

1961 Weather Struck

Hardest Blow To Nerves

By WALLACE J. DICKENS Superintendent, Tobacco Research Station

The year 1961 has been most unusual weather-wise. This unusual weather caused more damage to the nerves of our farmers than to the crops.

It all actually began back in the fall of 1960. The dry and cold months of November and December had only 1.58 inches of rain in November 1960, and 1.60 inches in December 1960.

February was plenty rough until the middle of the month. Then the weather became more mild and winter grains and grasses began to show much improvement.

March was a pleasant month with cool temperatures and plenty of rainfall. Very little frost or freezing weather, yet, we had below average temperatures for the month.

April turned back the calendar and gave us colder weather than March with more frost including the latest frost on record for this area on April 21.

May continued the hot and humid weather of August, making it possible to complete tobacco sales earlier than usual.

May continued with the coldest on record. Most of the crops were planted. Tobacco began prematurely flowering due to its cold harden condition.

June gave us warmer weather and showers the first two weeks that greatly improved the condition of all crops.

During this six week period tobacco harvest was underway and many farmers were desperately ditching and doing everything possible to save their crops from drowning.

August was a month of hot and humid weather with showers on 14 out of 31 days for a total of 4.34 inches, which is about normal for a month.

September continued the hot and humid weather of August, making it possible to complete tobacco sales earlier than usual.

Cooler weather was brought into our area toward the end of the month by a frontal system on September 27.

Then October and November were cool to cold and dry. October gave us only 1.16 inches of rain and November only 2.17 inches of rain.

The last month of the year was very similar to October and November with cool to cold and relatively dry weather.

Summary—The weather during 1961 gave us, the growers, many anxious hours beginning with dry and cool weather then into a cold and normal rainfall period of March and April.

The rest of the year was suitable weather for the job at hand. August and September with normal warm and showery weather was ideal for marketing a crop of tobacco.

All of our farmers who have lived through many unusual years weather-wise, but who came through 1961 with its many adverse weather conditions, deserve a pat on the back.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. and Mrs. Drayton Cooper of Southport announce the birth of a daughter, Caroline Lebbay, at James Walker Memorial Hospital in Wilmington on January 6.

VACATION VISIT

L. A. C. Purvis, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Purvis, Sr., of Winnabow, spent the Christmas and New Year holidays with his parents and friends in and around Winnabow.

have not yet set the date for the meeting of their sponsoring committees.

Fran Browning, a student of Waccamaw High School and who lives in the Longwood Community, is writing an essay for competition in the Farmers' Cooperative Exchange Essay Contest.

Garden Club In Session Tuesday

The monthly meeting of the Southport Garden Club was held with Mrs. J. T. Barnes Tuesday morning.

The president, Mrs. E. C. Harrelson, announced dates for the Camellia Show to be held in Whiteville February 24-25 and the Southeastern Flower and Garden Show in Raleigh February 23-27.

Mrs. Ernest Parker, program chairman, urged all members to bring dried materials along with mechanics and containers to the February meeting.

Two interesting films on "Flower Arranging with Williamsburg" and "Home Landscaping" were shown to the following members by Mrs. Dallas Pigott: Mesdames J. T. Barnes, F. M. Burdette, J. E. Dodson, Guy R. Garrett, C. A. Graham, A. D. Harrelson, E. C. Harrelson, D. C. Herring, E. E. Parker, D. C. Pigott, H. T. St. George, R. E. Thompson, F. L. Willing and Mrs. C. G. Ruark.

With The Men In Service

Army Sergeant First Class PERRY J. GORE, 33, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elijah B. Gore, Supply, recently participated in a seven-day combat readiness test near Fort Greeley, Alaska.

Read The Want Ads For Best Results. RUN DOWN. By Dr. ROGER W. PRICE. We often unconsciously compare our own body mechanisms to that of a watch.

SHOP AT ARRINGTON'S Southport, N. C.

GARLAND'S PLACE VARNUM TOWN—ON LOCKWOOD FOLLY RIVER PHONE DAY 4-6176 NIGHT 4-6179 Fresh Sea Food & Oysters—Wholesale & Retail

FINE FOODS ARE NOT EXPENSIVE WHEN YOU DINE OUT WITH FRINDS or FAMILY. Shallotte Dinner Club. On U. S. No. 17 AT SHALLOTE, N. C.

4-H Club News. By JAMES E. GOFF Ass't County Agricultural Agent. A group of interested people in the Shallotte Area will meet on the 11th of January for the purpose of discussing the possibilities of organizing a Community 4-H Club in their area.

BEN FRANKLIN THURSDAY MORNING JAN. 11th. OLD FASHIONED BARGAIN PRICES. BIG 9 SALE. LOOK WHAT 9c WILL BUY! COUPON SPECIAL. BUY TWO—SAVE MORE! HOUSEWARE SPECIALS! FIFTH AVENUE NYLONS 2 PRS. 79c.

WANTED USED CARS TRADE YOURS TODAY FOR A NEW Ford. DUE TO OUR SHORTAGE OF GOOD USED CARS WE ARE GIVING UNUSUAL HIGH TRADES — SEE US TODAY DRIVE AWAY A NEW FORD — MANY STYLES and COLORS. SAM WEST — DUB CLEWIS — G. A. WILLETT'S AT Willetts & Son Motor Sales BOLIVIA, N. C.