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The Mountaineer's

Form Review and Forecast

Bernard Ferguson Tells Of 4-H Congress Trip

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Following is an account of a trip to the National 4-H Club Congress at Chicago, last November, written by Bernard Ferguson of Fines Creek, who was state winner in tobacco raising.)



BERNARD FERGUSON

By BERNARD FERGUSON State 4-H Tobacco Winner

My trip to National 4-H Club Congress came to me as unexpected as if a bomb had dropped on me. I had been working for it for five years; still, I didn't dream of actually winning this year. When I entered 4-H at the age of ten and took tobacco as my project, I started out determined to be a state winner some day—but little did I think that it would come this year.

This trip was the greatest thing that had ever happened to me. It was "the time of a life-time," and will always remain in my memory. I can never write or tell all about it, for it seems that I think of something new each day. Mr. Wells, my 4-H leader from Haywood County, received the telegram from Mr. Harrill (our State 4-H Leader at Raleigh) saying that I was the state winner in tobacco and that I had won the trip to National 4-H Club Congress to be held in Chicago on November 28-December 4. Mr. Wells came down to school and gave me the news. I was never so excited in my life. I had only a few days to get ready; to get a health certificate and everything. The health certificate took a lot of time. Luckily, I had all the necessary vaccinations.

On Thanksgiving morning I left home for Raleigh. I thought I'd never make it, as it was snowing so much that the busses were not running on time. Mr. O. H. Phillips, the Assistant State 4-H Leader, met me in Raleigh Thursday night. I spent the night with Mr. Phillips, and on Friday morning we went to State College to the 4-H Club offices. We were the first ones there and we worked on the pins that the North Carolina delegates were to wear to Chicago. I met a lot of the delegates and the assistant 4-H leaders and Mr. Harrill, our State 4-H Leader.

There was a 4-H Recognition Program for the 4-H delegates at the Sir Walter Hotel. We had lunch there after which Governor Umstead spoke to us. There were more special guests. After lunch we went by car to Durham to catch the train for Chicago.

On the train we became acquainted and had a good time. We changed trains again in Roanoke, Virginia. This time we were on a Pullman. I had never ridden a train before, and it was a real experience—especially sleeping on it. I thought the food on the train was very good. I ate a chicken dinner that cost \$2.40. Once more we changed trains in Cincinnati, Ohio.

We arrived in Chicago about 1 o'clock on Saturday. After we reached the station we walked over to the Conrad Hilton Hotel where we were to stay. This is the largest hotel in the world, and is known as the friendliest. This hotel plays host each year to many large national conventions with an attendance of thousands.

This year, 1953, was the 32nd National 4-H Club Congress. Almost all of our meals were served in the hotel and a lot were banquet

of museums. We went by train and saw many interesting things.

Then we returned to the hotel for a supper sponsored by Thomas E. Wilson Company. They gave the leadership and citizenship medals. Mr. Wilson was one of the main speakers, and Mrs. Wilson was there, also. The awards were given to National Meat Animal Program and Junior Livestock Feeding Program. They have sponsored this for 36 years.

There were sport celebrities at this program. Carl Erskine, baseball pitcher, struck out 14 in one World Series game. Two football players and one basketball player spoke.

We heard the Honorable Ezra Taft Benson, Secretary of Agriculture, speak. He said that he would like to see all of the food that came from the farm go to the consumer instead of a government packing house. He said that 4-H was making America a better place in which to live. After this meeting was over we had our State Meeting.

We had Tuesday breakfast anywhere we chose, I went up town with some more of the delegates.

Later I went to a radio broadcast. I was on two broadcasts with Mr. Hall, County Agent from Pittsfield, Massachusetts. Next I went to the theatre where the 4-H Dress Revue was being held. Then we went to the exhibit hall, got in the battalion to which we belonged, and went to a luncheon sponsored by National Livestock Producers Association. We had a good meal with plenty of good music.

Our next place to go was the Museum of Science. Everyone was interested in this. Then we walked back to the hotel and had our supper. We were around Lake Michigan.

On Tuesday night we went about twelve miles out of town to a dance. It was after 12:00 o'clock when we returned to our room. Mr. Gray, our Extension Forester, took a group to eat. We did not retire until after 1:00 o'clock a.m.

Wednesday we had breakfast sponsored by Sears, Roebuck & Company. This was one breakfast such as we had at home — bacon and eggs.

Again we went to exhibit hall, where we were given 4-H calendars. Then we voted on the kind of 4-H jackets we liked best (this was for all 4-H'ers).

Dr. Grace Sloan Overton of Adaws, New York spoke to us on home life problems, marriage and religion. She would answer questions that the audience would ask. This was a real program and she was a good speaker. She gave a funny answer to everyone. We all laughed so much that we could not take notes.

Late in the evening we had dinner at the Conrad Hilton Hotel. Ford Motor Company sponsored this program. North Carolina had a National winner here. Ford also sponsored the Achievement winner. Then we turned to the stage and saw special entertainment — climbing poles, etc.

