

Negro Home Demonstration News

By MRS. ONNIE S. CHARLTON, County Negro Home Economics Agent

Everyone is invited to the Awards Program on Community Progress, Monday, January 25, at White Oak Consolidated School at 7:30 P. M.

Five communities will be recognized for their work in the contest. They are: Canaan Temple, Center Hill, Hudson Grove, Triangle and Warren Grove-Green Hall.

At this program information on the 1960 contest will be explained. We would like to see men, women and older youth there from all neighborhoods in the county—bring the children, too, if you wish. The Community Progress Contest is sponsored by the Agriculture Workers Council and financed by the Peoples Bank & Trust Company of Edenton.

The County Council of Home Demonstration Clubs will meet January 29, at the Brown-Carver Library, 10:30 A. M. All officers from each home demonstration club are members of the Council. Please be present.

The 4-H County Council will meet January 30, at the Edenton High School cafeteria, 1:00 P. M. All club officers and 4-H Club leaders are asked to be present.

The Edenton Home Demonstration Club had a special meeting Friday night to see and discuss "Dress For Occasion." Club women acted as models and explained what should be worn on different occasions. First to appear to soft strains of music were Mrs. Eva Riddick, Mrs. Catherine Lewis and Mrs. Christine Satterfield showing what the high school girl should wear. In succession Mrs. Aletha Brinkley, Mrs. Jessie Badhams and Mrs. Marie Reeves modeled correct dress for "Traveling"; Mrs. Mary Blount and Mrs. Eva C. Cox, "Visiting"; Mrs. Emily Brooks, "Shopping"; Mrs. Clara Simons, Mrs. Elnora Barnes, "Church"; Mrs. Mable B. Jordan and Miss Gussie Elliott, "Afternoon Tea" and "At Home" affair; Mrs. Lindsay Blount, Mrs. Ella Foxwell and Mrs. Lillie Brown, "Formal and Informal Affairs." A question and answer period followed. Here we discussed dress for Home, Club Meeting, Gloves and Hats, Veils and Jewelry.

Speaker Points Out Importance Of Water

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Municipalities and industries return about 80% of the water directly to streams, while agriculture does not return any water used directly. He also pointed out that the use of irrigation has gone up 5,000% in the last ten years, and the potential supply of water in streams is limited.

Mr. Long emphasized that industry and municipalities are finding ways to re-use water as much as possible, and must continue to do so. He stated emphatically that it is squandering nature's resources to use water once, pollute it beyond redemption and cast it aside. "Water must be made to do more and more work for more and more people by being used over and over again," he stated. With these remarks as a background, Mr. Long read the North Carolina law as adopted in 1951, with amendments thereafter.

The first public health laws were enacted in 1893, at which time water was considered only for domestic use. By this time the state has become equally concerned with the use of water by industry, agriculture and recreation. The law set up the Stream Sanitation Division and gave it the responsibility of developing a series of classifications and standards by which to measure pollution based on the uses of a body of water. The division, after a considerable amount of study, established the following classifications:

- A-1—Sufficient for water supply without treatment except chlorination. This type of water supply is found only in the western part of the state.
 - A-2—Suitable for public water supply with usual treatment methods.
 - B.—Suitable for outdoor bathing.
 - C.—Suitable for fish and wildlife propagation.
 - D.—Suitable for agricultural and industrial uses.
 - E.—Suitable for navigation and waste disposal.
- The same classification is applicable to salt water streams.

TAX FACTS FOR THE HOMEOWNER NO. 2 Buying, Selling Or Improving Your Home

(This is one of a series of articles on federal income tax filing. The articles are based on information provided by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the North Carolina Association of Certified Public Accountants, in cooperation with the Internal Revenue Service.)

IN TODAY'S economy, with constantly rising prices and land values, it is quite common for the family man to look upon his home as an investment. Not that he entertains the idea of selling it necessarily, but at least he knows that it will probably climb in value, and that he could then sell it if he wanted to. However, as an investment, the ownership of a home differs in many respects from the ownership of stocks or bonds, and these differences have important tax implications that you should be aware of.

