

Garden Club Cites Soil Importance In Conservation Field

This is the sixth in a series of articles on Conservation prepared, and presented by the Conservation Committee of the Louisburg Garden Club. We hope you will find them interesting as well as informative.

We have discussed water--the life-blood of the land; now let's talk about the land itself--soil. As water has shaped our living customs and played its part in shaping the earth's surface, so has the history of mankind been written in the soil. Soil exists wherever the surface is not composed of rocks or covered with water. Soil varies in appearance, composition, and fertility according to the particles forming it. Scientists estimate it takes from 500 to 1,000 years to form one inch of soil. A fertile soil contains living organisms, plant and animal; it has pore space, which contains water and air; to some degree like our bodies, it absorbs oxygen and releases carbon dioxide. Its productivity depends on all of its parts.

Agriculture as an industry has existed almost from the beginning of time. It has already been mentioned how our first settlers took much from our land of today. In 1890 the era of good free or cheap land drew to a close, and the fact that what we had, had to be used over and over again became a realization. Much of our land had already suffered from its two largest enemies, exhaustion and erosion.

Worn out land, previously deserted, had to be reclaimed. The practice of crop rotation began, an act that the ancient Egyptian had practiced. Another act to keep our land from exhaustion is recommended in the Bible. "Six years thou shalt sow thy fields, and six years thou shalt prune thy vineyard, and gather in the fruit thereof, but in the seventh year shall be a sabbath of rest unto the land." To a certain extent crop rotation has helped conserve the land, but our most destructive force is erosion.

About 400 years ago the average depth of rich top soil was one foot. Now the average depth is about 5 inches. When the protecting cover of grass and trees is stripped away, the land is laid bare to the action of rain and wind. Erosion becomes a relatively swift, destructive force, tearing away at the soil and disturbing the balance of natural forces. Flowing rainwater spreads out over an unprotected slope, removing soil more or less evenly from the land surface. This is called sheet erosion. A gully results if the flow of water becomes concentrated in a certain course. Soil blowing or wind erosion takes place on either level or sloping land where there is a combined lack of moisture in the soil and a thin protective cover.

In addition to this direct destruction, erosion often causes the deposit of huge quantities of silt at the mouth of rivers, clogging stream channels and menacing fish and game supplies.

Losses of plant food due to erosion are much greater than those resulting from all other causes combined. In a normal year erosion removes from the land 21 times as much plant food as crops do.

Let us again refer to the Bible. "Moreover the profit of the earth is for all; the king himself is served by the field." All our food, clothing and shelter come from the soil; to produce milk, the cow eats grain and grass; our sugar comes from trees, beets and cane, flavoring comes from plants or trees, clothes are made from cotton, wool and other fibers. Homes and buildings are made of brick, cement blocks, lumber or logs. These are all products of the soil.

Most people realize that improving the soil has its direct effect on plant life. They also understand that high soil fertility means more of such animal products as beef, milk and eggs.

Protect and build up the soil and you enrich all of the life that grows upon it. In terms of centuries this means the difference between garden and

desert! We have just lightly touched on the subjects of our renewable resources. There are

many more--and much to be accomplished in all phases concerning them. When you hear or see the word conser-

vation--listen and read and learn. We all have the habit of letting someone "carry the ball" once he has it, but we can

lend our support in other ways and cheer him on. We wish to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Hammette

of Wildlife Resources Commission for his valuable information, suggestions and the time he so graciously gave.

MUTT AND JEFF -- AND HE HAS A MESS TO PROVE IT!

Created by BUD FISHER



Whopper

Mr. C. F. Stone, Louisburg, R. I. is pictured above with a 6 pound, 12 ounce Bass, caught in a private pond Wednesday. The little fellow was caught separately, even though it appears to be coming out of the mouth of the big one. Staff Photo.



Smoke Gets in Your Eyes

A few of the 75 or more youngsters participating in a huge weiner roast at the Centerville Fire Department last night are shown above. Smoke got into the eyes of the small fry but did not hamper their appetites. The affair was staged by a group of local area citizens. -Times Staff Photo.

On Dean's List



BILLIE PARRISH

Miss Billie Wood Parrish has been placed on the Dean's List for the quarter ending in March because of her high scholastic record, according to Dr. Robert L. Holt, Dean of East Carolina College, Greenville, N. C. Miss Parrish is a home economics major and will graduate on May 23, 1965. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. K. S. Parrish, R. 2, Louisburg, N. C.

Death

EUGENE R. (JACK) ALLEN Raleigh--Funeral services for Eugene Russell Allen, 74, of 2209 Tyson St., who died Tuesday, were held at 11 a. m. today at Christ Church with the Rev. B. Daniel Sapp officiating. Burial was in Oakwood Cemetery. Mr. Allen was a former resident of Louisburg.

Revival

Revival Services will be held at Ebenezer Methodist Church at Mitchiner's Crossroads in Franklinton, beginning Sunday night, April 25 at 7:30 p. m. and will continue through the week. The Rev. Robert Todd of Kittrell will be the Revival preacher.

You can still make many friends by speaking nicely about people.

12 Tips For Travellers

New York--A dozen helpful hints designed to eliminate snafus enroute from vacationers' itineraries are recommended by National Travelers Aid Association, the United Way agency whose local chapters throughout the country receive support from United Funds and Community Chests.

The NTA, which serves more than a million people annually in need of help away from home, bases the travel hints on experience amassed over the years to cover every aspect of pre- and enroute planning. They are:

1. ADVANCE PLANNING--Plan your trip in advance. Familiarize yourself with change-over points and allow for comfortable stops.
2. IDENTIFICATION -- Keep identification on your person and in every piece of luggage.
3. STOPOVERS--Make certain hotels, friends, or relatives with whom you are planning to stay are aware of your arrival and departure times.
4. NOTIFICATION--If you expect to be met, specify station and arrival time.
5. TIME ZONES--Be alert to time zone changes as you travel.
6. FUNDS--Take more money than you need and keep it in several places.
7. PACKING--Don't overpack. Take only what you need.

8. ITINERARY--Leave an itinerary with at least one close friend in case it is necessary to reach you in a hurry. Leave a housekey with a neighbor so he may enter your home in an emergency.

9. MEDICAL CHECKUP--If you were recently ill or suffer from a chronic condition, check with your doctor before making the trip. If you must take medicine while on the trip, take an extra prescription with you.

10. SMALL FRY--If travelling with children, take along a small, easily reached first aid kit containing thermometer, bandages, antiseptic and salve. Also take a few simple non-bulky toys.

11. GLASSES--If you depend on glasses, carry an extra pair.

12. EMERGENCY--If something goes wrong or you encounter serious difficulties despite planning, get in touch immediately with Travelers Aid. And happy travelling.

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"All I did was hold up seven fingers to indicate seven pounds!"



"Anybody remember what we were making? I've lost the place in the cookbook!"



"How do you know Jimmy won't take you to the moon? Have you asked him?"

GARDENING

If you want an attractive lawn and garden this summer, now is the time to take stock of the insect pests bugging you, and--more important--do something about them.

One of the most persistently annoying insects to the home gardener is the chinch bug. A small insect, about one-sixth inch long, it's reddish in color and has no wings when young. As the chinch bug matures, however, it acquires wings folded over its back and turns reddish-black with white markings.

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7:00 p.m.

RAIN DATE: SATURDAY NIGHT, MAY 8, 1965

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