

MORE ABOUT

Farm Income

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generations. In the past several months a careful study of Haywood County agriculture has been made by farm leaders and agricultural workers in evaluating the first five years of the Haywood County Community Development Program. Great progress has been made both in agriculture and rural living but perhaps the greatest gains have been in those intangibles which cannot be measured in dollars. This study has revealed many significant factors which can mean even greater progress in the future.

More Haywood County farm folks are interested in Burley tobacco than any other enterprise, with some 2,098 allotments totaling 1500.3 acres in 1953. While this crop brought about a million dollars into the county last year, it could have earned the growers two thirds that much more. About 500 growers failed to grow their full allotment, only 1243.7 acres actually being grown. The average tobacco yield in the county is about 1800 lbs. per acre. Valuing this tobacco at only 50c per lb. (the Asheville markets actually averaged 54.28 cents per lb.) this means that the income loss to tobacco growers on the 256.6 acres not grown was about \$230,940. While the average yield per acre is about 1800 lbs., hundreds of growers are now consistently producing around 2500 lbs. and more. One Haywood grower, Mr. Tom Rogers of the South Clyde Community, actually produced 1964 lbs. of tobacco on 49 acres or 4,008 lbs. to the acre in 1953. (In 1940, the county average yield was 1114 lbs. per acre.) If the county average yield was raised to only 2,000 lbs. per acre, and figuring at 50c per lb., this increase would have brought an additional \$150,030 for the county allotment. Farmer records and research indicate that priming the bottom leaves instead of allowing them to fall off and waste would be worth from \$150 to \$300 additional income per acre. The county growers who primed their tobacco in 1953 averaged a little better than \$200 extra money per acre. If all the county allotment had been grown in 1953, and valuing the increase at only \$150 per acre, this would have earned an additional \$225,045. The total increase in tobacco income through planting the full allotment, increasing yield to only 2,000 lbs. per acre, and priming amounts to \$606,015.

The milk plants buying Haywood County grade-A milk paid the county producers \$486,155 for slightly more than 8,000,000 lbs. of milk in 1953. There were 1,496 cows in grade-A herds so this means the average production per cow was 5,348 lbs. of milk, selling for \$324.97. (This national average for all dairy cows is 5,328 lbs. of milk worth \$297.) Dairy Herd Improvement Association records show that a cow producing 7,525 lbs. of milk grosses \$447 to the producer. (One Haywood County dairyman culls cows from his herd when they drop to only 7500 lbs. of milk per year.) If the average production of dairy cows in the county was raised to this 7,525 lbs. level the gross return to dairymen would be \$668,712, or an increase of \$182,557 per year from the 1496 cows.

The census report shows 8,747 beef cows in the county producing about 7,435 calves. A study of feeder calf sales, auction market figures and farm records shows that in 1953 the average beef calf was born in late March or April, weighed 300 lbs. when sold, graded "medium to common," brought 12c per lb., or \$36 per calf. If the breeding program was changed so that this calf had been born in December or January, this calf would have been ready to utilize pasture by May. This additional three months grazing means that the calf would probably reach at least 450 lbs. by fall, grade "good," and bring about 16c per lb. or \$72 per calf. This means the 7,435 beef calves would have brought \$535,320 into the county instead of the \$267,660 actually brought in last



AT WNCAC MEET—Among the large group of interested civic leaders at the WNCAC meeting here Tuesday, included: (left to right) Maurice Morrell, left, secretary, Dr. Paul Reid, president, Mr. Crawford, executive secretary Asheville Chamber of Commerce, and John Johnson, president, Waynesville Chamber of Commerce. (Mountaineer Photo).

year, or an increase of \$267,660 from the same number of calves. The 40,000 hens in hatching egg flocks in the county produced an average of 132 eggs per hen. These eggs were worth about \$9.50 per bird or a total of \$380,000 for the county. An increase of 24 eggs per hen would add about \$1.80 per hen. By buying better quality baby chicks, following better management, disease and parasite control practices, and using good range the cost of raising a hen could be reduced as much as 25c. This means an increased gross income of about \$2.05 per bird or \$82,000 more income for the county poultryman.

