

GASOLINE BLUES—With gasoline becoming harder and harder to obtain, lines such as the one pictured above are becoming commonplace in Edenton as well as surrounding communities. This particular line of cars extended from the driveway of WCDJ radio station on Paradise Road to Edenton Shell service station on Broad Street, almost one mile away.

Around Chowan County Farms

By R. M. THOMPSON
County Extension Chariman

We have been asked many questions on pecans, if you look over the following article you may find certain situations that are similar to some of your problems.

Pecan trees are widely grown in North Carolina both for shade and nuts. Pecan trees have several disease problems which reduce both the shade value and the nut crop but seldom kill a tree. These diseases are difficult for the homeowner to control with chemicals because of tree height. Therefore, spraying pecan trees usually is not feasible for homeowners.

SCAB is the most common and damaging pecan disease. It is caused by a fungus that affects rapidly growing leaves, shoots, and nuts. Symptoms on all plant parts are similar. Velvety olive-brown to black spots occur on the husks. Several spots may develop to form black blotches or may blacken the entire surface of the husks. Severely affected nuts of susceptible varieties may drop prematurely or they may stop growing, die and remain attached to the shoot. Leaf symptoms first appear on the underside as tiny olive-brown lesions on the veins. Later, leaf symptoms appear on the upper surface as small olive-brown to black spots. Severely infected leaves may be shed prematurely and weaken the tree, thus reducing the crop next year.

For homeowners the most practical control of scab is to plant a resistant variety such as: Stuart, Cape Fear, Desirable, Elliott or Gloria Grand. But using a resistant variety does not necessarily assure a complete absence of the disease however, as no variety is totally resistant. If possible, removing and destroying all leaves and husks may help reduce the amount of scab the following year.

A spray schedule is available for growers who have spray equipment to cover the trees, or for growers who hire custom spray applicators.

Spray with either dodine (Cyprex 65WP) at 1 pound per 100 gallons of water (1 tsp per 1 gallon), Du-Ter 47.5 WP at 1/2 pound per 100 gallons of water or benomyl (Benlate 50WP) at 1/2 pound per 100 gallons of water (1/2 tsp per gallon). Spray applications should be made every 2-3 weeks beginning when leaves first emerge until mid-August. Spray at 2-week intervals when the tree is growing rapidly or during wet periods.

POWDERY MILDEW is occasionally a problem on highly susceptible seedling trees and can be identified by the white powdery growth on the surface of nuts and young shoots. Powdery mildew usually does not cause serious damage to most pecan varieties. On susceptible trees the disease can be controlled by spraying with sulfur at 3 pounds per 100 gallons of water (1 1/2 tsp per 1 gallon) as needed with or without the materials suggested for scab, or use benomyl (Benlate 50WP) alone as suggested for scab control.

BLOTCH and several other leaf diseases can occasionally cause defoliation in late August or September but rarely cause much damage. When severe, however, these diseases may weaken the tree and reduce the nut crop for the following year. These diseases appear as circular black spots or large irregular yellow blotches on the leaves. The spray schedule and sanitation measures suggested for scab will usually control leaf spots.

WOOD OR HEART ROTTS can cause extensive wood decay and thus weaken the branches or trunk. These fungus diseases occur following mechanical damage, commonly caused by ice, wind, improper pruning, or mechanical damage during construction. Damaged trees should be properly pruned to ensure normal healing and treated with asphalt-base wood dressing.

ROSETTE occasionally occurs on pecans in North Carolina. THIS PROBLEM IS

CAUSED BY A ZINC DEFICIENCY. On severely deficient trees, the new shoot growth is stunted or bunched and the leaves form in clusters at the end of the limbs. Zinc deficiency can be corrected by spraying the leaves twice with zinc sulfate alone or added to other sprays at the rate of 2 pounds per 100 gallons of water (2 tsp per 1 gallon) or apply zinc to the soil under the tree at the rate of 1/2 pound for each inch of trunk diameter.

INTERNAL BREAKDOWN of almost mature nuts in late summer occurs each year. The inside part of the nut becomes soft and watery. This is a physiological disorder the cause of which is not known. Its severity varies from year to year, but appears to be most prevalent on certain varieties such as Moneymaker and Mohan.

In southeastern and coastal areas, SPANISH MOSS can occasionally become thick enough in pecan trees to increase ice and wind damage. A small amount of Spanish Moss does little or no damage to trees. Where it is a problem, spray the moss with copper sulfate at the rate of 10 pounds per 100 gallons (6 tsp per 1 gallon) during the dormant season.

