

Poultry Is Macon County's Top Income; Dairying Is Second

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Reprinted below are excerpts from County Agent T. H. Fagg's annual report of agricultural activities here during 1956. In upcoming issues of The Press, other subjects in the report will be covered, including the progress of the Farm and Home Development Program.)

Poultry enterprises in Macon County afford more income to farmers than any other one thing.

It also gives the small landowner or farmer a chance to earn a profitable living.

In 1956 prices were not as good as in 1955 for hatching eggs. However, the farmers who have been in the business for several

years and who have followed good management practices were able to realize a good net profit for their labor. Some of these farmers have reported net incomes of three and four dollars per bird.

Broilers Up

There had been very little broiler production in Macon County until this year. During this year there will be a total production of some 500,000 broilers in the county. Most of these birds are being raised on a percentage basis, with the farmer furnishing houses, equipment, and labor and receiving a certain amount per pound for his share. The farmers are not getting rich on this basis but are getting

fairly good wages for their labor.

Give Assistance

Extension personnel assisted poultrymen with their problems in feeding, management, housing, parasites and disease, and marketing through meetings, newspaper articles, letters, and personal contact.

Our program projection planning group feels the poultry industry should be expanded in 10 years from now to the point where it will be close to a \$3,000,000 income for the farmers.

A poultry planning meeting of specialist, extension workers, and poultry leaders was held in January to do concentrated work on this phase.

Fifty-one 4-H members enrolled in poultry projects in 1956 and thirty-two reported completions involving 2,050 birds. A poultry demonstration team entered the district contest and won first place. They did not enter the state contest due to the illness of one of the team members.

Dairying Second

Dairy production in Macon County continues to be one of the best sources of income from the farm, second only to poultry.

There is a total of 40 grade "A" producers in the county and in 1956 they produced and sold more than 6,000,000 pounds of milk.

Concentration of work by extension agents this year was on the production and consumption of more roughage in the form of quality hay, pasture, and silage. Dairy farmers here are realizing that the feeding of high protein roughage in large quantities produced on their farms, cuts costs of production considerably. This fact has been borne out in 1956 by the construction of additional hay barns, new and enlarged silos, seeding of new acres of alfalfa

and improved pasture, increased production and acreage of corn for silage, and more supplemental grazing crops.

Production Up

Along with feeding, our farmers have been encouraged to and are increasing production per cow. This has been accomplished by stricter culling programs of unproductive cows, saving the best heifers for replacements in the herd, and an increase in the number of farmers doing D. H. I. A. testing and artificial breeding to proven bulls. The artificial inseminator reports that he is breeding more cows this year than ever before.

Much work was done in producing and breeding heifers to freshen for fall production base period, both to be added to the farmers own herd and for sale. Farmers have realized extra income from this enterprise, both locally, on the Florida market, and at the Enka artificial sale held in August. Seven heifers were entered in this sale and they averaged \$259.92 per head. The top heifer brought \$325. One dairy farmer who owned a beef herd, recently sold his herd and went to Wisconsin and bought 44 unbred heifers. He plans to breed these heifers for disposal through the above sources. He believes he can make a good profit on his investment.

Much work was done during the year in assisting farmers in the change over from can to bulk tank production. This change over entailed many problems, and many committee meetings, group meetings, out-of-county trips to inspect tanks, planning for re-arrangement of milk rooms, hauler problems, etc.

Orders Placed

After several months of this,

orders have been placed for 30 bulk farm tanks and two 1,500-gallon truck delivery tanks.

Some of the goals set up on dairying by the program projection group last fall for the next 10 years were to increase production per cow on dairy farms to 10,000 pounds, increase number of dairy farms to 50, more artificial breeding, increase sale of artificial heifers, increase number of farmers doing D. H. I. A. to 25, increase gross income from milk to \$500,000 and gross income per cow to \$625.

It is planned to work out these plans in cooperation with extension agents, specialists, and a dairy commodity group this spring.

4-H Interest

4-H club members are naturally interested in dairying, because it is one of the major incomes in agriculture. Then, too, there is an active dairy calf chain sponsored by local business men which furnishes three to four purebred dairy heifers each year for club members. This is a great incentive to them. This year 57 club members enrolled in dairy projects and 40 reported completions involving 72 animals. These youngsters exhibited 30 excellent animals at the Macon County Fair.

Stream Flow Down For Eighth Month; Tennessee Near Normal

For the eighth consecutive month, below-normal flows were recorded for mountain streams in December, with the Little Tennessee River down three per cent.

