

"Clip-Oil" Saves Tobacco Farmer Time And Labor

Special Gadget Invented At N. C. State College Is Handling Task

(Continually working to lower production costs on the farm, State College engineers and specialists reviewed the progress of research in the field at a meeting of newspaper and radio representatives in Raleigh a short time ago. The article below touches on topping and suckering tobacco.)

An important step forward in mechanizing tobacco production has been made with the development and successful experimental field use of the "Clip-Oil" for topping and suckering tobacco.

Developed by agricultural engineers at the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station, it cuts the labor needed for topping and suckering to only about six hours per acre. Doing this work by hand, the customary way formerly used, would take an estimated 25 to 50 hours per acre, says R. W. Wilson, State College "Clip-Oil" specialist.

Figuring half a day for one man to top and sucker an acre of tobacco with the "Clip-Oil", and assuming 70 cents an hour for labor, that's a saving in labor of around \$14 an acre. It costs around \$9 an acre using the "Clip-Oil" and \$23 an acre by hand.

For North Carolina's 150,000 flue-cured tobacco growers, that's big news, especially when they must compete with attractive wages offered elsewhere. The "Clip-Oil" was first announced in 1950 and today at least four companies are manufacturing similar units and at least two are selling the oil to use with it. An estimated 1,000 farmers used the "Clip-Oil" last summer.

Briefly, the "Clip-Oil" looks like a pistol with a cutting unit on the end. In one operation it cuts off the top of a tobacco plant and squirts about one-half teaspoonful of commercial mineral oil emulsion around the top of the stalk. As the oil runs down the stalk it kills the suckers which grow out from the leaf axils.

This work takes only about four seconds per plant, compared to 19 seconds by hand, according to Wilson. The oil also has a treatment per plant with the "Clip-Oil", compared to several trips with hand methods.

An intriguing story lies behind the tests to find a satisfactory (Continued on Page Seven)

Potato School In Oak City March 18

A special one-night school for Martin County sweet potato growers will be held in the Oak City school auditorium next Wednesday night at 8:00 o'clock, it was announced by the farm agent today.

The school, the second scheduled in the county this season, will discuss diseases, nematodes, cultivation, fertilization, harvesting, and marketing of sweet potatoes. H. M. Covington, specialist, will conduct the school, it was announced, and the public is invited to attend.

Mr. Covington was scheduled to conduct a similar school at Farm Life a short time ago, but he was ill at the time and could not meet the appointment.

DISASTER LOANS

Martin County has been declared a disaster area due to the drought and extreme heat during 1952 that reduced considerably crop production during that year. The Farmers Home Administration is authorized to make disaster loans to farmers affected by this extreme reduction in the production of food, feed, and cash crops. This loan carries a five per cent interest rate and is secured by a first lien on crops and chattels.

Anyone interested in a loan of this type should contact the FHA office located on the second floor of the Martin County courthouse in Williamston.

Large Increase In The Size Of Next Month Draft Calls

When Premier Joseph Starn's recent draft call was made, it is not known, but the size of draft calls received in the county this week have been considerably increased for the month of April. The size of the calls reminds one of the enlistments during World War II.

Following a call on the 27th of this month when fifteen men are to report for final induction, thirty-seven are to be called for final induction on April 7. Later in the month of April, the draft board goes into business in a big way with a call for seventy-four men for pre-induction examinations on April 22. A week later, the board is scheduled to send an additional thirty-seven men to the Raleigh center for the preliminary examinations. The calls are

about, if not the largest received in this county since the start of the war in Korea.

There is some doubt if the board can meet the calls out of its present manpower pool. In that connection the draft board issued another and final warning to high school students in the draft's 1-A classification. Those students who have not already done so and who are subject to the draft are advised to apply in writing for a new classification. The application must be accompanied by a letter from the subject's high school principal, proving attendance. If action isn't taken immediately, the high school student subject to the draft is almost certain to be pulled out of school before the end of the current term, it was explained.

Rotary Clubs Will Meet Here Friday

The Edenton, Windsor and Williamston Rotary Clubs will hold an inter city meeting here tomorrow evening at 7:30 o'clock in the Woman's Club. Plans were completed this week for the meeting which is expected to attract more than 100 visitors.