The census reports show that in 1952 Haywood County farmers produced 330,000 bushels of corn on 7,870 acres of 43 bushels per acre. The highest official recorded yield in North Carolina was made here in Haywood County when Billy Best of Upper Crabtree made 163 bushels per acre in 1951, and many farmers are consistently producing around 100 bushels per acre. If the county average corn yield was raised to only 74 bushels per acre, it would mean a total production of 582,000 bushels. Valuing corn at \$1.60 per bushel, the value of the county corn crop would be increased from \$528,000 to \$932,000 or an increase of \$404,000. The increase in income would actually be greater than this because the cost of production at the 43 bushels per acre level is 75c per bushel while at a 75 bushels per acre level the cost is only 57c per bushel.

Haywood County farmers could add more value to their hay crop than any other enterprise, except possibly tobacco. In 1952, 1,400 acres of alfalfa were grown, producing an average of 3.0 tons per acre. But in 1952, 6,550 acres of grass and/or clover hay were grown, producing only 1.2 tons per acre. The alfalfa sold for about \$40 per ton making a total value of \$120 per acre, while the mixed hay and grass sold for about \$30 per ton for a total value of only \$36 per acre. If all the hay grown in the county was alfalfa, it would be worth about \$503,040 more money than what is now produced. This value is increased still further when the effect of feeding higher quality (14.7% protein) alfalfa instead of grass or mixed hays (8.6% protein) to our livestock population is reflected in healthier and more profitable livestock.

Haywood County has made great progress in pasture development in the past few years. Not only have thousands of acres of native pasture been fertilized and improved but many more thousands have been reseeded to higher producing Ladino clover-grass mixtures. This improvement has been reflected in a gain of several thousand head of cattle in the past ten years. Exact figures are not available but it is estimated that at least 20,000 more acres of pastureland could be seeded to ladino clover-grass mixtures. This increase would not only be reflected in additional livestock numbers but would mean higher quality and

more profits from this livestock. County livestock producers could add many thousands of dollars through more efficient marketing. The 443 Haywood beef calves sold through the feeder calf sale in Asheville last fall brought about 2 1/2c per lb. above the regular market price or about \$10.35 more per calf. Wool producers selling in the wool pool last year received about 10c per lb. above regular market for their wool and lambs sold in the lamb pool brought producers from 3 to 5 cents per lb. above market price.

The total potential increases outlined above are as follows:

Tobacco	\$ 606,015
Corn	404,000
Hay	503,040
Beef Calves	267,660
Dairying	182,557
Poultry	82,000
Total	\$2,045,232

These figures are based on the present acreage of crops and numbers of livestock. This \$2,045,232 could be realized through greater efficiency of production.

The addition of 10,000 sheep in Haywood County would add at least \$250,000 more income for the county farmers. This number could be added with the acres of pasture and feed crops which are now in the county. The prospects of realizing a profit from sheep for the next few years is more favorable than for any other livestock.

As Haywood farmers grow smaller in acreage, more farmers will be forced into farming enterprises which return more for each acre and for labor. It seems that it would be practical and profitable to double the number of flocks producing hatching and commercial eggs. This would add about \$400,000 to our county income and, in selling commercial eggs, would probably result in a stronger market through volume production.

In attempting to carry out these more efficient farming methods and still further raise his standard of living, the farmer has many allies to assist him. A recent newspaper story told of the research work conducted at the local experiment station, which is but one unit of the research program carried out by North Carolina State College. The State College is represented in the county by the county and home agents, The Vocational Agriculture instructors in the high schools work with several hundred farm boys in their classes. The Home Economics teachers work with several hundred girls in learning how to make better homes and living standards. The county Agricultural Stabilization Conservation (PMA) office works with farmers in carrying out conservation practices. The Farmers Home Administration offers financial assistance to certain groups of farmers. The Soil Conservation Service will soon have a technician in the county to assist farmers on their soil and water conservation problems. All of these agricultural workers now meet monthly to coordinate their efforts for most efficient work in the county. The Community Development

MORE ABOUT Ned Tucker, Jr.