This information comes from the N. C. Board of Water Commissioners, which issues a monthly report of water conditions, based on data from the U. S. Geological Survey.

Rainfall in the western portion of North Carolina averaged 3.2 inches for the last month of 1956, approximately one-half inch below normal.

Increases in stream flow were noted in the Eastern Piedmont and Coastal Plain areas.

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Thomas' 'Seven Wonders' Book Among New Arrivals At Franklin Library

The story of ancient wonders filled a famous explorer with a desire to go on a world-wide search for present-day marvels. The result is Lowell Thomas' book, "Seven Wonders of the World", which is among some 40 new volumes received last week at the Franklin Library.

Another book, likely to interest many local people is "Bears in My Kitchen". Written by Margaret Merrill, it is the true story of a city girl who marries a U. S. forest ranger and details the couple's experiences.

Other non-fiction works put on the shelves: "The Lycian Shore" by Freya Stark; "Washington Is Wonderful", Dorothea Jones; "The Home Ranch", Ralph Moody; "The Trouble with Gumballs", James Nelson; "Nature's Guardians", Harry Edward Neal; and "Last of the Great Outlaws", Homer Crox.

New Fiction Received

Fictional works are "The Warrior", Frank G. Slaughter; "The Linden Affair", Martha Albrand; "The Real Thing", Rosamond Du Jardin; "Clean Up Hitter", Dick Friedlich; "Small Pond", Ada Goepff; "A Dance in the Sun", Dan Jacobson.

"The Empty Nest", Josephine Lawrence; "Summer Shock", Rhorne Lee; "One Small Candle", Mary Linehan Mackinnon; "The Living Lotus", Ethel Mannin; "Island Exile", Jean Nielson; "Girl in a Hurry", Viola Rowe; "A Call

for Dr. Barton", Elizabeth Seifert; "Off the Beam", James L. Summers; "Jericho's Daughter", Paul I. Wellman; "Young Squire Morgan", Manly Wade Wellman; and "Captain Rebel", Frank Yerby.

New Juvenile Books

In children's non-fiction, the following books were received: "The First Book of Trains", Russell Hamilton; "Glooskap's County and other Indian Tales", Cyrus Macmillan; "Odysseus the Wanderer", Audrey Dellincourt; "Frogs and Pollwogs", Coroth Childs; "Penguins", Louis Darling; "The Gypsies' Fiddle and Other Tales", M. A. Jagendorf; "Nature Games and Activities", Sylvia Cassell; "Children's Catalog", Marion L. McConnell.

Juvenile fiction works are "That Jones Girl", Elizabeth Hamilton Frierwood; "Out of the Wilderness", Virginia Eifert; "Stars for Cristy Mable", Leigh Hunt; "Enchanted August", Genore Glen Offord; "Black Fox of Lorne", Marguerite De Angeli; "The Wide Horizon", Louisa Grace Erdman.

"Desert Dog", Jim Kjelgaard; "The Pinto Deer", Keith Robertson; "Something for Now, Something for Later", Marian Schlein; "Mr. Pynnymoon's Train", Alice Hadsell; "Little Kitten, Big World", Victor Baldwin; "The Blue-Nosed Witch", Margaret Embury; and "Roar and More", Karla Kuskin.

Road Work Here Totals 2.8 Miles During December

Highway work in this county during December totaled 2.8 miles, according to a report from the office of 14th Division Commissioner Harry E. Buchanan.

Watauga Road, for 0.7 mile, and Sam Corn Road, for one mile, had their existing surfaces strengthened with traffic-bound macadam by state maintenance forces. County-wide, spot patching with traffic-bound macadam was done for 1.1 miles.

A total of 24.52 miles of improvements were done over the whole division during the month, the report said.

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You'll learn on a turn—
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As you can plainly see, the gorgeous new 1957 Buicks are low—low to match the sleek silhouette of their modern sports-car styling—

Lower than any Buick in history—by as much as nearly four inches—and, mind you, with more interior room and without sacrificing an inch in road clearance.

But you'll soon learn that this sleek new lowness does more than add beauty to the Buick look. It brings new greatness to the Buick ride.

