

New Livestock Program Inaugurated



Shown above are Vocational Agriculture students, many of them pointing toward their Hereford choices, as 70 head of cattle were distributed here last week through a new livestock program developed through Vocational Agriculture leaders in cooperation with local banks and the Whiteville Merchants Association. Forty-six students are participating this year.—(Photo by Baldwin Studio.)

Cattle Program Begun Here By Merchant Group

Forty-Six Vocational Agricultural Students Receive 70 Head Of Cattle In Co-operative Plan

SHOW PLANNED NEXT YEAR IN WHITEVILLE

Local Banks Aid In Financing Project With Backing Of 12 Members Of Merchants Association

A few days ago 70 head of Hereford calves were distributed to forty-six Vocational Agriculture students from Columbus, Brunswick, and Bladen counties, in a move to stimulate interest in producing and feeding of livestock in this area.

The cattle, weighing from 300 to 600 pounds, were distributed at the Whiteville Livestock Market under the supervision of V. E. Pierce, owner and manager of the

concern. The cattle were selected by cattle buyers of the Division of Markets, N. C. Department of Agriculture on markets in western North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

The livestock was purchased by the First National Bank of Whiteville and the Waccamaw Bank and Trust Company on the guarantee and cooperation of twelve leading members of the Whiteville Merchants Association. The total cost ran close to \$9,800.00, of which approximately \$1,500.00 was financed for some twenty-one of the students by the two banks.

Sponsors of the project stated that it is essential to develop additional sources of farm income in this area and like the heavy burden of responsibility from the tobacco crop. It is estimated that nearly 65% of the total farm income in the three counties is derived from tobacco alone.

Businessmen of Whiteville and all agricultural leaders are eager to develop more interest in producing and feeding livestock among the young men who will own and operate farms in this area in the coming years. These students will feed out the cattle under the supervision of the

teachers, under the leadership of N. B. Chesnut, District Vocational Supervisor of this area. It is felt that this project will result eventually in an increase in the quantity, as well as the quality, of pasture and forage crops produced in the three counties.

The Whiteville Merchants Association is planning a complete fat stock show and sale in Whiteville in the fall of 1951, at which time these cattle will be shown and some of them sold. Prizes and other special features will be added to the program to insure the boys proper reward for their work and efforts.

Girl Finds Queer Bird In Whiteville

Mary Joanne Ray, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Ray of East Wyche Street, was mystified a few days ago when she found a strange looking bird in her backyard.

Her pet cat joined her in the capture of the bird which was wet, cold and numb. It was she the cold and the cat, and began the care which preserved its life.

History Of Brunswick REA Is Reviewed By Attorney Mallard

By R. B. MALLARD (Attorney for the Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation)

Too much can not be said about the hard work and thoughtful planning that have gone into making the Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation what it is today. Today it stands as a dream come true for those who envisioned having electric energy available for themselves and their neighbors. Every time an electric light is turned on it is a rebuke to the pessimists who said it could not be done.

The operation of an electric membership corporation was a new undertaking, and required thoughtful planning and patience. The large membership and miles of electric transmission line did not just grow of their own accord. Hard work, perseverance, planning, tact and patience have gone into every line that has been built. And to E. D. Bishop, who has been superintendent from the beginning in 1939, belongs credit for a difficult and almost impossible job well done.

To every director, employee, and member also belongs credit for doing the best they could in an undertaking that was new and strange to them. The growth of the cooperative has not always been easy, and many difficulties have been encountered, but under the able leadership of the superintendent and the board of directors remarkable progress has been made toward the goal of making electric energy available for all.

It is cooperation that has counted. It will take cooperation in the future because every person in this area who is without the benefit of electric energy can and should have it. It will take patience, understanding and cooperation to continue to grow and operate. The Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation is a joint enterprise of those in the rural areas of Brunswick, Columbus, Robeson and Bladen Counties who did not have electric energy, working together for the betterment of all.