Changing Your Residence

If you sell your home (which is your principal residence) at a profit and move to a new house, you may not have to pay tax on the profit. Let's say you bought a house five years ago for \$15,000, which you sold last year for \$20,000. Since you held the house for more than six months, the profit of \$5,000 is taxable as a long-term capital gain at a maximum rate of 25 per cent. However, if you move into a new house either one year before or one year after the sale, and if the new house costs \$20,000 or more, then you pay no tax on the \$5,000 profit. If you are having the new house built for yourself and construction begins either one year before or one year after the sale of the old house, then the period of replacement is extended to eighteen months from date of sale, providing you occupy it within that period.

The important point here is that the new house must cost as much or more than the amount you receive for the old house. If it cost only \$19,000, you must pay the long-term capital gains tax on the balance of \$1,000. You could actually sell your house at a profit and buy a new one every few years without paying a tax on the profit, but you aren't really avoiding the tax, you are merely postponing it. The cumulative gain will be taxed when the last house is finally sold without being replaced.

Expenses of Owning a House

A home owner is usually in a more advantageous tax position than a person who rents. This is because home owners who elect to itemize their deductions rather than use the standard 10 per cent deduction are allowed

to deduct interest and property taxes paid during the year. They can also deduct the loss on damage to their house and grounds resulting from a fire, storm, earthquake, or other casualty (this was discussed in the first article of the series). Taxpayers who rent their homes from others undoubtedly are paying for these costs by rent, but they cannot claim any tax deduction.

Home Improvements and Repairs

Repairs to your home are considered personal expenses. They are not deductible, and for tax purposes, do not increase the cost of your house. Although repairs and maintenance costs are not deductible, they can be used to reduce the amount which must be spent on a new house in order to postpone payment of tax on the gain. However, this only applies to such costs if they are incurred within 90 days before contract; to sell the house, or paid within 30 days after.

Improvements to your house are not deductible either, but they do increase the cost of your house. This is an important point to remember when planning to sell your house. To determine the amount you will gain from the sale of your house, add the cost of improvements you have made to the original cost of the house and subtract the total from the selling price. If you bought it for \$15,000, added \$2,000 worth of improvements, and sold it for \$20,000, your gain would be \$3,000.

When you invest in a home, it is almost like investing in a business. To be able to take advantage of the legitimate tax considerations you are entitled to, you will need to keep accurate records of your various expenses. So don't forget to save your paid bills from year to year.

Next Article: The Home as an Income Producer.

Dr. Long pointed out that a classification of a stream takes about two years. In discussing this procedure he pointed out that the water is checked above and below each municipality or

industry located on a stream from the headwaters to its terminal point at the Atlantic Ocean. A composite study is made under laboratory methods. This composite is made up of samples taken from the water at intervals determined by the flow of the water. The data compiled by the laboratory is then published and mailed to every municipality and industry on the river basin, and advertised in each paper in counties affected in the basin before a hearing is held. At the hearing everything said and done is tape recorded. At the hearing the Stream Sanitation Division recommends its classification and the people have a chance to have their say. The effort is toward protecting the stream for the best use made or to be made of it. Then the technical report and proceedings of public hearings and the final classification of the river basin is published. Then a comprehensive pollution abatement plan is made. This plan sets out what each community must do.

Mr. Long gave a progress report on these activities. Since 1951 the following streams have been studied and plans prepared: Yadkin, White Oak, Chowan, Roanoke, French Broad, Cape Fear and Neuse (67% of the state's area). Field studies have been made of the Pasquotank, Little Tennessee, Hiwassee, Catawba and Tar (22%). Studies are under way on the Lumber and Broad River Basins (9%). The remaining 2% of the state's river basin area is comprised by the New River and the Watauga River. All streams should be studied by 1962.

Mr. Long concluded his prepared speech by pointing out that it is imperative for the

public to be educated about stream pollution and the cost and necessity for correcting stream pollution. He cited the tremendous cost to the state and nation of polluted and inefficient streams.

After his speech Mr. Long was besieged with questions concerning sewage treatment as it pertains to Edenton. In his answers to questions, he stated that the Chowan River and tributaries around Edenton had a classification of "C," which means fish and wild life propagation. He pointed out the al-

ternatives if the bond election is defeated by the voters, which were that the state would issue an order, appealable to the courts, and that thereafter if the order held, the financing cost would be higher. He stated that federal aid is available, but inadequate and very low. He told the group the steps that were necessary in order to secure a high place on the waiting list for federal aid. The speaker graciously remained at the podium as long as there were questions.

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