

## SOIL CONSERVATION NEWS

By JAMES H. GRIFFIN, Soil Conservationist

Some farmers in Chowan County are beginning to want more information about their Soil Conservation District, how it works and how the U. S. Soil Conservation Service fits into the picture. Today's column will be on the SCD program.

Soil conservation districts are legally constituted units of state government created to administer soil and water conservation work within their boundaries. They are not branches or agencies of any federal department. Each district is autonomous and self-governed. It has authority to enter into working agreements with other governmental agencies and with private concerns to carry out its purposes.

Through such working agreements with the individual districts, the Soil Conservation Service and other agencies of the U. S. Department of Agriculture provide assistance to farmers, watershed associations and others.

Each district is created by legal procedures under authority of state law. The enactment of the North Carolina Soil Conservation Districts Law in 1937 and the organization of the Brown Creek Soil Conservation District the same year, marked the beginning of districts. Chowan and Perquimans Counties were organized in July, 1943. The present Albemarle SCD was not organized until January, 1945, and added Pasquotank, Camden and Currituck Counties. Founders of the Albemarle Soil Conservation District were T. C. Byrum, Sr., Edenton; E. N. Elliott, Tyner; Archie T. Lane, Hertford; E. M. Perry and John T. Lane.

All districts are based on the principle that local landowners and operators should take the initiative and responsibility in directing conservation programs aimed at solving their local soil and water problems.

Districts are created after petitions, public hearings and a referendum show that land owners and operators want such a local agency to deal with their conservation problems.

Once established, a soil conservation district is legally responsible for soil and water conservation within its boundaries.

much as a county is responsible for roads or a school district for education.

Each soil conservation district is directed by a board of supervisors elected by the people. Elected district supervisors in Chowan County are L. C. Bunch, H. F. Byrum and J. A. Webb, Jr. This board of supervisors decides upon a county-wide program and plan of action. It then arranges for assistance from public or private sources to put its program into effect.

A State Soil Conservation Committee established by the State Soil Conservation Law has general direction of district activities in the state. This body acts for the state government in creating new districts. It consults with and advises district governing bodies and facilitates their local operations. It manages the state funds made available for district operations.

State laws authorize districts to own property, to accept materials and services and to use and manage them to further their conservation objectives. Through cooperative agreements with individual land owners and operators, they make their facilities available to them to accomplish soil and water conservation on their land.

Technical assistance is furnished soil and water conservation districts by the U. S. Soil Conservation Service under terms of formal memorandums of understanding with each district. The memorandums of understanding between the Soil Conservation Service and the Albemarle Soil Conservation District was signed on July 13, 1943. SCS will make available to the district the services of technical personnel especially trained in the science of soil and water conservation. Services furnished by the Soil Conservation Service will include soil surveys, assistance in developing conservation plans for watersheds, helping owners and operators of lands in district to develop conservation plans for their farms, technical assistance in carrying out conservation practices on their farms and other necessary work. Technically trained personnel are available in all phases of soil and water conservation.

Districts have the responsibility for keeping their work plan up-to-date and to create interest of owners and operators and the public in soil and water conservation.

The district will be responsible for determining priority of work. Adopt a system for orderly and progressive development and application of conservation plans of farms. It will use the technical assistance furnished only by lands under cooperative agreements to the district.

Other agencies of the Department of Agriculture have their own agreements with the district.

The Albemarle Soil Conservation District offers the following services to its operators: (A) Detailed soil and land capability map of farmland, (B) Local and specific information about the different safe uses and adapted crops for each kind of soil on your farms, (C) Information about the conservation practices needed on each kind of soil with each of the possible systems to use, (D) Consultation service from a professional soil conservationist to help you make a basic conservation plan for your land, (E) Technical services as needed to design, lay out and check the construction of dams, terraces, open ditches, tile, sod waterways, ponds or other structures you decide to build; to decide on varieties of plants, seeding methods and rates and cultural practices to use in establishing grass or trees as planned; and to answer technical questions that arise in managing pastures, woodland or wildlife.

Recently the Soil Conservation Service added a forester and a wildlife biologist to its staff to service district operators.

Besides the Soil Conservation Service, other agencies help the district to carry out its objectives in soil and water conservation.

