root of an industry that is pumping more than \$6 billion a year into this country's economy through forest industry payrolls alone.

Millions more are paid farmers and other landowners for timber crops. Woods workers and allied industry payrolls add still more to the good living from the forests.

In just 17 years the Tree Farm concept of voluntary forest management has snow-balled into the greatest forest conservation movement fostered and administered by private enterprise this country has ever known.

And because trees — the raw material used in the manufacture of more than 5,000 items Americans use every day—grow and replace themselves, they form a fountain of increasing prosperity which puts new cash into the pockets of the nation's spenders each year.

The depth to which tree farming permeates the national economy through forest industry payrolls is reflected in figures announced by American Forest Products Industries, Inc., sponsor of the nationwide industry-operated American Tree Farm System of growing timber as a crop on tax-paying lands.

These figures show that of the \$6,272,000,000 distributed in 1956 in forest industry payrolls, 26.6 per cent, or \$1,668,400,000, was spent for food and tobacco; 11.6 per cent, or \$727,600,000, for taxes; 11.1 per cent, or \$696,200,000, for household operations; 10.7 per cent, or \$671,100,000, for transportation; 10 per cent, or \$627,200,000, for housing; 8.4 per cent, or \$528,700,000, for clothing, accessories and jewelry.

For food alone forest industry workers spent \$1,204,000,000, making groceries and delicatessen chief beneficiaries of their buying activities.

Other channels of business re-ported on—peanut acreage for pick- ing and freshing will be released later in the year.

ceiving generous portions of the forest industry payroll pie in 1956 were recreation, \$269,700,000; personal business, \$263,400,000; medical care and death expenses, \$257,200,000; churches and charities, \$69,000,000; personal care (barber shops, etc.), \$62,700,000; foreign travel, \$50,200,000; private education, \$48,900,000.

"Forest management under the private enterprise Tree Farm program means a permanent supply of raw material for the forest industries," said AFPI. "For the first time this century, we are growing timber faster than it is being moved from the forest, despite increasing uses for wood and an increasing population. The industry-operated Tree Farm movement means more dollars for the butcher, the baker and the auto maker while providing the

wood Americans need for many useful products. It is putting countless thousands of idle acres of land to work."

The \$6,272,000,000 in 1956 forest industry payrolls was divided into three categories: lumber and wood products, \$2,374,000,000; furniture and fixtures, \$1,410,000,000; paper and allied products, \$2,488,000,000.

Peanut Acreage Is Unchanged For 1958

North Carolina farmers report intentions to plant 187,000 acres of peanuts grown along for all purposes in 1958, according to the N. C. Crop Reporting Service. Such an acreage would equal that of 1957 but would be 19 per cent under the 1947-56 average of 232,000 acres. The first re-

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Prospective Corn Acreage Up 2%

Reports from North Carolina farmers indicate they plan to plant 2 per cent more corn this year than in 1957, according to the N. C. Crop Reporting Service. If these plans materialize, this year's acreage will be 1,911,000 acres compared with 1,874,000 acres planted in 1957.

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