

Timber Thinning Contest For 4-H Clubs Under Way

Chamber of Commerce To Give \$175 in Cash Prizes For Best Work

By H. C. COLVARD (Assistant County Agent) The Wilkes Chamber of Commerce and the local Agricultural Extension Service are again

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sponsoring the contest in timber thinning or timber stand improvement for Wilkes County 4-H Club boys. Prizes are awarded for the best work done as follows: 1st prize \$50.00; 2nd prize \$40.00; 3rd prize \$30.00; 4th prize \$20.00; 5th prize \$10.00; and \$5.00 each to the next five best records. These contestants must be between the ages of 14 and 19 years and are required to thin or improve one-half acre of young timber. This work is being done between now and April 1, 1950.

Sixteen of these projects are already under way. Carl Cleary, Bill Harrold and Charles Higgins, are members of the Mountain View 4-H Club and have their projects already marked off and ready to start work. The following is a list from Ronda school with projects started: Warner Hoots, Roger Edwards, Felix Tharpe, C. A. Burchette, Jr., Dwight Byrd, Thomas Hurt and Gilbert Wood. Another project is being conducted by Jimmy Cleary, of the North Wilkesboro school. Howard Triplett and Shelmer Waters, from Mt. Pleasant school, are ready to start their work. From the Wilkesboro school we have Herbert and Walter Broyhill, who will be thin-

ning pines during their school holidays.

We have approximately five other projects to be started in the contest this year. This work is to be completed by April 1, and following this, judging will be done by the Extension Forester. In addition to measuring off the one-half acre plot, each boy has received definite instruction on tree selection, pruning, cording wood, spreading of brush and record keeping.

'Quack' Remedies Fail To Make Hens Lay

"Quack remedies" to make hens lay—such as feeding red pepper and strong herbs—are rapidly becoming a thing of the past among negro farm families in Halifax County, says D. J. Knight, negro county agent for the State College Extension Service.

Instead, Knight says, housewives are resorting to more scientific methods to increase the egg production of their flocks.

The county agent says many farm women who attended neighborhood meetings this fall showed great interest in improving their poultry management practices. They asked questions about feeding practices, age of birds, and use of oyster shells, water, and grazing crops.

According to Knight, low egg production may be due to one or more of a number of factors, such as getting chicks too early or too late, lack of a balanced ration, weak protein feed, or failure to use oyster shells. Farm families in Halifax, the county agent adds, are making plans to correct these and other defects in an effort to obtain more eggs from their hens during the coming season.

Confusion Caused by Remarriage Laws.—The 48 States have a dozen different ways to handle the aftermath of divorce. How in some cases divorced persons can take a new mate immediately, but in other cases a court may provide they may never marry is revealed in "Our Tangle of Remarriage Laws," appearing in December 18 issue of the American Weekly, Nation's favorite Magazine With The Baltimore Sunday American order from Your Local Newsdealer.

TRIBUTE TO REV. W. T. COMER

By RUTH LINNEY

Rev. W. T. Comer, of Stony Point, was dead and buried before many of his Wilkes friends knew anything about it. Mr. Comer, a native of Yadkin county, lived most of his life in the Lovelace community and had preached and taught school nearly all over Wilkes county. Though Mr. Comer was a somewhat peculiar man, he was an exceedingly able man; his intellect and his fine sermons were actually of so high an order that not a great many were capable of appreciating either.

He pleased the esoteric few. Mr. Comer was not popular. But he was truly valued by the more discriminating of his audiences.

Mr. Comer was probably principal of the first school taught at Roaring River in the old building, completed in 1908 and which burned a few years ago. He taught there the winter of 1908-1909 with the late Mrs. Minnie Myers Cook as his assistant. He also taught summer schools for teachers and advanced students. Though a capable and thorough instructor, Mr. Comer possibly made all subjects too difficult and over-stressed the rules and intricacies of grammar. But today they are understressed. There are students in classes as high as Mr. Comer ever reached who are almost completely illiterate in English.