Edenton formed the Windsor club, and Windsor formed the Williamston club, making the meeting here tomorrow night one of grandfathers, father and son.

The Rev. R. W. Kiecklighter, pastor of the Blackwell Memorial Baptist Church, Elizabeth City, is to address the meeting.

Mr. William Calvert of Hartford, Connecticut, spoke briefly to the local club at its meeting Tuesday noon. Declaring that the main goal in life is to enjoy life, he explained that one should always search for those things that make life brighter and more cheerful. He told the club that he first started into the photography business as a hobby, that now it is his regular vocation.

His next hobby was tropical fish, and when he got about 8,000 of the fish he had to sell out to a commercial firm. Stamp collecting is now his hobby, and he went on to explain the business that runs into millions of dollars annually. He displayed his collection, containing quite a number of rare items.

Speech Authority To Address Club

Mrs. Charles R. Davenport of Jamesville, instructor in logopedics for Beaufort County, will speak to members of the Williamston Woman's Club and their guests at a meeting in the club hall next Tuesday evening at 8:00 o'clock.

Mrs. Davenport, who will speak on "Speech and Hearing", is one of thirty persons in the State who have completed a special course in speech and hearing. She will receive her master's certificate for her work and studies in logopedics.

The Reviewers' Book Club, a department of the Woman's Club, made arrangements to have Mrs. Davenport speak to the club.

Miss Mary Wallace Foy, public school music instructor, will lead a group of her students in several songs and Miss Mary Lou Dudley will play the piano during the social hour following the meeting.

The Woman's Club invites all teachers, members of the parent-teacher association and other interested persons, both men and women to attend the special program.

Peace Officers In Hamilton Meeting

In a meeting held in the Hamilton School cafeteria Tuesday evening, members of the Martin County Peace Officers Association enjoyed a tasty dinner and heard a good speech by Solicitor Clarence W. Griffin.

Messrs. J. S. Ayers and Dick Everett entertained the group. Mr. Griffin spoke about world peace.

Members of the association from all parts of the county were in attendance.

Early Reports On Red Cross Drive In Local Chapter

Six Canvassers Report A Total Of \$517.50 In First Five Days

Early reports on the annual Red Cross fund drive in the Martin County Chapter were declared to be very encouraging, Chairman W. I. Skinner declaring yesterday that he was confident the \$5,000 quota could and would be met.

The organization for handling the drive is just about complete in all districts and divisions, and the early response is measuring up to expectations, except in a few individual instances, it was explained. It was not officially reported, but it was learned that only two main street individuals turned a deaf ear to the plea.

Following virtual quota guarantees by Chairmen Arthur Wallace Lilley in Jamesville, Floyd Moore in Williams, Pete Hardison in Griffins and A. B. Ayers, Jr. in Bear Grass, the drive got under way in earnest in Williamston the first few days of this week. However, only six canvassers had reported their activities up until noon yesterday, showing a total collection of \$517.50.

While the time for the drive is almost half gone, the canvassers are now getting down to the task, and good results are certain.

Below is a preliminary report on the early canvass by six workers in Williamston's business area: Clarence Griffin, canvasser—R. L. Coburn, \$10; Robt. Cowen, Clarence Griffin, Chas. H. Manning, Wheeler Martin, Peel and Peel, Dr. John W. Williams and W. L. Howell, \$5 each.

J. Edward Corey, canvasser—Dr. A. R. Peel, \$5; Price's Service Station, \$5; Griffin's Quick Lunch, \$12.50; Farm Bureau Insurance Co., \$5; Martin FCX, \$15; P. O. Holoman, \$5; J. E. Corey Fertilizer Works, \$10.

M. M. Levin, canvasser—Carolina Yam Distributors, Maytag Appliance Co., Geo. M. Peel's Store, Martin County Yam Distributors, \$5 each.

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Bear Grass Boy Scouts Plan Pre-Camporee Soon

Boy Scout Troop 218 of Bear Grass has been working on plans for a district pre-camporee to be held in Bear Grass March 27, 28 and 29.

Members of the troop and their Scoutmaster are urging all the Scouts in the district to make preparations for the outing.

