

Fourth Agent Brought Here Under Cooperative

Franklin Is Working On Pigeon Watershed

Wayne Franklin, assistant county agent, could just as well have the title, "Haywood's Soil Guard."

Mr. Franklin is to the soil in the Pigeon River Valley, what the armed guards are to Uncle Sam's soil reserve at Fort Knox.

It is true that Mr. Franklin does not carry a gun loaded with high powered bullets, but he is carrying on a program that is "loaded" to the limit with good practical, common sense.

The program of the Pigeon River Valley is unique in several respects.

First, it is a cooperative movement being sponsored by The Champion Paper and Fibre Company, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the North Carolina Extension Service, and Haywood County.

All four of these are well aware of the value of top soil, hence the cooperating program which has been started in the Pigeon Valley.

Second, the program goes out to every farm, and every acre of land in the valley, because it is on these acres of land, whether wooded or not, that the top soil must be anchored.

The Champion Paper and Fibre Company have more than civic interest in the project. They are among the few industries in the country that realize the importance of top soil, and the destructiveness of erosion.

Officials of the company working hand-in-hand with the state and national foresters, are carrying his ideal program come true.



WAYNE FRANKLIN

ing on a program designed to curb the erosion of the soil.

Bare spots on steep hills are being planted in trees, or cover crops, to help hold the top soil in place. Other practices will be followed in an effort to reduce washing of gullies, and roadsides. The whole program is to keep the top soil where it is.

The erosion project, however, is just part of the program which is being started throughout the Pigeon Valley. Every practical farm program, from increased poultry flocks, to apple orchards are encouraged. The more farm income a farmer has, the better he can afford to combat the destructive forces of nature, such as washing soils.

Mr. Franklin's job is a big one, but he is determined that it will succeed, and the farmers in the area are doing their part to make his ideal program come true.

Industry Cooperating To Promote Tree Farming In This Area Of State

By Wm. S. EDMUNDS, Executive Director, N. C. Forestry Association especially for the Waynesville Mountaineer

The vast virgin forests which made North Carolina the land of opportunity for our forebearers have practically disappeared except for a few scattered tracts which lie in remote and inaccessible areas. Where the mighty forests once grew, however, there are now growing second, third, and even fourth growth stands of timber planted, protected, and nurtured by the sons and grandsons of the pioneers who converted our original stands into homes, furniture, and hundreds of other necessities for a growing nation.

Many pioneers could no more see the need for conserving timber which grew in such abundance than they could for building airports for the use of airplanes not yet invented. However, as our nation grew and as new uses for forest products were developed, the sons of these pioneers were among the first to change their attitude about our forest resources. They had seen their earnings decrease as timber stands became smaller and smaller. They had seen thriving communities in the ghost towns when the local timber supply was exhausted and lumber plants were forced to move on.

It was then that the more foresighted of our wood-using industrialists began to urge the study of a science then little known in America called "forestry." The first such school was established at Billmore, in Western North Carolina and began to teach the techniques of planting, managing, and protecting forests. During the succeeding 50 years many fine forestry schools have been established throughout the country and today there are thousands of forestry graduates, the majority of whom are employed by wood-using industries to manage their own holdings in such a manner as to insure a perpetual supply of wood. Industrial foresters are also employed in many phases of research

In an unceasing effort to develop new techniques for converting wood into materials for every day use of persons throughout the world.

The humble birth of the new science in their midst has left an indelible impression on the people of Western North Carolina and no place in the country can be found that takes greater pride in the progress of its forestry program.

Among the wood-using industries of Western North Carolina which have contributed greatly to the development of the forestry program, two are outstanding. They are The Champion Paper and Fibre Company, of Canton and the Mead Corporation, of Sylva. These firms not only manage and cut their own holdings according to sound forestry practice, but are always eager to aid other timberland owners in their vicinity in setting up forest management plans.