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Mrs. Merlin Eggens, Mrs. James Kilpatrick, and Mrs. Walter Baermann.

Prior to the contest Miss Sylvia Newell, winner of the DAR Good Citizenship award, was presented a pin. She was introduced by Mrs. S. H. Bushnell, chairman of good citizenship and presentation of the pin was made by Charles Isley, head of the music department of the school.

Miss Newell was selected for the good citizenship honor several months ago by the faculty and students of her school. She has compiled a scrap book of her activities in church, school, home, and community to be entered in a contest with books made by girls representing DAR chapters throughout the state. Her book is dedicated to Mr. Isley.

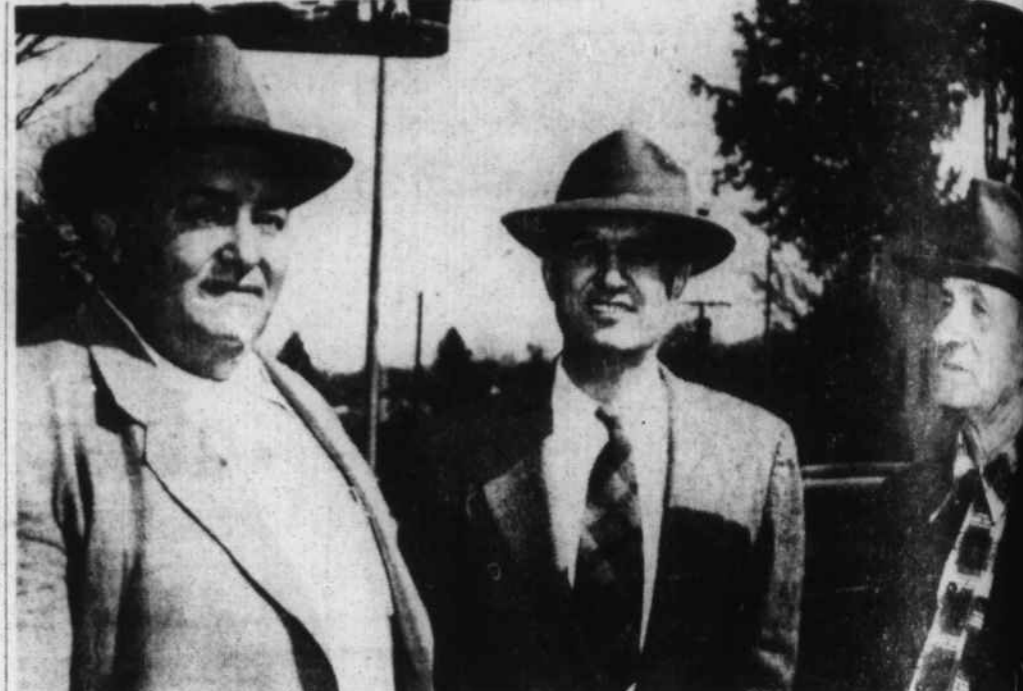
In presenting the pin, Mr. Isley told his audience that Miss Newell possesses to a high degree the qualifications of a Good Citizen, as set by the DAR—dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism. He said that she is one of the most outstanding students he had taught since coming to Waynesville.

M. H. Bowles, superintendent of the school, spoke briefly on "The Meaning of Americanism."

Mrs. James Elwood, regent of the DAR chapter, presided. The declamation contest has been sponsored by the DAR for boys in the Waynesville High School since 1909. Winner of the first contest was Noble Garrett, Sr.

Winners in successive years have been George Ward, Raymond Allen, Buel Hyatt, Robert Wyche, James Palmer, William Palmer, Roy Francis, Wayne Grahl, Bryan Walpole, Julius Welch, Lawrence Davis, Arthie MacFadyen, Joe Johnson, Jr., James Osborne, Ben Sloan, Richard Covington, Edwin Haynes.