The American Farm Bureau Federation, the National Grange, and other farm organizations in 1934 passed resolutions urging that farm electrification be extended into every possible section of the country and urged the Federal Government to help. Other organizations joined in the effort and the Congress in the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act approved on April 8, 1935 made available to the president of the United States one hundred million dollars for rural electrification.

On May 11, 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt by an executive order created the Rural Electrification Administration, and authorized it "to initiate, formulate, administer, and supervise a program of approved projects with respect to the generation, transmission and distribution of electric energy in rural areas." Thereafter Congress passed a bill, approved May 20, 1936, extending the life of the Rural Electrification Administration for ten years, and authorized it to loan up to forty million dollars annually to "persons, corporations, States, Territories, municipalities, peoples' utility districts, and cooperative, nonprofit, or limited dividend associations" for the purpose of financing the construction and operation of generating plants, transmission lines, and distribution lines for the furnishing of electric energy to persons in rural areas who are not receiving central station service.

The General Assembly of North Carolina acted quickly and on May 4, 1935, ratified Chapter 291 of the Public Laws of 1935 which is "an act providing for the formation of non-profit membership corporations to be known as electric membership corporations for the purpose of promoting and encouraging the fullest possible use of electric energy in the state by making electric energy available to the inhabitants of the state at the lowest cost consistent with sound economy and prudent management of the business of such corporations; providing for the rights, powers and duties of such corporations; authorizing and regulating the issuance of bonds by such corporations; and providing for the payment of such bonds."

The corporation formed under the above act is a non-profit corporation and can serve only a member thereof. It was not and is not a profit-making scheme, but is formed for the sole purpose of helping all to obtain electric energy. It is not a charitable organization, and is not a public utility company. It is the people helping themselves and making this country a better place to live. It is owned by the members, operated by the members, for the sole use and benefit of the members.

Thus we see that in 1935 the legal "machinery" necessary for bringing electric energy to the rural areas was complete. Then began the process of informing the people of the fact that electric energy was available to all if they were willing to put forth the necessary effort to obtain it. After many meetings and much discussion, on the 6th day of March,

REA Attorney



Raymond Mallard, of Tabor City who is legal counsel for the Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation. The well-known lawyer has compiled a history of the REA Co-Op to be found on these pages.

1939, the certificate of incorporation of the Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation was signed by T. T. Ward of Longwood, R. D. Bennett of Ash, R. D. White of Shallotte, C. P. Willetts of Bolivia, L. C. Stanley of Nákina, Fred Lay of Olyphic, S. P. Fipps of Tabor City, G. K. Lewis of Winnabow, and Fronis Strickland of Tabor City. On March 7 the certificate of incorporation was signed by Dudley Bagley, Chairman of the North Carolina Rural Electrification Authority, and it was filed in the office of the secretary of State on March 9. This original certificate provided that the territory of the Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation would serve only in the counties of Brunswick and Columbus. This certificate was amended in September to include Bladen County, and it was again amended in February, 1940 in include Robeson County. Thus the Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation provides services for its members in the counties of Brunswick, Columbus, Bladen and Robeson.

After the certificate was filed in the office of the secretary of State the incorporators held a meeting and elected C. P. Willetts as president and T. T. Ward as secretary. E. D. Bishop was made acting superintendent. There were only nine members and nine directors of the corporation and they were those who had signed the certificate of incorporation. On May 24, 1939, a meeting of the directors (who were also the members) was held in the Shallotte School building and at this meeting the resolution was made requesting the first loan of



Mr. Dan Goldsmith, 3024 Curron Road, Louisville, Ky., owner of Coogla Cut Rate Store at 935 West Broadway, says there just aren't enough words in the English language to praise HADACOL correctly. He says he knows most folks don't realize what a change HADACOL can make in their life if their systems are deficient in Vitamins B₁, B₂, Iron and Niacin. Here is Mr. Goldsmith's statement:

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\$171,000 from the government with which to construct and operate 211 miles of electric transmission, distribution and service lines. It was at this meeting that R. B. Mallard was appointed counsel of the cooperative.

