

N. C. 4-H Club Members Are Busy In War Effort Program

Despite a heavy schedule of work to help increase production of foods and conserve vital materials to meet wartime needs, 4-H Club boys and girls in North Carolina and throughout the nation are determined to improve their home surroundings with natural beauty for the duration and for the peace to follow.

Their well-laid plans of beautifying home grounds include planting trees, shrubs, and flowers, removing unsightly old buildings, repairing fences, repainting houses and barns, and placing wind breaks to prevent soil erosion.

The rural youth will enter their records of achievements in the 1943 National 4-H Home Grounds Beautification activity to compete for awards provided by Mrs. Charles R. Walgreen, Chicago horticultural enthusiast. These recognitions of outstanding accomplishments are based upon county, State, and national levels, and include medals, gold watches, and all-expense trips to the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago, respectively.

This activity will be conducted, along with other 4-H wartime projects of production and conservation, by the Extension Service of State Agricultural colleges and the U. S. Department of Agricultural cooperating. Full details are obtainable from county extension agents.

Piney Creek News

Mrs. H. L. Halsey is recovering nicely from a recent serious operation at the Wilkes Hospital. Among those from the community who visited her during the week end, were: H. L. Halsey and Hugh Warden Halsey, Mrs. G. T. Perry and daughter, Margaret Ann, Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Billings and son, and McDale Weaver.

Mr. and Mrs. Garrett Searcy, of Winston-Salem, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Halsey and small daughter, Carlita, were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Hash, Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Searcy were accompanied back to Winston-Salem by Mrs. Wayne Hash, who plans to visit her husband, Pvt. Wayne Hash, at Fort Blanding, Fla.

McDale Weaver, Tom Woodie and Miss Lacy Lee Weaver left for Maryland, Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Felts and Miss Hazel Billings, of N. Wilkesboro, spent the week end with Mrs. Edd Billings.

Brack Rutherford, oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Rutherford, was taken to the Wilkes Hospital, Sunday. He was taken critically ill, Saturday night.

Those visiting Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Perry, Sunday, were Misses Dorothy and Marie Black and Pauline Warden, Tom and Troy Cox Black, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Van Hoy and Mrs. Myrtle Halsey.



Well, she dood it again. Stopped with a wheeze and a gasp right on the longest, steepest mountain she could find. We thought we knew what was wrong this time, but just to make sure, got out and made a survey of all the vulnerable spots we knew. (It's Old Huldy we're talking about, of course.) The starter worked—plenty of gas—plugs o. k.—so we knew it was the gas line.

Being a more or less experienced mechanic—gotta be to drive Huldy—we knew we had to blow that gas line out. We'd watched the operator and knew just how. So we dived under the seat and came up with the tire pump. But nary a pliers nor a wrench could we find. So we had no choice but to sit there and hope for somebody to come along who would lend us some. To make a long story short, however, they didn't. After an hour, we decided to drift back down that mountain to the level and see if we could make contact with some sort of human habitation. So we take off the brakes and lets 'er drift.

Ever try to guide a car backward down a long, long, mountain? A crooked mountain? It really isn't so hard, but one sort of dreads meeting a car backwards coming around a hairpin curve. And it's also sort of hard on necks to look backward while you sit forward. (One really should be an owl on such occasions—they can turn their heads square around—I've walked around them just to watch. But I never could rhyme out why they didn't wring their necks.)

Finally, we backed up to a little store and stopped. Two young men and a girl came out to help, and luckily they found the proper tools. That little glass jigger below the engine was half full of sand, and two forlorn, dejected looking little black bugs were removed from it with the sand. Small wonder the line was stopped! After a short session with the tire pump on the gas line, she snorted, fired, and started purring like a — no, not a kitten—

OUR DEMOCRACY — by Mat



—AND EVEN MORE IMPORTANT IS THE STEEL IN OUR BACKBONES.

her kitten days are long past—more like a Nubian lion, I guess—and we made it to the office, only about two hours late.

