

### Cicadas Bed Down In the Earth For Another 17 Years

#### Some May Go Down Into Ground As Many As Twenty Feet

Washington—On lawns, in woodlands, along highway edges from Vermont to Georgia and west to the Mississippi, billions of tiny wormlike creatures late this summer tumbled to the ground from the tips of twigs where they were hatched.

Each gray larva, no more than

one-twentieth of an inch long has buried itself in the soil. Some are only a foot below the surface. Others may be still digging and will go down to ten or even twenty feet.

When each feels that it is deep enough to be safe from the frost, it will hollow out a little cave—perhaps a quarter of an inch across—next to the root of a tree. The cave will be its home, says the National Geographic Society, and the root will be its storehouse, for the juice of tree roots is the pap of baby cicadas or "17-year locusts."

The larva will grow; it may even move to another root, and it will shed its skin several times before next it sees the light of day—on an off May morning in 1970!

Thus, with the new generation of Brood Ten—the Great Brood—of periodic cicadas put to bed, one of Nature's longest and strangest dramas of the insect world rings down the curtain. There will be revivals, as there have been from time immemorial, but there are never more than six revivals in a century.

The 1953 appearance of the locusts, hatched from eggs laid in 1936, came off as scheduled. Last May, stirred by some mysterious

signal, as many as 40,000 cicada nymphs emerged from the ground in one night under a single large oak tree. Stealthily, they moved to the nearest bush or tree and started to climb. Some reached the high limbs but many more got only part way up when the need for one last shedding of the skin seized them.

Clinging to the bark with their lobsterlike claws, the immature cicadas pulsed rhythmically. The old skins soon split down the back and out crawled the full grown 17-year locusts. By morning, the creamy-white creatures had turned dark. Their eyes were red as fire. Their micalike wings—with the characteristic black W at the base which the superstitious say foretells war—were dry and ready for flight.

The abdominal drums sported by the males were ready to begin their tireless sounding of four quite distinct notes—the prolonged burr, the "Pha-a-roah" which reminded the Pilgrim Fathers of the locust plagues of Egypt, the low continuous purr, and the loud squawk of surprise or fright.

And presently, after a brief season of clumsy flying and frolic, the silent females were ready to lay their 400 to 600 eggs. With single-minded purpose, they sought out the tender limb tips

of their favorite trees—oak, hickory, apple and peach. With their sharp, two-edged ovipositors they made a series of gashes in the twigs and laid ten to twenty white eggs in each small gash. Exhausted from their labors, they fell to the ground or water, food for birds and squirrels or fish.

Now, at summer's end, the eggs laid last May and June have hatched. Earth itself will shelter and nourish the young while a generation of men moves and passes above them. And when Spring comes in 1970, there will be for the Great Brood of periodic cicadas a not inglorious resurrection.

Grain sorghum is gaining popularity in North Carolina as a live-stock feed.

#### NOTICE OF SALE

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust bearing date of March 3, 1947 from Grace Maynard and John B. Roberson, lessees T/a Roberson Slaughter House, to the undersigned Trustee, which said Deed of Trust is recorded in Book H-4, page 624 of the Public Registry of Martin County, North Carolina, default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness for which said Deed of Trust was given as security, and the terms of the same not having been complied with, and

at the request of the holders of the note secured thereby, the undersigned trustee will on Monday, October 26, 1953 at 12 o'clock noon in front of the Court House Door in Williamston, N. C. offer for sale to the highest bidder for cash, the following described property:

Beginning at a point on the McGaskey Road where the Southern edge of First Street intersects the McGaskey Road, said point being 510.9 feet from the intersection of the McGaskey Road with U. S. Highway No. 64; thence along the McGaskey Road in a northerly direction to the property line of A. C. L. RR.; thence along the line of the A. C. L. RR. Co. to the line of the property of L. P. Martin; thence along the line of the property of L. P. Martin to a point where the southern edge of First Street intersects the property of L. P. Martin, said point being 510 feet from U. S. Highway No. 64; thence along the southern edge of First Street to the point of beginning and being the same property purchased from J. S. and H. S. Whitley by deed dated February 28, 1947. Excepted from this Description five lots on McGaskey Road which have been sold.