We got on a bus and went to a Horse Show, where we saw jumping horses and six horses in a pony race. This was at an amphitheatre at the International Livestock Exposition. Here we had a box supper of fried chicken, rolls, French fries, and milk from Curtis Champion Herds, Butterfinger, and Baby Ruth. This was sponsored by Curtis Candy Company. They gave the dairy awards, and North Carolina had one. We had special music by the 4-H band from Shelby County, Indiana. This was the end of another perfect day.

Thursday breakfast was sponsored by the Rubber Company. They gave every 4-H member a pen and pencil. We got to share the breakfast fun music, in which North Carolina had a band.

We went on a tour of the City of Chicago. This is a big, windy city and it was cold. We saw the birthplace of the atom bomb — the University of Chicago. We also saw the Museum of Science and Industry. We went by Marshall, Field & Company. On this tour we were told that nine-tenths of Chicago's water supply came from Lake Michigan. We saw a beautiful statue of Abraham Lincoln delivering the Gettysburg Address. We saw the largest amphitheatre in the world. Later we went to the Palmer House for lunch. General Motors sponsored this and they gave the awards for Farm and Home Safety.

On the last night, I stayed up most of the night and talked with the Massachusetts delegates. We had a farewell party that night.

I did not come home with the North Carolina delegation. I came with the group from South Carolina. Since they left earlier and came through Asheville, I got home sooner than I would have. When I left Chicago I felt very sad. I hated to leave so much. The South Carolina delegates were nice and I had a good time coming home. Mr. O. H. Phillips met me in Asheville on Saturday, and then I went to a meeting over there. I

Exemptions Can Cause Trouble

(Fourth of Six Articles) By FRANK O'BRIEN

AP Newsfeatures WASHINGTON — For most people, exemptions provide the biggest reduction of taxable income. You get a \$600 exemption for yourself and, within limits, \$600 for each person who lives on your income.

Faulty exemption claims are the biggest source of trouble for taxpayers. So it is well to check up on whom you can claim.

Usually, when you make out an income tax form, one of the first things you do is list yourself and your immediate family as exemptions—your wife or husband and your children. Children include stepchildren and legally adopted youngsters, but you don't get an exemption for a child who made more than \$599.99 during the year. Also, you must furnish more than half the child's support to claim an exemption. Age does not matter.

Late Arrivals Count You get full exemption for a child born during the year—right up to midnight, Dec. 31, 1953.

You list your husband or wife as an exemption only on joint returns or on a separate return where your spouse had no income.

If you were over 65 or blind at the end of 1953 you get two exemptions. If you were both, you get three. That applies to both husband and wife.

You also can claim exemptions for close relatives. And this is often where trouble starts. To claim them for exemptions you must fill out Schedule I on Form 1040 or Schedule A on Form 1040A. Claims will not be allowed unless the schedules are filled out fully and they ask some pointed questions.

Here are the relatives which can qualify as exemptions under the law:

Parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, grandchildren, step-sisters and brothers, stepparents, in-laws also qualify in the following categories:



mother, father, brother, sister, daughter, son. In addition you can claim uncles, aunts, nephews and nieces if related to you by blood — you can't claim these relatives for both husband and wife except on a joint return.

Limitations Listed

But don't stop with degree of relationship. Such relatives may be claimed only if:

- 1. You furnished more than half their support in 1953.
2. Each one claimed did not earn more than \$600 in the year.
3. They are citizens of the United States or residents of the United States, Canada or Mexico. (Better get an expert if there is doubt about what a resident is.)
4. The dependent relative does not file a joint return with his husband or wife. (Tomorrow: Money savers.)

Cline-Bradley To Give Away 1,000 Chicks

Next Saturday will be "Free Chick" day in Hazelwood with the Cline-Bradley Company, local Purina dealer, giving away ten 10-day-old cockerels with each purchase of a 25 pound bag of Purina Chick Startena, starting at 8:30 when the store opens.

According to Dick Bradley and Joe Cline, owners of the store, the chicks will be given away as part of a nation-wide program, sponsored by Purina dealers, to encourage more "back-lot chicken flocks."

"A lot of folks would like to raise a few chickens for the Sunday dinner table," Joe Cline said, "and we have the program to help them do it, easily and economically. We're giving these chicks away to prove it."

Everyone coming to the Cline-Bradley Co. for free chicks is asked to bring a box or other container for the birds. Because of the limited number of chicks to be given away, free of charge, it will be a case of "first come, first served."

High Pork Prices Bring Farm Changes

The continuing high prices paid for swine is causing changes on the North Carolina farm.

R. McK. Edwards, Martin County farm agent, says the farmers of his area who usually cure their pork and produce lard for sale during the year are now marketing their hogs liveweight. What's more, says Edwards, they're making more money and working a lot less.

Many of the farmers are taking advantage of the high price of pork to get rid of their market weight hogs. They are eating beef (once a scarce food commodity on farms in North Carolina) and chicken and have plans for curing some pork later in the winter.

