

### Negro Home Demonstration News

By MRS. ONNIE S. CHARLTON, Negro Home Demonstration Agent

Spring Calls for A Fresh Clean Look! The County Council of Negro Home Demonstration Clubs urges all members and neighbors to complete your spring clean up now. Take a moment — look through your home. Go outside and look at your yard and surroundings. Do you find everything as neat and as clean as you wish them to be? The home and its surroundings is judged by the picture it makes and the story it tells to the people who pass by. It tells the type of citizen you are. The Council lists these reminders for you. Clean rooms, halls and porches of the home thoroughly. Clean surroundings and out-buildings thoroughly. Get rid of trash, cans, etc. Level yard, make a definite driveway. Keep grassy lawn trimmed. Fix porches, steps and fences. Paint as needed. Project leaders are asked to give a report in the May Home Demonstration Club meeting on cleaning done in the neighborhood.

The National Fire Protection Association gives this information on Spring Clean Up.

**A Clean House Seldom Burns—** Most fires start in trash piles, rubbish or stored odds and ends that accumulate in and around the house. Closets, attics and cellars are the main starting places of home fires, and plain ordinary good housekeeping is one of the best ways to prevent both the start of fire and its spread.

Real clean-up for fire safety boils down to a choice only you can make; either get rid of that

extra stuff around the house that burns so easily — or keep on taking the long chance of living amid such ideal fuel for fire.

With this in mind, look over the things you've got in your attics, closets and basements. These items will burn fast: Old linens and clothing, mattresses and wooden furniture, curtains, draperies, lampshades, magazines, papers, linoleum and rags — particularly dirty rags that have been used for painting or polishing.

This is the rubbish — the fuel — that too often means the difference between a small, controllable fire and a fire-gutted home. Don't stop when you've cleared out the inside of your house. Go after rubbish in your back yard, in alleys and in vacant lots near your home. And dispose of trash regularly and often — don't let it pile up.

**If You Must Burn Your Own Trash Outdoors—** First get a fire permit from your fire department or fire warden. Then pick a spot well away from house and garage and clear a strip of earth around the pile to be burned. The same advice applies to wire and sheet metal trash burners. Don't try to burn too much at one time.

Have a few pails of water ready and a rake or wet broom. When you're done, soak embers with water; stir to be sure all embers are wet. A gust of wind can fan up embers that are seemingly dead. Make sure that all fires are thoroughly out before you leave.

Other County officials have also been invited to the luncheon. Members of the Music Committee met in the home agent's office and planned for their annual Music Festival. The program proved to be very enjoyable last year so the County Council is again sponsoring the event. Those who met and planned the festival were Mrs. C. W. Overman, Mrs. Gilbert Harrell, Mrs. B. P. Monds and Mrs. Thurman Ashley.

Mrs. C. W. Overman, who is the county and district music chairman, is director of the event. The music festival will be on Sunday, May 4th at 3:00 P. M., in the Chowan High School auditorium. C. W. Overman will direct the congregational songs and Mrs. John Ross will serve as our pianist. The committee is at work trying to make this festival an outstanding event in Chowan County. We are hoping that you will plan to attend this program of sacred music.

May 4 through May 9 is National Home Demonstration Club Week. The Music Festival and the Commissioners' Luncheon will be held at this time. Several other events are being planned which will be announced later. Planning the events for the week are Mrs. Bristow Perry, chairman, Mrs. O. C. Long, and Mrs. M. T. Barrington.

Friday, April 18th is our 25th District meeting in Currituck. I want to urge all the club women to go. If you are planning to drive and do not have a load, please notify the home agent because there may be a few who do not have a ride.

### News About Clubs In Chowan County

By MAIDRED MORRIS, Home Demonstration Agent

The club women have really been busy in the county during the past few weeks and are making plans for a busy spring.

The "Womanless Wedding" which was sponsored by the Chowan County Council was a big success. The men are to be congratulated on such a fine performance. They attended each rehearsal and seemed to enjoy working on the program. Mrs. Lonnie Harrell, director of the performance, and Mrs. B. P. Monds and Mrs. A. D. Ward, Jr., assistant directors, did a fine job in directing the program. The club women who were members of various committees worked real hard so that the program might be successful. I want to thank the clubs and the merchants for donating the refreshments which were served at the "reception". The wedding cake was very beautiful. And I do not want to forget to thank those who attended the event because it was you who made our program successful.

Mrs. George Smith, Mrs. Jack Leary and Mrs. W. T. Goodwin, members of the Food and Nutrition Committee, met in the home agent's office to plan for the Commissioners' Luncheon. The Chowan Home Demonstration County Council will entertain the Commissioners at a luncheon on Monday, May 5, at 1:00 P. M., in the Advance Community Building.

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