The U. S. Forest Service has supplemental memorandums of understanding with certain districts, especially where national forest lands are intermingled with private lands.

The Farmers Home Administration makes loans to soil conservation districts to help them provide community facilities or services for soil and water conservation. It makes loans direct to individual cooperators to help them apply a conservation program.

U. S. Department of Agriculture policy invites district governing boards (district supervisors) to participate with county ASC Committee in developing county ACP programs. The Federal Extension Service cooperates with land grant colleges in furthering conservation education. The state and county extension organization in turn make appropriate arrangements for assistance to soil conservation districts. Similar working agreements with states agencies, county governments or private groups are made by the board of district supervisors in carrying out their soil and water conservation objectives.

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Surviving are her husband, Graham H. Harrell; her mother, Mrs. Allie Myers White of Colerain; a son, Graham Harrell, at home; a daughter, Judy Harrell, student nurse at Roanoke Rapids Hospital; two brothers, George Clay and Shelly Clay, both of Colerain; three sisters, Mrs. Calvin Johnson of Colerain, Mrs. M. F. Monahan of Suffolk and Mrs. Henry Ellis of Wakefield, Va.

She was a member of the Colerain Baptist Church, where funeral services will be held

steamed rice, apple rings and chocolate pudding.

Wednesday: Milk, rolls, butter, ravioli, pimento cheese sandwich, tossed salad, hot rolls, butter and pineapple-grapefruit cup.

Thursday: Milk, boiled ham, potato salad, turnip greens, pickle relish, rolls, butter and jello with fruit.

Friday: Milk, fish sticks with cheese slices, French fried potatoes, carrot and cabbage salad, hush puppies, butter and lemon pudding.

### CHOWAN 4-H CLUB MEETS

The Chowan Intermediate 4-H Club met in the Chowan High School auditorium with the meeting called to order by Dennis Hare, president. The Pledge of Allegiance and the 4-H Pledge were given.

Joyce Bass gave a very inspiring devotional. The secretary, Sandra Harrell, called the roll and read the minutes of the last meeting, which were approved.

Arlyn Bunch and Sarah Elliott had an interesting program about the two United States presidents who were born in February, Lincoln and Washington. The meeting was turned over to the agents.

Miss Catherine Aman, assistant home economics agent, showed the girls the techniques of giving a method demonstration. Miss Aman urged all the girls to participate in the demonstration program that is directly related to the 4-H projects. Miss Aman pointed out that one can gain poise and much technical information from writing and giving a demonstration.

Harry Venters, assistant county agricultural agent, showed the boys how to clean a tractor air filter. This is the most important part of the tractor that protects the engine from wear. Mr. Venters pointed out to the boys that a tractor burns 8,000 gallons of air to every gallon of gasoline. Therefore, it is important that the air filter be properly serviced to insure dust-free air for the tractor engine.

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### Lunch Room Menu

Menus at the Edenton Elementary School lunch room for the week February 29-March 4 will be as follows:

Monday—Luncheon meat, tossed salad, cheese slices, milk, sandwich bread, green beans, peach pie.

Tuesday—Pork and vegetable pie, candied yams, fruit jello, school baked rolls, butter, milk.

Wednesday—Beef vegetable soup, crackers, block cake, milk, peanut butter sandwiches.

Thursday—Spanish rice with beef-cheese slices, corn bread, carrot sticks, apple pie, butter, milk.

Friday—Tuna salad, potato sticks, garden peas, milk, grapefruit, potato sticks, school baked rolls, butter.

### COLERAIN, RESIDENT DIES

Mrs. Gladys Clay Harrell, 48, of Colerain died in Roanoke-Chowan Hospital at Ahoskie Tuesday morning at 4:30 o'clock following an illness of only one day.

Surviving are her husband, Graham H. Harrell; her mother, Mrs. Allie Myers White of Colerain; a son, Graham Harrell, at home; a daughter, Judy Harrell, student nurse at Roanoke Rapids Hospital; two brothers, George Clay and Shelly Clay, both of Colerain; three sisters, Mrs. Calvin Johnson of Colerain, Mrs. M. F. Monahan of Suffolk and Mrs. Henry Ellis of Wakefield, Va.