Mark Davis, Rufus Gaddis, James Queen, Robert Lowe, James Harden Howell, Bill Prevost, Ray Burgin, Richard Queen, Lester Poteate, Frederick Nichols, David Stentz, Joe Johnson, Joe Davis, Sam Arrington, R. L. Wilson,



DISCUSS TRAVEL—When these three got together Tuesday at the WNCAC meeting here, they discussed travel for the coming year. On the left is Chief O. Saunooke, of the Eastern Band of Cherokee; Edward Hummel, superintendent of

the Great Smoky Park, and C. C. Frazer, man of the board of commissioners. Among the large group from every corner Carolina attending the meeting.

MORE ABOUT Robinson

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pastor of Central Methodist Church officiated. Mrs. Gidney, choir director of the church, sang "The Lord's Prayer," and "This Is My Father's World." At the close of the service Mrs. Martigan, organist, played "Christ The Lord Is Risen Today." Burial was in Sunset Cemetery, Shelby.

Active pallbearers were Harry Limer, Jr., Bill Norris, Horace Green, Homer Sink, Ben Phillips and Raymond Caldwell.

Members of the Hazelwood Presbyterian Church, members of the Hazelwood Boosters Club, and the Waynesville Junior Chamber of Commerce, W. I. Dooley and em-

Bob Lee, Dwight Beatty, Charles Gaddis, J. D. Kelly, Aaron Hyatt, Cecil Fore, Malcolm Williamson, Bobby Harry, Danny McClure, Clark Hinkley, William Rogers, and Miles Stamey.

ployees of the Haywood Builders' Supply.

Honorary pallbearers were elders of the Hazelwood Presbyterian Church, members of the Hazelwood Boosters Club, and the Waynesville Junior Chamber of Commerce, and W. I. Dooley.

Robinson has been a resident of Waynesville for six years. He was formerly connected with Radio Station WHCC and for the past five years had been bookkeeper for the Haywood Builders Supply Co. Prior to coming to Waynesville he was affiliated with the Shelby Daily Star as sports editor.

A member of the Hazelwood Presbyterian Church, he had been made a ruling elder only a short time before his death and was a teacher of the young adult Sunday School class.

Robinson was an active member and past president of the Waynesville Jaycees and had recently been presented a Jaycee "key award" for distinguished service. He was also an active member and past president of the Hazelwood Boost-

MORE ABOUT Dust Storm

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grassland agriculture pointed out.

"What we need is a cover, but producing it is a job," said Mr. Frazer. In tests conducted in Valley it was found that crops on slopes reduced the soil loss by 40,000 tons, Mr. Frazer said.

ers Club. He is survived by Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Shelby, a brother, and Mrs. Frank Sikes, Jr., Mrs. Austin Pruitt, and Mrs. Austin Pruitt.

The Haywood Builders' Supply Co. closed yesterday at 1 o'clock and its employees as many other residents of the community attended the

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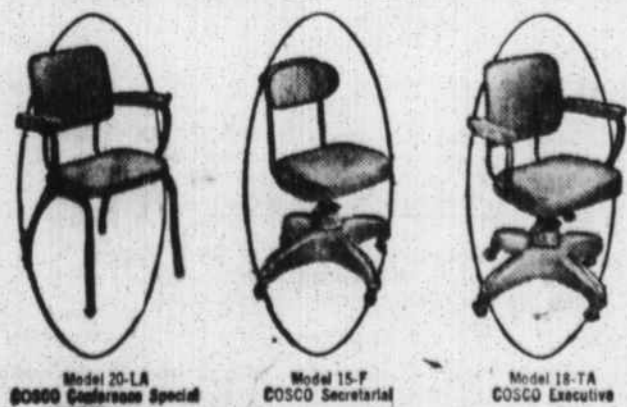
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