At a meeting held at R. D. White's place in Shallotte on July 24 the number of members and the board of directors was increased to eleven when D. H. Lennon of Boardman and J. L. Robinson of Whiteville were added, and 86 miles of additional line in the northern part of Columbus County was taken over.

The first annual meeting of the Membership Corporation was held on September 2 and the same eleven persons were chosen to continue as directors. The directors thereupon reelected C. P. Willetts as president and T. T. Ward as secretary and treasurer. Thereafter at the meeting of the board of directors held on November 4, E. D. Bishop was made permanent superintendent of the cooperative, and has served until the present time. The first maintenance man to be employed by the cooperative was E. M. Pearson who began work on November 20, 1939 and the first office worker was Miss Eloise Buffkin who held the title of bookkeeper-stenographer. There were only eleven members of the cooperative until Feb. 3, 1940 when the applications of over 600 persons were accepted, all of whom were receiving electric service. Before a person can be or remain a member of the cooperative such a person must receive and use electric energy purchased from the cooperative.

After the annual meeting of the members held on January 18, 1941, Fred E. Lay was elected president and C. P. Willetts was elected secretary-treasurer. At the annual meeting held January 17, 1942, Foy D. Fowler was elected one of the directors and there were 1316 members being served by the cooperative. Mr. Lay and Mr. Willetts were re-elected president and secretary. Mr. Willetts resigned as one of the directors in November, 1942 and C. W. Knox of Bolivia was appointed to fill out his unexpired term and R. D. White was elected secretary-treasurer.

At the annual meeting of the members held on April 2, 1943 W. A. Mintz, Leroy Mintz, G. T.

Reid, and H. Foster Mintz were new members elected to the board of directors. The total number of members reported at that time was 1406. D. H. Lennon was elected president and Leroy Mintz was elected secretary-treasurer. In 1944 at the annual meeting all of the directors were re-elected and S. F. Fipps was elected president and Leroy Mintz was re-elected secretary-treasurer. This was during the war years and the total number of members reported at that time had dropped to 1355.

Due to the war, materials for construction could not be had in any appreciable amounts and there was very little construction during the war years. At the next annual meeting held in 1946, the total number of members was 1805. After this annual meeting H. Foster Mintz was elected president and Leroy Mintz was re-elected secretary and treasurer.

At the annual meeting in 1947, there were 2324 members reported and John B. Ward, C. D. Branch and N. C. White were new members elected to the board of directors. J. L. Robinson was elected president and H. Foster Mintz was elected secretary-treasurer. In June, 1948, W. M. Hewett, T. P. Henry, Sr. and D. L. Mercer were the members elected to the board of directors. J. L. Robinson was re-elected president and W. M. Hewett was elected secretary and treasurer. The total membership reported was 2878.

On November 25, 1949 at the

annual meeting the present board of directors was elected. They are N. C. White of Whiteville, A. Earl Milliken of Shallotte, F. E. Lay of Tabor City, Route 3, J. L. Robinson of Whiteville, C. D. Ray of Tabor City, W. A. Mintz of Freeland, C. D. Branch of Boardman, John B. Ward of Ash, A. P. Henry, Sr. of Winnabow, Fronis Strickland of Tabor City, and D. L. Mercer of Bolivia. At this meeting the total number of members of the cooperative was reported as 4527. J. L. Robinson is president and C. D. Branch is vice-president. John B. Ward is secretary and treasurer and D. L. Mercer is assistant secretary and treasurer.

Delco Man Found Dead In His Bed

Ernest Leon Harrelson, 46, a farmer of Delco, Route 1, was found dead in bed at his home early Sunday morning. He had been in declining health for some time and death was attributed to a heart attack.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Eva Harrelson; three sons, J. W. Thomas and Elroy Harrelson, all of Delco; a daughter, Mrs. Margaret Boswell of Whiteville; one brother, Ralph Harrelson of Whiteville; two sisters, Mrs. Walter Hiburn and Mrs. Eunice Thompson, both of Whiteville; and five grandchildren.

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