Let next time we go out with Huldy we take along pliers, a wrench or two, and a little baling wire wouldn't be too far-fetched. Now we want to know who is selling us sand and little black bugs along with our gas? Must be some of that "black market" stuff we've been reading about. Or sabotage, maybe.

If we just look about a little we can always find a thousand things to be thankful for, can't we? For instance, the length and severity of the winter just past up here has been the subject of much discussion and "beefing." But if we had a season like the ones described in the following clipping, we could have something to beef about. Miss Minnie Massey, who spends her summers in the mountains—found the clipping in an old family Bible, and very graciously contributed it to Specs. Read it and count your blessings. We've reached our 999th one, and before the day is over, we'll probably bat a thousand.

THREE REMARKABLE SUMMERS

"There have been three summers in the United States in which there was scarcely a month in which the temperature would not have been more appropriate to winter than to the season when voluptuous Nature surrenders her treasures to the wanton hands of man."

"The most notable of these inappropriate summers was in 1816 in which year January and February were warm and springlike. March was cold and stormy. Vegetation had gotten well along in April when real winter set in. Snow and sleet fell on seventeen different days in May. In June there was either frost or snow every night but three. The snow was five inches deep for several days in succession in the interior of New York, and from ten inches to three feet in Vermont and Maine. July was cold and frosty; ice formed as thick as window panes in every one of the New England States. August was still worse; ice formed nearly an inch in thickness and killed nearly every green thing in the United States.

"In the spring of 1817, corn, which had been kept from the crop of 1815, sold for five and ten dollars a bushel; the buyers purchasing for seed.

"On May 10th, 1839, snow fell to the depth of a foot in Jamestown, Va., and was piled up in huge drifts in most of the northern states.

"There was snow in many parts of Iowa and Illinois on May 11, 1878, and again as late as May 23, 1882."

In a step to crush black market operations, the sale of white seed potatoes has been prohibited, unless sellers show that they are to be used for planting purposes.

Sheep Raising Very Profitable

Raleigh, N. C., May 11—Although Commissioner of Agriculture W. Kerr Scott is one of the State's leading dairymen, he has come to the conclusion that "a few sheep properly handled will pay dividends unsurpassed by another major farm animal". In an effort to prove that sheep-raising is a profitable business, Commissioner Scott, working through the marketing division of the State Department of Agriculture, is endeavoring to import this spring over 5,000 ewes from the ranches of Wyoming and Montana.

These sheep, explained Scott, will be bought by the department through a revolving fund set up for this purpose and will be resold at cost to any farmers interested in growing sheep. "Under present conditions, the capital investment for the breeding ewe can be returned to the owner in about a year," declared Scott recently in explaining the relatively fast profits which may be realized.

Pointing out that the number of sheep in this State have declined from 560,000 to 1870, to 60,000 head today, Scott said Saturday that "it is the patriotic duty of every farmer to do everything possible to help with the war effort. By producing sheep he will not only put North Carolina back on the map as regards this industry, but will at the same time produce meat and clothing for lend-lease and for military and civilian use."

Bashing his statement on the fact that there are 280,000 farms in this state, Commissioner Scott asserted that if one-tenth of these farms had only ten sheep each, North Carolina could rank with any State in the Southeast in sheep production.

Asked a few days ago why these sheep are being "brought in from away out West", Scott replied that at the present time our sheep production is so low that breeding ewes are not available in sufficient numbers to supply the demand; and second, that breeding ewes grown in the West under acid conditions come into the State largely free from the stomach worm, which along with dogs, has been the greatest menace to the growing of sheep in this area.

AN EASIER WAY TO SOLVE BUSINESS TROUBLES IS TO ADVERTISE HERE

Finals Held For ASTC Graduates

Carlyle Is Speaker; One Alleghany Girl Is Among Graduates

Appalachian State Teachers College graduated 109 young men and women in the commencement exercises which concluded Friday and in which Irving Carlyle, State Senator from Forsyth County, was the main speaker.

This was the forty-third annual commencement, the thirteenth in which the college has conferred bachelor's degrees.