The contribution of these firms to the economic welfare of Western North Carolina is well known, but in addition to providing jobs for hundreds of persons and paying tremendous taxes for maintenance of roads, schools, and other governmental services, they are supporting on a voluntary basis many programs to elevate the civic, educational, religious, and recreational culture of our state.

The 250,000 individuals who own 30 1/2% of North Carolina's 18 1/2 million acres of timberland have begun to follow the leadership established by industry in growing trees for tomorrow. They have found that which is profitable to industry is also profitable to individuals. In recent years other groups have come to recognize the value of North Carolina's one renewable natural resource, and today supporters of the forestry development program may be found among bankers, utility companies, merchants, doctors, lawyers, publishers, and others from every walk of life.

Western North Carolina can take great pride in having been the birthplace of the American forestry movement.

West Pigeon Community Leaders



(Photo by Ingram's Studio)

Among the principal officers elected when the West Pigeon Community Development Program was organized are, left to right, Chairman John Sloan, Mrs. Henry Garner, secretary, Vice-Chairman Jack P. McCracken, Mrs. Clifton Terrell, assistant reporter; and the Rev. Clyde Collins, treasurer. Mrs. Clyde Collins, reporter, was absent when the picture was taken.

Special Groups Named In West Pigeon Program

Special committees for the West Pigeon Community Development Program were selected recently at a meeting at the Bethel school.

Community Chairman John Sloan presided as these special committees were named, with the following members included:

Forestry—Ellis Wells, Walker Brown, Lamar York, Coleman York, Delmar Smith and Mr. Newsome.

Refreshments—Mrs. Jack G. McCracken, Mrs. E. B. Rickman, Mrs. John Sloan, Mrs. Ellis Wells, Mrs. D. York, Mrs. Hugh Rogers and Mrs. M. C. Nix.

Roads—Bill Wells, Larry Justice, Weaver Cathey and Hugh Terrell.

Corn—Jack G. McCracken, Jack Sloan, Gene Barrett.

Cattle—Jack G. McCracken, C.

C. Saunders, Bryan Burnette, J. L. Singleton, Henry Garner.

Dairy—Jack G. McCracken, Mrs. J. L. Singleton, Mrs. Earle Moore.

Fruits and Vegetables, and Foods and Nutrition (combined)—Charlie Terrell, Mrs. Joe Beverage, Mrs. Joe Rigdon, Mrs. Rue Riddle, Mrs. E. B. Rickman.

Home Furnishings—James Sheffield, Mrs. Vernon Sheffield.

Health—Mrs. Tom Cathey, and Laura Burnette.

Home and Farm Beautification—Mrs. Lester Fore, Clifton Terrell, John Hardin, Willie Fore, Mrs. Oscar Laymons, Gudgey Worley.

Poultry—M. C. Nix, Corbit Wright.

Scrap Book and School Grounds—Mrs. Henry Garner, Mrs. John Hardin, Mrs. Joy Osborne, Mrs. John Rigdon and Mrs. Calvin Bis-

Six Million Seedlings Planted Last Year By Champion Paper Company

Last fall and this winter, The Champion Paper and Fibre Company planted 6,000,000 pine seedlings on the company's 189,000 acres of land in the Carolinas and Georgia.

Last year, the Company bought and gave the North Carolina State College Extension Service 150,000 more seedlings for distribution to the 4-H Clubs of the state.

This winter on 3,000 acres of the Company property above Lake Logan, Champion foresters planted 42,000 trees, more than half of them white pines. And from the company nurseries, there will be 50,000 more pine seedlings ready for distribution in a few years.

This extensive planting program has a double purpose: to grow a continuous wood supply for the company; to conserve soil.

In this planting process, for instance, some 8,000 acres of bleak, eroded, idle land were carpeted with pine seedlings.

This is the latest phase of Champion's long-range policy of forest practice that was among the first to be drawn up by a major U. S. industry.

It had its beginning shortly after World War I when Walter Damtoft joined the Company to be the first graduate forester ever employed by a Southeastern firm.

