

Nantahala Firm Is Praised By State

The Nantahala Power and Light Company of Franklin, which serves a large area of Cherokee and surrounding counties, received a word of official appreciation from the State November 8, when the North Carolina Utilities Commission said the company leads the state in service to rural people.

The Utilities Commission said that the Nantahala has already brought light and power to "more than 95 per cent of the rural homes" in its territory, and plans to have this boosted to the perfect 100 per cent by the end of 1952.

The rural resident symbolizes more than 75 per cent of all of Nantahala's 8,844.

By the end of this year, more than 100 miles of new lines will have been put up in the firm's area.

Late last spring Nantahala completed the job of boosting the line into the Cherokee-Bryson City area from 12,000 volts to 68,000.

Five years ago, only 67 homes on the Cherokee Reservation had electric lights. Today, there are 450.

The first dam in the pioneering company's system was Cheoah,

started in 1919 by John Edward Stirling Thorpe. The seventh, the \$1,250,000 plant on the east fork of the Tugaloelge River in Jackson County, was completed earlier this year.

Nantahala also brings education in electric power to boys and girls by sponsoring electrical projects contests, and conducting demonstrations in care and repair of electrical appliances, and in home and farm wiring.

Mrs. E. English Circle Hostess

The Ruth Bagwell Circle met Monday, 7:30 p. m., at the home of Mrs. Everett English, with Mrs. J. B. Hall presiding over the business session.

Miss Eloise Davis gave the secretary and treasury reports, and Mrs. Verion Jones gave the Community Mission report.

Mrs. M. L. Williams was in charge of the program, "Whither Asia?"

Opening prayer was led by Miss Eloise Davis. Mrs. Jack Crawford gave the devotional. Others taking part were Mrs. Williams, Mrs. E. J. Fish, Mrs. Boyd Davis, Mrs. Don Ramsey, Mrs. Everett English, and Mrs. Verion Jones.

Closing prayer was given by Mrs. Williams.

The hostess and Mrs. J. H. Hall served refreshments to the 11 members present.

BAKE SALE

The Jr. Woman's Club will have a bake sale at E. C. Moore's Garage showroom Saturday Nov. 17 from 10 a. m. to 1 p. m.

When a GOLD Strike back with **ENI** FOR COLD DISCOMFORTS 35¢ Bottle

The Duffy Silk Company's New Plant at Murphy

Four Cows Living On Four Acres Of Fescue And Ladino Clover

By CHARLES KIRK

Four Guernsey cows are making history by living entirely on four acres of fescue and clover at the Georgia Mountain Experiment Station near Blairsville. In more than two years the only thing they have tasted that did not come from their little pasture was salt—plain salt in the summer, a mineral mixture in winter. The only times they have left the field were on their trips to

the barn. The hay they ate is dried fescue and clover from their own pasture, and milk production has exceeded 6,000 pounds per cow for each of the last two years.

These are the first cows that ever lived on a single acre pasture, and they already have delighted interested throughout the Southeast. Nearly every day cattlemen, pinched by high feed bills, hike up to the fence and marvel at these contented cut-chewers, or stroll about the pasture kicking at clumps of the excellent grass.

The experiment was started in August, 1949, with associate agronomist Orin L. Brooks in charge of the pasture, and assistant animal husbandman W. H. McKinney looking after the cows.

Mr. Brooks planted the grasses with full confidence. "I knew I could grow more fescue and clover on an acre than a cow could eat," he said. "And I felt certain that this diet would supply all of a cow's needs."

The grass was allowed to get a year's start, by producing only hay before the four Guernseys started grazing.

"I don't mind admitting that I was skeptical," said Mr. McKinney. "In fact, I didn't believe the project would survive the first winter. But the grass stayed green, the cows gained weight, and their milk production was right up to normal."

Then last winter the big freeze

came. Even Brown looked doubtful when the grass turned brown, and gazed that way week after week. The thermometer dropped below zero twice, and touched zero again, with a mean temperature of 34.8 degrees for 91 days.

But the cows went ahead eating their browned fescue. They kept up their milk production and continued to gain weight.

Since McKinney has been convinced, he surpasses Brooks enthusiasm. As soon as the weather thawed out, the two started another experiment. They put four more cows on fescue and clover, and are giving them a supplemental feeding of grain, to see how milk production of these cows compared with the original four, which continued to eat only grass. Eight cows are also being tested in the same manner on a standard Appalachian mixture.

"The figures look impossible," said Mr. McKinney. "But they've been checked over and over. In the August drought, when the grass turned brown again, the milk production of the grain-fed cows dropped a greater percentage than did the straight fescue-Ladino eaters!"

The secret of growing fescue and clover is in proper fertilization, Mr. Brooks pointed out. Every September the Experiment Station pastures are covered with about 500 pounds of 4-12-12 (4 per cent nitrogen, 12 per cent phosphate and 12 per cent potash) and 100

pounds of ammonium nitrate per acre. This costs about \$16.

"The idea of putting \$16 an acre on pastures is disturbing to some cattlemen," said Mr. Brooks. "But the farmer gets his fertilizer money back, with interest. After grazing our acre-and-a-third through the cold months we let the plot go to seed in the spring, and harvested 954 pounds. Right now fescue seed is bringing 90 cents a pound!"—Journal Constitution Magazine.

BOX SUPPER

A Box Supper will be held in the Community Building at Bellview, Saturday, November 17, at 7:30. Proceeds will go to help pay for heating system in the Bellview Methodist Church.

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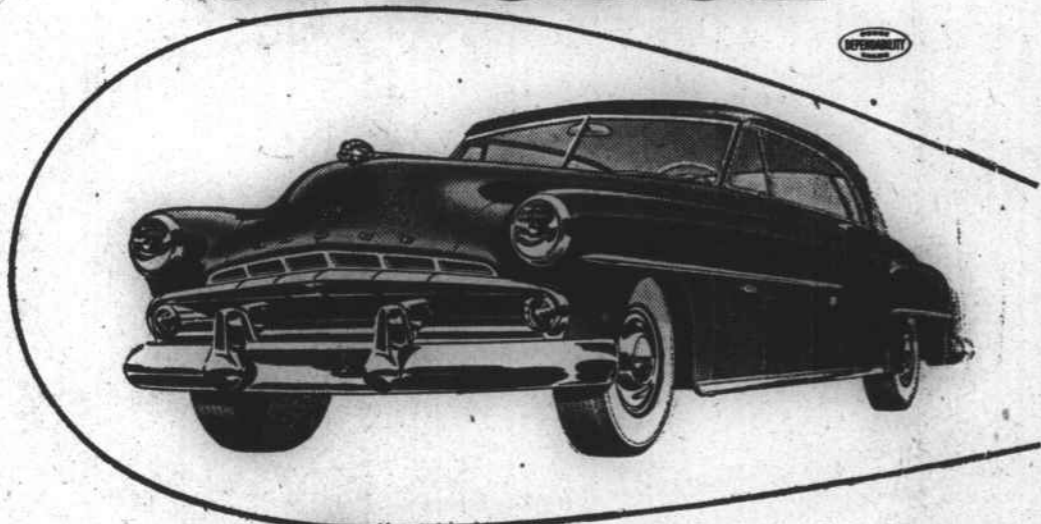
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