First time you twist round a corner or snake into an "S" curve, you'll learn how this new Buick's new lowness tames the turns. How it snugs the car to

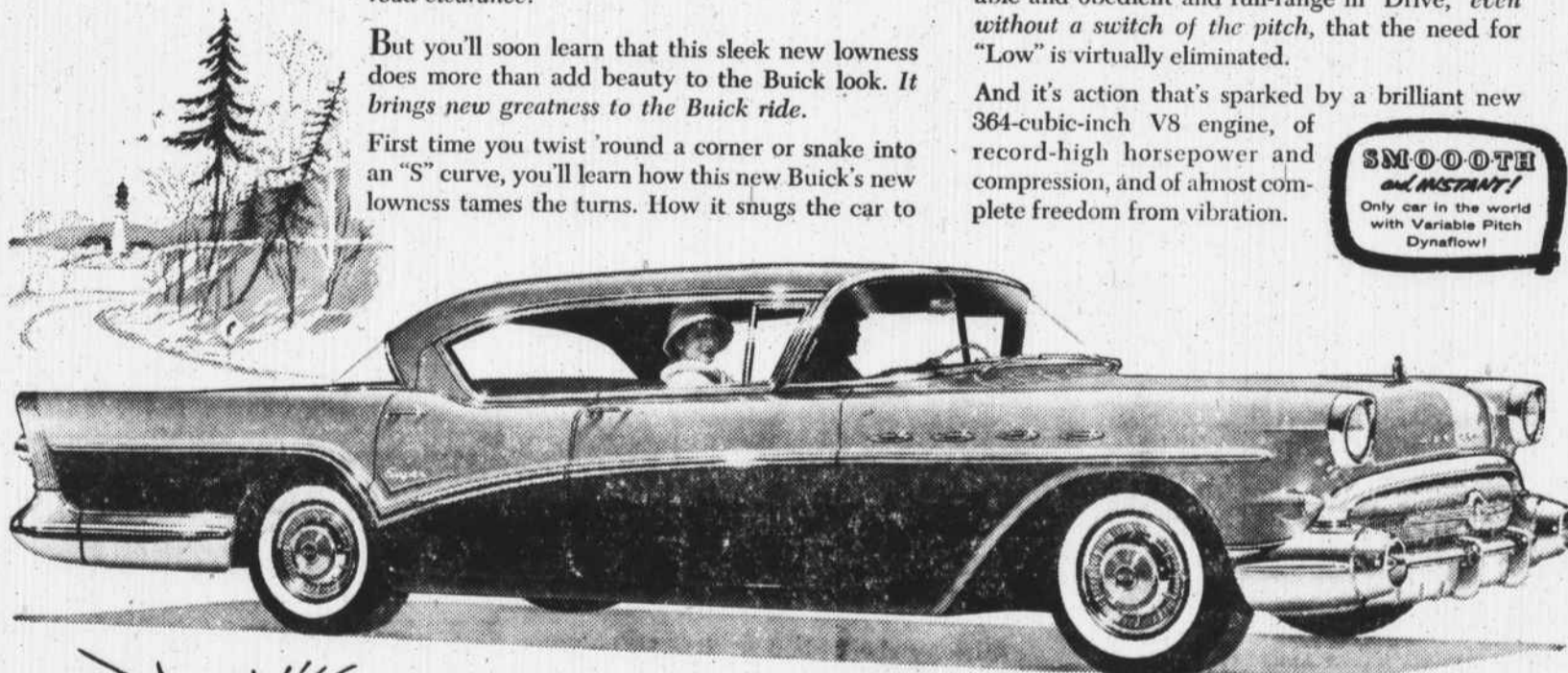
the road. How it cuts down the sidesway. How it gives you the safe-and-sure-footed steadiness of four wheels always on the road.

That's because these sweet-handling, sweet-riding beauties give you the lowest center of gravity in Buick annals—born of a brilliantly engineered new chassis that "nests" your ride low and steady as you go.

But the core of this new Buick's story is the action you get.

You get action that stems from the instant response of an advanced new Variable Pitch Dynaflo® so able and obedient and full-range in "Drive," even without a switch of the pitch, that the need for "Low" is virtually eliminated.

And it's action that's sparked by a brilliant new 364-cubic-inch V8 engine, of record-high horsepower and compression, and of almost complete freedom from vibration.



Buick Super 4-Door Riviera

Safety News
Only Buick has the Safety-Minder—

—a simple device that's a great boon to your safety. You merely preset the miles-per-hour you want. When you reach that pace, a warning buzzer sounds. Drop below that pace and the buzzer stops.

*Standard on Roadmaster, optional at extra cost on other Series.

Safety Reminder
If you miss your turn-off on a highway, don't jam on your brakes. Just go on to the next exit.
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So come in to see and sample all that's new in these newest Buicks yet—all that's new in styling—new in ride and handling—new in power and performance—new in roominess, safety, luxury and fun.

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*New Advanced Variable Pitch Dynaflo is the only Dynaflo Buick builds today. It is standard on Roadmaster, Super and Century—optional at modest extra cost on the Special.

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