The accent on white pine is largely the result of this research. In 1926, six years after he was engaged by the Company, Mr. Damtoft, now Champion secretary-treasurer, started planting company land at Willits in Jackson County in Japanese red pine, larch, Norway spruce, Chinese chestnut, white pine, and yellow poplar.

These experimental plantings showed that Haywood county's soil and climate was best suited for white pine and yellow poplar.

Where white pine is concerned, that's something that Nature overlooked.

When the first settlers came, they found only small patches of pine in Haywood's virgin forests and plenty of chestnut, which were killed by the blight which struck the entire Appalachian range more than 15 years ago.

The county now has 100 per cent more pine than it had 15 years ago, largely through the work of Champion.

Nature made up for her oversight by taking advantage of the lessons taught by Man. The original plantings made by foresters reproduced naturally and rapidly.

But the most important characteristic of white pine from the standpoint of wood utilization, is that it matures relatively quickly, reaching good pulpwood size in 20 years.

The stately trees that were first planted on the Willits tract now present living evidence of this quality.

As Ted Davis of the company's Forestry Department pointed out, this program is aimed toward improving the growth of the forests so that they can be harvested indefinitely.

"Basically," he says, "the idea is to have every acre grow as at least as much as will be cut from year to year."

To take care of these trees and carry out the program, Champion has 10 of its 19 graduate foresters assigned to the Canton Division alone. Of these, six work in Haywood County, where the company also has hundreds more acres of forest land at Fiberville, with its 17-20 year plantings of scotch and white pine.

During the last four years, the

Answers Given To Stock, Wheat, Timber Problems

Question: Is top-dressed wheat more likely to be damaged by frost than non-top-dressed wheat?

Answer: W. H. Rankin, small grain specialist for the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station, says no. Rankin inspected many wheat fields this spring following the early March frosts. He says he could tell little difference in the amount of winter injury due to top-dressing. He does think, however, that early top-dressed stands recover much more rapidly from winter injury.

Question: What is the difference between black rot and bitter rot in apples?

Answer: There are several ways to distinguish between the two. For one thing, there is usually only a single spot or lesion per fruit with black rot, but with bitter rot there are often several spots. The black rot lesions increase in size rapidly and usually are not sunken. Bitter rot lesions increase in size less rapidly and are somewhat flat. The rotted tissue of black rot has a sweetish taste, while that of bitter rot has a bitter taste. The leaves of a black rot infested tree become spotted, while the leaves of a bitter-rot infested tree are unaffected.

Question: Where can I go for advice on thinning the trees in my woodlot?

Answer: There are two main agencies that have forestry experts stationed throughout the State. The North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service employs ten farm foresters. To contact one of these see your county extension agent. In addition, the State Department of Conservation and Development has eight district foresters. Their headquarters are at Asheville, Sylva, Lenoir, Rockingham, New Bern, Rocky Mount, Fayetteville and Elizabeth City.

company has accelerated its program, buying 150,000 additional acres to add to its total forest land, says Hershel Keener, head of Champion's woods department. The end result of this long-range program will be mutually beneficial to both the company and the farmers of Haywood County—in providing continual harvests of both saw timber and pulpwood, and in the prevention of soil erosion.

170,000 FOREST FIRES EVERY YEAR

THAT IS AMERICA'S AVERAGE RECORD OF DESTRUCTION — AND 9 OUT OF TEN ARE CAUSED BY PEOPLE

YOU CAN HELP PREVENT FOREST FIRES

Keep America Green

YOU CAN HELP PREVENT FOREST FIRES

BE CAREFUL WITH FIRE IN THE WOODS...

NEVER LEAVE A RUBBER UNATTENDED

BREAK YOUR MATCH BEFORE THROWING IT AWAY...

PREVENT FOREST FIRES *Grow more trees for America*

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Is 100% In Support Of The

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WE WORK WITH WOOD...

WHEN WE PREVENT FOREST FIRES WE ARE HELPING GROW MORE TREES FOR AMERICA...

PREVENT FOREST FIRES

Keep America Green

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