Plan For Drainage Project Approved By ACL Official

Making little progress in working with district representatives over a period of several months, Mayor R. H. Cowen went directly to officials of the Atlantic Coast Lumber and Railroad Company in Wilmington this week and got plans approved for a drainage project centered in that area between Elm and Sycamore Streets. The plan details are being mapped at this time, and during the meantime the town may go ahead with work that much be handled before the North Carolina State Highway and Public Works Commission connects U. S. 17 and U. S. 64 with a paved surface on Sycamore Street.

Bottled up in that area by U. S. 17 on one side and the railroad on the other, water will be siphoned off in large storm sewers to outlets at the foot of Slade Street on the railroad. The project will cost eight or ten thousand dollars, according to preliminary estimates. Part of the right-of-way on Sycamore Street has been cleared, and just as soon as the drainage work can be completed, curb and gutter will be installed, followed by the actual paving of the street.

While in Wilmington this week, Mayor Cowen discussed the problem of right-of-way on Railroad Street, but no solution was to be had. It is understood that similar problems exist in other towns and that they will have to be handled in regular channels, possibly in the courts. During the meantime, the town is exploring every angle in an effort to solve the knotty problem and have the street opened to a decent width and paved.

National Guard Unit Is Returning Home

Completing about two years of active duty, the Martin County unit of the National Guard is gradually finding its way back home. Reg Coltraine, Wallace Warren, Alorza Manning and Mack McLawhorn led the procession home-ward when they checked out of Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania, last week-end. Bobby Carter followed them in yesterday, and Bill Bob Peel, Rush Bondurant, Bill Gurganus, Charles Carver and Norwood Keel are expected in from Pennsylvania today. Four others, Clayton Keel, Edward Smith, Cecil Coltraine and Henry

Proposing Laws For This County

A report from Raleigh shows that more laws are being proposed for the county and one of its towns.

A special law, outlining plans and procedure for holding a primary and general municipal election in Jamesville, was introduced in the House last month and was received in the Senate last week. The proposed law would have the 1953 primary and election there held under the supervision of the Martin County Board of Elections chairman. However, at a meeting of Jamesville citizens a few days ago, it was decided to leave the fate of municipal elections there up to regulations already embodied in the statutes, and the bill is expected to die on the vine in the committee on election laws and senatorial districts.

Two other bills, Nos. 660 and 661, were introduced in the House last Friday upon recommendations of the Martin County commissioners. The first bill would outlaw the fox in this county, and make the open season for taking the animal all year long.

Bill No. 661 would "permit the hunting of bears in the county under specified conditions." A copy of the bill is not to be had from the county representative, but one report stated that it would be made lawful to hunt and kill bears which are caught destroying crops, livestock, or other valuable property. The bill, it was also unofficially learned, would allow the hunter to keep the game, provided the local game protector is notified.

Bro. Fox and Old Bruin haven't a friend in the House, for the bills passed there yesterday without opposition.

SEINE FISHING

Preparations are just about complete for launching the annual seine fishing season in the Roanoke at Jamesville next Monday, Mr. C. C. Fleming, owner-operator, announced last night.

Herring were said to be plentiful in the stream but few other type of fish, including rock, have made their appearance as yet.

Much of the early part if not all of Monday will be devoted to ironing out the operating kinks and clearing the fishing grounds, but smooth sailing is expected before the end of the day, Mr. Fleming said.

Forty Cases Placed On Criminal Docket

TO PRESIDE



Judge Joseph W. Parker, Windsor man who was recently appointed to the bench, will preside over the two-week term of the Martin County Superior Court, opening here next Monday at 10:00 o'clock.

College Will Hold High School Day

Forty-nine Williamston High School seniors are planning to join those from twenty-one other schools in the State for Senior Day at Atlantic Christian College in Wilson tomorrow. The program gets under way at 9:30 o'clock and ends at 4:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

A full-day program has been planned for the visitors, including a varied entertainment schedule, games, radio broadcast and a tea dance, climaxed by a luncheon in Hardy Hall.