### Lunch Room Menu

Menus for the Chowan High School lunch room for the week of February 20 to March 4 will be as follows:

Monday: Milk, meat loaf and gravy, buttered potatoes, string beans, sliced tomatoes, oven bread, butter and block cake.

Tuesday: Milk, sausage, scrambled eggs, green butter beans,

### Assets Used In Farming Up 62% In Decade

Capital and investment needs in farming have shown a big growth in recent years, in common with the trend in the rest of the economy, according to data compiled by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The figures show that all assets used in production averaged \$33,455 per farm last year, almost double the comparable figure of \$16,979 in 1950. Translated into equivalents per farm worker, the production investment rose from an average of \$9,625 in 1950 to \$20,651 last year, up 115 per cent. All assets used in farm production totaled \$155.4 billions in 1958, up \$59.5 billions or 62 per cent in the current decade.

This (Thursday) afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. The pastor, the Rev. P. T. Worrell, will officiate and burial will be in Hillcrest Cemetery at Colerain.

### Aces And Acelets Wind Up Season With Double Win

By BILL GOODWIN

Edenton Aces and Acelets closed their regular season basketball schedule Friday night by capturing both ends of an exhibition doubleheader with Perquimans High School on the local court.

The Acelets ran off with their twelfth straight victory, 40-29, in the preliminary game. The Aces took the nightcap 43-33. Neither contest gave either team much to cheer about.

The Aces shot with consistency through the first half, going into the rest period leading 23-12. The third period and part of the fourth found the home forces in a basket drought. Perquimans took advantage of the cold spell to cut the gap to one point at 31-30 with three minutes to play.

Johnny Phillips, Bryant Griffin and Bill Goodwin hit for field goals and Jerry Tolley and Phillips came through with foul shots to shove the Aces out of the danger in the final two minutes. During this spree Per-

quimans was getting only three gratis tosses.

Phillips led the Aces with 15 points and Griffin had 11. Tolley added 6, Goodwin 4, Herbert Adams, Jimmy Jonston and Ray Ward two apiece and Fred Britton 1. Billy Colson hit for 10 and Billy Nixon 9 to pace Perquimans.

With Sara Relfe Smith on the sidelines with the flu, and Ida Campen partly immobilized with a wrist injury, the Acelets had to rely on Beverly Morgan's 22 points and a tight defensive job by Norma Blanchard, Mary Ann Hare and Nettie Lassiter. But they executed their assignments with poise and the locals romped to victory on a 15-point fourth quarter scoring binge.

Mary Anne Overton added 12 points to Morgan's total. Sue Bunch had 4 and Barbara Layton 2. Stallings led Perquimans with 11 points.

### ORKIN SALES INCREASE

Orkin Exterminating Company, headquartered in Atlanta, has announced that its gross sales had increased 372% since 1952. In releasing sales figures for 1959 the company pointed out that during the year sales increased 20% over 1958. Sales for 1959 were in excess of \$26,600,000.

Recognized by a leading financial reporting firm as the world's largest pest control company, Orkin opened 225 of-

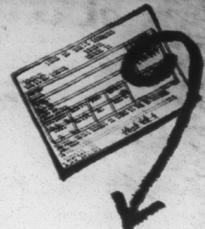
fices and expanded its coverage from 22 states to 28 states from coast to coast since 1952.

### Tailoring Workshop Scheduled March 1

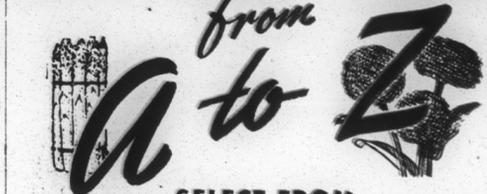
Miss Mary Em Lee, Extension clothing specialist, N. C. State College, will conduct a tailoring workshop at the Chowan Community Building Tuesday, March 1.

All persons interested in tailoring are urged to be present at this meeting beginning at 9 A. M.

Miss Lee will discuss techniques in tailoring, which will include collars, cuffs, pockets, buttonholes, zippers, seams, hems, sleeves and other details which make a garment look professionally made.



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\$ 585,519,128	Assets \$ 540,773,865
Total payments to policyholders and beneficiaries since 1907— \$375,938,303.	

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