Mr. Comer was gifted but not envious; he was capable of appreciating ministers even more powerful than he—such as Rev. Green Brown and his sons; Rev. Parks Gwaltney and Rev. Jay Gwaltney; and Rev. W. E. Linney. Rev. N. T. Jarvis said of him, "No preacher in this corner of the State had done more to encourage and hold up the hands of young ministers than W. T. Comer." Though somewhat contentious and argumentative at the Brier Creek Associations, Mr. Comer preached beautiful sermons. One of his

finest at Cranberry was about the seed corn and the fitches and how people who are seed corn must stand more threshing and trouble to develop them to the noblest heights than light and chaffy fitches which are of little worth.

Probably Mr. Comer was seed corn. He had seen trouble and was usually poor in this world's goods and not the recipient of the praise and notice he merited. During recent times he is said to have been feeble in body and mind.

"Willie Comer" as he called himself, shone in a flame of "purest ray serene" of brilliant intellect and fiery zeal for the Master.

His first wife, who was a widow, a Mrs. Walker, whose maiden name was Howard, was a friend of my mother. They had two sons, Commie and Ernest. Ernest was a former teacher in the North Wilkesboro school. His second wife was Miss Ethel Caudill, of North Wilkesboro, a former teacher in rural schools of Wilkes and a first cousin of Dr. R. Paul Caudill. They have several children. Mr. Comer also had two stepsons, Charlie and Harvey Walker, whom he seemed to love even more than his own children. One of the Walker boys was drowned while being transported overseas to fight in World War I. Mr. Comer was about 79, or near the age of Rev. N. T. Jarvis.

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T. C. Wagner

At Wilkes Barber Shop North Wilkesboro, N. C.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

North Carolina, Wilkes County: Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of H. L. Meechem, deceased, late of Wilkes County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at North Wilkesboro, North Carolina, on or before November 22nd 1950, or this notice

will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This the 22nd day of November, 1949.

HOYLE M. HUTCHENS, Adm. Estate H. L. Meechem, Dec'd 12-29-9t(T)

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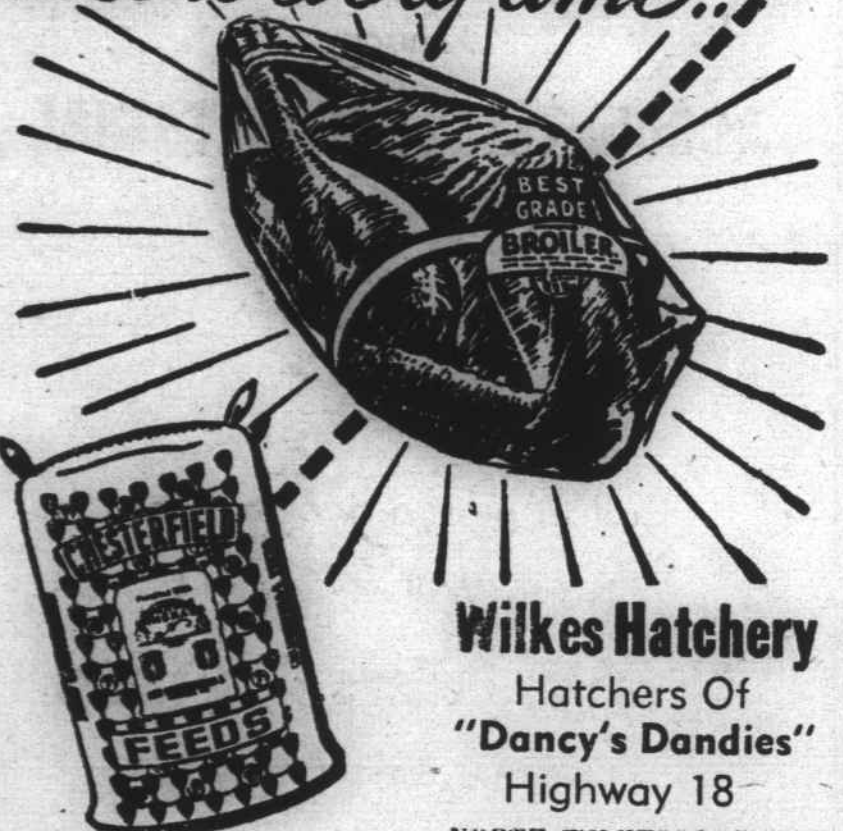
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