"Education for Life" was the theme of Senator Carlyle's address.

"In the course of life," he said men must live by more than bread alone. He must take advantage of his opportunities. The high plane of life is made so by mental development. One who pursues an education today should have a conception of education. Even in a time like this it is well to remember that the world still contains indestructible values, and the preservation of these values is a task to which each of us is called. Some of these values are: First, the capacity of the human race to advance and progress. Second, the world moves constantly in the direction of a greater freedom of mankind. We must break the fetters by which men have been bound, on political planes, the planes of physical well being; the economic, and the mental phase. In North Carolina the most valuable possession is its people, with their solid, dependable qualities. Third, the challenge of one's better nature for the things that are right in every situation. The value of a thing is determined by its cost. This is true of education, both in its development and its application. The world looks to you to work and sacrifice, if need be, for these indestructible values."

Patryae Reeves, of Alleghany, is among the graduates.

Furches News

John M. Tucker, M. F. Pruitt, Lester Church and Ralph Brown left for Maryland, Saturday.

Rev. G. R. Blackburn filled his regular appointment at Belview Baptist church, Sunday and Sunday night.

Those visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Faircloth, Sunday, were Mrs. Guy Burchett, Mrs. Glenn Sturgill, Mrs. Jenny Warden, Inez Burchett, Jacqueline Burchett and Misses Katherine and Mildred Church.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Church and children, Clifford and Rose Lee, visited Mr. and Mrs. Roy Rose, Saturday night.

Miss Inez Burchett spent Sunday night with Miss Faye Faircloth.

Misses Reba Rose and Eunice Mabe left for Maryland, last week.

Poultrymen who plan to raise chicks for meat production next year, can improve their stock by selecting breeders for fast feathering, efficient rapid growth, and superior meat production.

Manufacturers of bale wrappers made of cotton will receive an indemnity of 40 cents on each wrapper, instead of 35 cents.

U. S. poultry laying flocks are 15 per cent larger than a year ago and the production per bird is 3 per cent higher.

What You Buy With WAR BONDS

Refrigerators are out for the duration. Manufacturers have now toolled their plants for production of war materials. Common-sense-folk, however, are saving now, not spending, and building up a fund for purchase of refrigerators and other domestic needs through investment in U. S. War Bonds.

Your Money put into War Bonds today will bring you back \$4 for \$3 at maturity. So start saving for these domestic needs when you will be permitted to buy them. Join the Thrift Savings Plan at your office or factory and let's all "Buy that War Bond."

Conservation Farming News

BY W. O. ROOPER

Floyd and George Crouse have been terracing successfully without having a single ditch break over. Proper spacing has prevented any terrace from being overloaded and good strong ridges have been built and carefully maintained.

When these brothers terrace, they hitch a team to the plow and another team to a drag. After a furrow is plowed, the drag comes right behind and pushes the dirt up on the ridge. This saves an enormous amount of time, because the team doesn't have to be changed back and forth from plow to drag and it is almost impossible to build a good terrace without both of these implements.

These men will tell you that terracing is hard work and that it requires effort to maintain them properly; but they will al-

so tell you that when they quit terracing, they will quit farming.

A bulletin board placed on the kitchen wall and used for inter-family reminders and messages is helpful in many households.

No, sir! I NEVER BUY OF PEDDLER

NOT WITH SUCH FINE BARGAINS IN OUR HOME NEWSPAPER!

From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

All this talk about people over 40 being too old for a new job! Well, you ought to meet Pop Graham, the new foreman at the iron works. Pop must be over seventy—yet soon as the war broke out he started out on a brand new career.

"I reckon Uncle Sam can use me now," he says—and pitches in with both hands, making armor plate.

Yes, there's a lesson for the young folks in Pop Graham's spirit. And when the hard day's work is over, you'll find Pop relaxing and having a cool refreshing glass of beer.

From where I sit that's still another lesson we can learn from older people—moderation. Moderation in enjoying good beer...tolerance for others who enjoy this friendly, wholesome beverage of moderation.

Joe Marsh

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The Alleghany News