CROWN GALL is a disease that results in round to irregularly swollen tumors or galls, usually found at or near the soil line on the trunk or roots. Infected trees show a lack of vigor, foliage lacks normal green color, and occasionally the tree may die. To prevent crown gall, plant disease-free trees.

Now is the time to fertilize pecan trees. We suggest 3 pounds 8-8 fertilizer for every inch in diameter.

If you have any questions or would like a copy of the article contact our office.

That Eli Whitney (of Cotton gin fame), under the auspices or financial support of Army Materiel Command forerunners, developed the interchangeable parts concept for gun production in 1798 that became the seedbed for all mass production processes?



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Mayor Proclaims DECA Week

In a proclamation to be signed by Mayor Roy L. Harrell, next week, March 3-9, will be designated DECA Week in honor of the students participating in the distributive education program in the Edenton-Chowan School system.

During the week, a feature and an editorial on the program will be submitted to the Chowan Herald, and the DECA Club of Holmes High tentatively has planned to be featured on radio station WCDJ. The radio station will also broadcast the mayor's designation of the week. An alumni party for DECA members of the last two years will be held at the VFW building on Friday night.

Agency Endorses Growth Plan

RALEIGH—The Department of Transportation has taken a non-traditional role in its part in the Currituck Plan. The plan which has been developed by county officials to insure orderly growth in the county's part of the Outer Banks has been endorsed by the Department of Transportation and other state agencies.

The plan has decided upon a non-automobile oriented system for the section of the Outer Banks. This puts a crimp in the minds of people who think the Department of Transportation is only the overgrown highway-paving organization of the state.

"When we have a chance to become involved in planning such as this, it is quite possible that the department will often be in what is a non-traditional role," says the department's assistant secretary for planning, John Cameron. "This is what planning is, taking all the ideas, developing alternatives, and then deciding which alternative is best. It's not starting with a pre-opinion and trying to prove that opinion."

The transportation system which is supported by the state and Currituck County would feature a non-vehicular passenger ferry system between the mainland and the banks. Automobile parking will be available on the mainland.

The only vehicles allowed in the area would be commercial service or necessary convenience vehicles. They would have controlled access by a road extending northward from Dare County.

A public road along the banks would form the spine of the internal travel network for the banks. Both the state and county would seek to control access along this roadway.

"We're talking about a system which moves people, not automobiles, said Cameron.

These plans are developed around that emphasis, so that puts us in the realm of promoting a bus or jitney type transit system—preferably with a non-combustion engine. The plan encourages the use of bicycles and other non-motorized vehicles. This plan looks to encouraging to preservation of the natural setting," Cameron said.

Cameron pointed out that the financial picture would be borne by the users and the beneficiaries of the system. He said this includes governmental entities, the general public, developers and other property owners. He also noted that future travel demands could justify adjustments in the system.

"This is the plan supported for Currituck County," Cameron said. "This does not mean that it would fit everywhere, but trying it here could mean that it could work in other places."

Raleigh Roundup

By MILDRED HUSKINS

The General Assembly has been on camera this past week with a crew of photographers filming like crazy a production authorized by the 1973 first session.

The film is to be put together for the purpose of showing the people about the state just what the law-making body is all about. It will be made available to schools, clubs and organizations and Monday night was the time the lights came on like the morning sun in the lower house of the legislative body.

The regular session had opened as usual with prayer by the chaplain who, in the bright lights, recalled that "Lord, we have much to hang our heads over as well as to bow our heads..." and then he asked the Higher Power to help all of us "build hope for our shared future."

The galleries were packed. The Young Farmers of North Carolina were visiting their state house and members of the Farm Bureau were on hand. As usual there were numerous members of the teaching profession observing.

The calendar was long and then the House adjourned "for real." Speaker James Ramsey told the members there would be a mock session and everyone was to be kind to the directors and do just what he said. So, the mock session, as we observed it, was not as good a show as the real one. There were, of course, some of the light moments recorded...the Speaker's gavel broke and it all started over.

Rep. Herbert Hyde of Buncombe was allowed to repeat his now-famous Swain Count cussing bill debate but got all of it. He cleaned it up a little for the kids. There was a mock roll call and as the roll was called the cameraman was wheeled down the recarpeted aisle in a wheel-chair which explained to us why that chair had been in the place at all. There was a fun bill introduced which would have abolished Person County (home county of Speaker Ramsey and President pro tem Gordon Allen of the Senate). That bill the Speaker sent to the Committee on Water and Air Resources. They went through the motions and late in the evening the members adjourned for the cameras.

During the regular session that evening there was considerable debate, as there usually is on the Wildlife Committee bills, on a bill relating to law enforcement authority of wildlife protectors. The bill had come out of committee with a favorable report but the members were giving it a hard time. Finally Rep. Hyde charged that the bill

was designed to make law enforcement officers of the wildlife protectors and he thought it was a bill to make them state police. He asked: "What next? First, there are now bills to prevent cussing in 98 counties...these fellows want to come in, cut down stills and burn the whole mountain. I'm opposed to it and I do move that the bill do lie upon the table." Well, it did. When that happens to a bill it is the end of it for that session.

The bill to provide an amendment for merit selection of judges met with cruel treatment by members of the House and came to its final demise Thursday afternoon when it was finally defeated.

The debate was heated Wednesday when Rep. Billy Watkins of Granville, House Majority leader, made an impassioned speech against it. He is in favor of electing judges and the opposition wanted them nominated on merit by a committee, then appointed by the governor. The proponents of the bill had charged that the present system placed the judiciary in politics. Rep. Watkins, becoming carried away after pointing out that members of the House have to run for election, shouted: "Do we play politics on the floor of the House?" He got only laughter from his colleagues as answer. Watkins continued that judges make more salary "than we do and we have to run every two years." Someone had charged that judges can't afford a statewide political campaign. Again it was Rep. Hyde who said he would plead guilty to bringing politics "into this chamber" and "called the previous questions," which cuts

off debate and a vote is taken. But, it was the next day, as we were late entering the gallery, we heard Rep. Gilbert Roger of Davie explaining why he was changing his mind and voting against the bill. "The governor didn't tell me how to vote...and I didn't go to bed with the Gentleman from Granville (Watkins last night. Nobody has told me how to vote on this bill. I've changed my mind and I vote no."

Rep. Hyde, trying desperately to get absent members back into their seats for the third roll call vote, almost tried a filibuster. He saw he was defeated and said he'd been frustrated. He saw he was defeated and said he'd been frustrated before. "I once walked 14 miles to the head of Crowder Creek to see a girl...so, I've been frustrated many times." He thanked all of those who had supported his bill and he'd given all his supporters plenty of time to get back to the chamber. He just couldn't muster the votes on the third reading.

"Knowing the Gentleman's judicial temperament, I'll just ignore all the Gentleman has said," Speaker Ramsey closed the matter.

We didn't miss a single one of the three two-hour public hearings last week. Medical Manpower bills, the Appropriation Committee. At the first hearing the chairman, Rep. Carl Stewart of Gaston, explained that only those who had been invited or had asked to speak would be heard and only committee members could ask questions. When the time for questions came a visitor in the back arose and

began making quite a speech of discrimination going on as it applied to one of the state universities.

The next day Rep. Stewart was again in the chair and outlined the ground rules for the hearing and then, referring to the "trouble we had yesterday," he said he'd instructed the sergeant-at-arms to deputize Rep. Nancy Chase and Rep. Kitchen Josey to keep order in the auditorium. Now, Mrs. Chase of Wayne is not quite five feet tall and Josey is over six feet.

During the past week there has been much political conversation since the filing date was so near. There were several familiar figures around the state house who have announced they won't be returning. One of them is Gene Simmons of Tarboro, who announced that he will not seek re-election as reading clerk of the Senate.

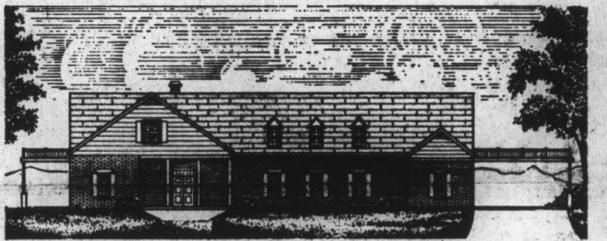
Rep. Herschel Harkins of Buncombe stopped Simmons on neutral ground between the House and Senate chambers and said that it would be terrible for Simmons to quit.

Simmons in a modest way, said he didn't think it would be so terrible.

"The hell it won't," Harkins read something over there (in the Senate) in a way they could understand it, we'd be in trouble...the whole state would be in trouble."

Simmons, often referred to as Magnolia Mouth, is a tobacco auctioneer when he is not "reading" in the Senate.

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