Beetle Damage Reported To County Pine Trees

By HOMER SINK

Assistant County Farm Agent The pine trees in Haywood County are in danger of being destroyed by a small dark, reddish-brown beetle about the size of a grain of rice. This beetle is known as the Southern Pine Beetle and has been found in a patch of pines between Pigeon Gap and Bethel.

The adult beetle becomes active in the spring, flies to pine trees and attacks them in the central and upper sections of the trunk. The adult beetle bores a hole directly into the inner bark, and here between the bark and the wood, the beetles eat out a winding or S-shaped tunnel.

The Southern Pine Beetle should not be confused with the Ips Beetle, which kills pine trees as a result of trees being cut in the area in the summer time. The Ips Beetle eats out a straight tunnel between the wood and bark, as compared to the S-shaped tunnel eaten by the Southern Pine Beetle. They are two entirely different insects, with the Southern Pine Beetle being the most destructive of the two insects.

The female cuts out small niches along the tunnel in which she lays her eggs. These soon hatch out into grub-like larvae or worms. The grubs soon bore into the outer bark where they complete their feeding. When the grubs are full grown, they hollow out little cells in the bark. Here they change to adult beetles and cut their way out through the bark and are ready to begin the life cycle again by infesting fresh pines. The entire life cycle takes from thirty to forty days, and there are from three to possibly five generations each year, depending upon the weather.

All species of native North Carolina pines are subject to attack. It is typical of this beetle to kill pines in patches of from a few trees in an area up to an entire area of several acres. About ten days to two weeks after the tree has been attacked, the pine needles turn yellowish. By the time all of

the needles have turned yellow, the beetles have usually attacked other pines.

This beetle is a native of the Carolinas, and is found in so many areas during the dry summers. The rainy weather will usually prevent its activity, as well as its zero weather.

Control of the beetle is primarily on early detection, outbreaks and the prevention of control measures, and destroy all broad-leaved trees of saw log size cut with the slabs and infested trees being immediately removed. Trees of this size should be cut and the mill, when the pulpwood is milled, they should be chipped. Logs are infested with Pine Beetle so that they should be used immediately.

Under favorable conditions, this beetle can destroy the pines in a short time. It is important that insect under control. We have only a small amount of this beetle in our area. If you notice any of this turning brown or discoloration about the beetle, the agent's office will be glad to help you.

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Cold, Respiratory Diseases In Poultry Flocks Discussed

Winter is a time for careful attention to the poultry flock. Sometimes chilling, overheating or other abnormal condition of management may lead to indigestion and common diarrhea in young chicks.

R. S. Dearstyne, head of the department of poultry science at N. C. State College, says usually a mild flush aids in correcting such conditions. For young chicks, Dearstyne suggests that poultrymen use two level teaspoons of Epsom salts in a gallon of water. This should not be kept before the birds for more than one day at a time, however.

If a second treatment becomes necessary the poultryman should wait a week. This treatment will not prevent or control coccidiosis, Dearstyne warns. One pint of molasses to four gallons of water for a day is another method of approach to common diarrhea and indigestion in chicks.

Dearstyne says poultry may become affected with several types of respiratory infections. These include colds, croup, laryngotracheitis, Newcastle disease, bronchitis and air-sac colds. All are contagious and dangerous to the flock.

Dearstyne says it is probable that a weakening of an individual bird is "sometimes a predisposing factor to the onset of the disease." But one thing is clear: a specific laboratory examination should be made in each case. In the meantime every effort should be made to keep the bird comfortable and on full feed. Often the use of a wet mash or of pellets as a supplement to the diet will aid in this, says Dearstyne. The poultry scientists warns, however, not to medicate for these or for any other type trouble in the flock until the "exact nature of the disease has been determined."

United States farmers produced 352.8 million pounds of clean alfalfa, lespedeza, timothy, and red, alsike and sweet clover seed during 1953, some 29 per cent less than the 1952 total.

During the year ended June 30, 1953, USDA plant quarantine inspectors examined more than 78,000 passenger planes in which they intercepted at least 60,000 lots of contraband plants or plant products.

North Carolina's 1950 rural population of 1,317,268 lived in 293,401 homes.

I got home about 6 o'clock that evening I had been gone from home 10 days. Never will I forget it. This isn't half of what happened, but it is impossible to write it all. I wish that more boys and girls could go, and I intend to do all that I can to have more winners from Haywood County.

I want to thank everyone everywhere who helped in any way to make this 32nd National 4-H Club Congress the best yet.

North Carolina farming is a billion dollar industry.



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The Shepherd Giuseppe Verdi, Composer "The inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding." Job 32:8 Throughout his operas there rings . . . The theme, "Go, thought, on golden wings!" . . . And that idea made Verdi see . . . Through sorrow, death and misery . . . That there was beauty still in song . . . And so, with courage, high and strong . . . He gave us "Rigoletto," then . . . "Il Trovatore," from his pen . . . "Othello," "Falstaff". Oft it seems . . . That one's need is for noble themes. JULIEN C. HYER

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