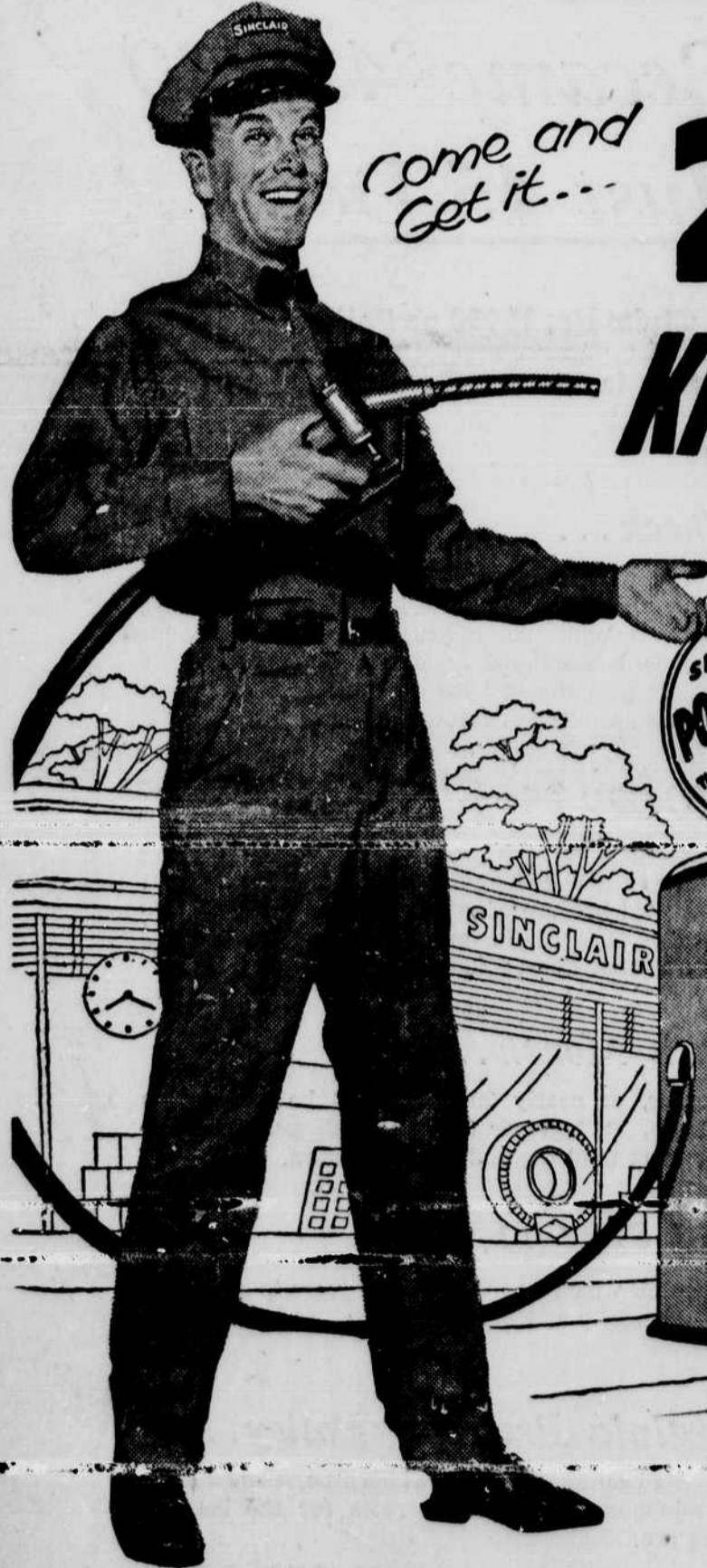
It being understood that the property designated as First Street to remain open and accessible as a street.

The highest bidder will be required to make a deposit of 10% of the amount of the bid.

This 16th day of September, 1953.  
Clarence W. Griffin, Trustee.  
cc 22-29 oc 6-13

WANTED  
PINE LOGS  
—and—  
Timberlands  
CRITCHER  
LUMBER CO.

# NEW PREMIUM GASOLINE NOW AT SINCLAIR DEALERS



Come and Get it...

## 2 to 18% MORE KNOCK-FREE POWER

Today, there's a great new name on the highways that can mean amazing new power for your car! It's Sinclair POWER-X, the super premium gasoline developed in Sinclair Research Laboratories for better road performance in modern high-compression cars. Sinclair POWER-X gives 2 to 18% more knock-free power as shown by laboratory tests. To get maximum performance, make sure your engine is adjusted to take full advantage of the extra power of the new Sinclair POWER-X.

Sinclair POWER-X Gasoline is so different it's patented. It contains RD-119<sup>®</sup>, Sinclair's amazing rust inhibitor that saves you repair bills caused by fuel system rust and corrosion. Get the anti-rust protection only Sinclair can offer! Get the full, flashing power of a great new premium gasoline. Switch to Sinclair POWER-X today!

So Different—It's Patented  
CONTAINS RD-119 — STOPS RUST  
U. S. PATENT NO. 2,594,266

# SINCLAIR POWER-X

THE NEW SUPER PREMIUM GASOLINE

TRY THIS NEW MOTOR OIL WITH THE 100,000 MILE GUARANTEE

N. C. GREEN, Marketer

Williamston, North Carolina



I would like to express my appreciation to all my old customers for their patronage in the past — And extend a hearty welcome to you and new customers to visit me often in the future.

I have an experienced group of men working with me and together we will see that you are completely satisfied when you bring your car in for service. Come to see us.

BRUCE HOLLOMON

— AT —

## Central Service Station

Main Street TEXACO Dealer

Williamston

## How Glamorous can you get...



... and still be a "good cook"?

Well, you can't look very glamorous, nor feel very glamorous, if you spend hours every day working over a hot stove. On the other hand, few things are more glamorous to the Man-of-the-House than a hot, hearty, delicious dinner when he gets home.

Thanks to modern electrical living, you CAN find time to keep young, pretty and interesting... and keep your family happy at mealtime, too. You don't have to spend hours in the kitchen just to be sure the roast will be perfect, the vegetables delicious, the dessert ready on time.

For MODERN ELECTRIC RANGES have automatic time and temperature controls that measure out clean, safe electric heat just as accurately as you measure out flour in a cup... and even more dependably than if you were to stare in the kitchen, peering in the oven, watching, testing, waiting!

So go ahead, live a little. Get a modern automatic electric range in your kitchen—and more glamour in your life—and your meals!



VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY