

Organizational Meeting Held

The Young Farmers and Ranchers held their organizational meeting March 20 at the Colonial Restaurant with a supper. Among those present were Elbert Phelps, N. C. Farm Bureau field representative, Billy Williams, Young Farmers and Ranchers state chairman, Jimmie Parrish, Chowan County Farm Bureau president, Jimmy Stallings, Farm Bureau insurance agent, Ed Nixon and Thomas Paul Griffin. The officers elected for the Young Farmers and Ranchers Organization were Mrs. Linda White, secretary and J. M. Parrish, committee chairman. The Planning Committee consist of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Dale White, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Monds, David Jethro, Jerry Small and J. M. Parrish.

The second meeting was held April 28, at the Edenton Courthouse with Sgt. Deans from Elizabeth City as the guest speaker. The topic was Farm Safety.



ICE CREAM GOBLERS—Young people came to play a role in the Foods Festival held at the National Guard Armory last week as Maola Milk and Ice Cream Company sponsored an ice cream eating contest. The left photo above shows a glimpse of the action as contestants gobble down Refreshos. Winners in the event are shown in the right photo along with the sponsors. Bruce White, 12, brandishes ice cream and a baseball glove, and Duane Proctor, nine, displays good winning form on the Refresho while holding a transistor radio prize. Also pictured are Melvin Harrison, far left, Mrs. Mildred Jones, right center, and John Baker, far right, representatives of Maola from the home office in New Bern.—(Staff Photos by Surratt).

ARTS AND CRAFTS DISPLAYED—Mrs. Phyllis Jordan, left, and Mrs. Geraldine Hall view arts and crafts displayed by Girl Scout Troop No. 676 in the D. F. Walker annual art exhibit.

Scouts Enter Many Crafts In Art Exhibit

Girl Scout Troop No. 676, which consists of 17 exceptional students enrolled at D. F. Walker School, recently participated in the school's annual Art Exhibit.

Arts and crafts made by these students were numerous and varied. Drawing tote bags, watermelon pot holders, yarn dolls, decorative butterfly fly

swatters, sit-upons, and musical twisters, proudly displayed by the girls, were included in the exhibit.

Troop 676, which is sponsored by the Elite Woman's Club and CLIMB Social and Civic Club, has been organized for only two months. Under the leadership of Mrs. Phyllis Jordan, aide at Walker

School, and Mrs. Geraldine Hall, aide from Swain School, these 17 exceptional students meet every Friday.

Mrs. Jordan and Mrs. Hall extend their "personal thanks to Jim Kinion and Ralph Cole, principals of Walker and Swain schools respectively, for their cooperation and help in establishing this Girl Scout Troop."

Soil Conservation Service Marks 40 Years

By JESSE L. HICKS
State Conservationist
USDA-Soil Conservation Service

The Soil Conservation Service recently completed 40 years of continuous conservation planning and service to the State of North Carolina and the nation.

The 40th anniversary of the U. S. Department of Agriculture conservation agency was celebrated April 27, the date that President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Public Law 46, Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace was directed to establish an agency to protect the nation's land and water resources.

Although established as a nationwide agency, the Soil Conservation Service had many roots in North Carolina. The first "chief" of the agency, and a moving force in its creation, was Dr. Hugh Hammond Bennett, a native of Anson County. Dr. Bennett viewed the erosion he saw in some parts of his native state as a tragic waste.

For several years before the establishment of the Soil Conservation Service, Dr. Bennett led a dedicated

campaign for a national program to control soil erosion. He went to Congress, to the public, to professional agriculturists, farmers and "whoever would listen" as one contemporary put it.

Dr. Bennett joined the Department of Agriculture in the Bureau of Soils back in 1903, after graduation from the University of North Carolina, and was made director of the Soil Erosion Service in 1933. This agency, part of the U. S. Department of the Interior, was the predecessor of the Soil Conservation Service.

President Roosevelt recommended in 1937, soon after the agency came into being, that state legislatures enact laws permitting landowners to form local volunteer leadership groups to be called Soil Conservation Districts.

As might be expected from impetus from Dr. Bennett, the first such district in the nation was formed in North Carolina's Southern Piedmont—the Brown Creek Soil and Water Conservation District, then serving Anson County but soon expanded to Richmond, Union and Stanly counties—with farmers voting to participate in

the erosion control and other work if the district. The Brown Creek District still serves Anson County, with the other counties now organized as single-county districts.

Within a few years of the creation of the Brown Creek District, 83 of North Carolina's counties were included in the 21 Soil Conservation Districts which had been organized.

The Albemarle Conservation District was one of the first and was organized in June, 1943, and included Chowan and Perquimans counties. In January, 1945, it was expanded to include Pasquotank, Camden and Currituck counties. Today, 15 supervisors, a three man committee from each county, makes up the governing body of the Albemarle District which actively carries on a resource conservation program.

Today all hundred counties are served by 92 districts.

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Columbia High Drama Club Production Set

The production staff of the Columbia High School Drama Club is in full swing. Students have been working day and night to perfect their presentation of Jack Popplewell's "Busybody". They are in the process of constructing the set for the London office suite.

Realistic sound and lighting effects are being created by Joey and Tony Albanese to enhance the London atmosphere. At 8 P.M. on May 9 and 10, audiences will experience a touch of London in the Columbia High School auditorium.

Under the direction of Ms. Mary K. East, students are producing all phases of this drama, including the photography, news articles, set design, and special effects.

Members of the cast are striving to present an authentic English accent. The tickets are now being sold. They will also be sold at the entrance on the nights of the presentation.

The Drama Club is anxiously awaiting a critical review from John E. Blizzard, assistant to the general manager and public relation director of the Lost Colony.



Lloyd C. Bunch, chairman of the Albemarle District, is also celebrating 30 years of service as a supervisor. He is one of the original supervisors that took office when the district was first formed and has been re-elected to this public post ever since. He, along with Joe Webb, who has 25 years of service and Fahey Byrum with 15 years, makes 70 man years of service for the Chowan Committee.

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