Those planning to represent the local school include:

Ray Bell, James Coltraine, Ernest Godard, Wade Gardner, Paul Harrington, Shelton Lilley, Bobby Perry, Russell Roberson, Jerry Savage, Carolyn Bullock, Margie Cullipher, Nanette Harrison, Jean Holoman, Jeanette Hardison, Hilda Hardison, Jean Howard, Myrtle Nicholson, Jean Mobley, Zedie Taylor, Joyce Ward, Ben Andrews, Samuel Bullock, Ernest Carroway, Jesse Cowan, Wilbur Edwards, Buddy Fussell, J. C. Gurkin, Jr., Billy Harris, Preston Hughes, Rodney Lilley, Billy Ray McKeel, LeRoy Peele, Henry Roberson, Edward Ward, Joe Williams, Willie Lou Bowen, Joyce Anne Cowan, Betty Lou Dudley, Susan Griffin, Wanda Jones, Jo Anne McLawhorn, Mary Ann Manning, Marie Modlin, Barbara Peed, Sally Roberson and Gloria Taylor.

Wrecks Truck To Miss Loose Cow

Swerving to miss a loose cow in the highway, Edward LeW Gainer of RFD 3, Williamston, ran his 1950 Chevrolet pick-up truck into Conoho Creek swamp at Whiteley's bridge on the Poplar Point road about 11:00 o'clock last Monday night.

In missing the cow, Gainer did about \$900 damage to his truck, and suffered chest and back injuries. Investigating the accident, Cpl. M. C. Byrum of the Highway Patrol, said he did not believe the injuries received by Gainer were serious.

Twenty-two Cases Are Handled In The County Court

Owner Declared Right In Defending His Property Against Dogs

Judge H. O. Peele and Solicitor Clarence Griffin handled twenty-two cases during a short session of the Martin County Recorder's Court Monday morning. Fines were imposed in the amount of \$230, and jail sentences were meted out in speeding cases.

The court held that an owner, in defending his property, was justified in shooting and killing a dog. It was offered in evidence that Joe Gainer shot and killed Elbert Carrow's dog when the animal attacked the defendant's pigs. Gainer was found not guilty.

Other proceedings in the court: The case in which William Guy Harris of Columbia was charged with speeding last October 25, was not pressed, subject to be reopened at a later date.

The case in which Virginia Sonnycaub of Norfolk was charged with speeding, was also not pressed.

Pleading guilty, Herbert Graham Waters was fined \$100 and taxed with the costs for drunken driving. He loses his operator's license for a year.

Willie Bullock was found not guilty of drunken driving.

The case in which James Grant Dunbar was charged with operating a motor vehicle with an excess load, was not pressed.

Charged with disorderly conduct and resisting arrest, Eddie Coffield pleaded guilty and was fined \$10, plus costs.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the costs in the case charging Howard Johnson of Greenville with speeding.

The case in which Kermit Dixon was charged with an assault, was not pressed.

Charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, Guy Rollins was adjudged not guilty.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the cost when James Wilson Hodges pleaded guilty of assaulting a female.

Pleading guilty of speeding 70 miles an hour, Charlie Delmus Taylor of RFD 1, Robersonville, was sentenced to jail for ten days, the court suspending the jail term upon the payment of a \$10 fine and costs, and on the further condition that the defendant surrender his driver's license for sixty days.

Charged with speeding 65 miles an hour, Clarence Blount Ayers, (Continued on Page Seven)

New Dairy Firm Advancing Plans

Following the purchase of the goodwill and the dairy plant on South Houghton Street here from Taylor's Dairy the first of this month, the Maola Milk and Ice Cream Company is rapidly advancing plans for expanding its operations. New personnel is being added, and additional equipment has been ordered. The interior of the plant is being renovated.

Pointing out that his company had been given a fine reception and that many new customers are being added daily, Mr. Donald Paul, manager, today expressed his appreciation to the people of this section for the friendly welcome and the splendid cooperative spirit shown him and the Maola firm.

"We shall strive at all times to prove ourselves worthy of the fine hospitality accorded us, and to offer an unequalled service and top quality dairy products to the people of this entire section."

REVIEW BOARD

Sitting as a board of equalization and review, the Martin County Commissioners next Monday will hear any complaints property owners may have to offer.

Since there was no revaluation of real properties, it isn't likely that there will be many if any complaints. However, if errors have been made in listings, property owners will find it convenient to have them corrected.