

Tools, Rocky Soil All Pioneers Had Early Farm Program

By W. C. MEDFORD
Chapter 3

In our pioneer days farming implements of the type were mostly home-made. The shovel plow, bull-plow, grubbing hoe and also the scythe and grain cradle were made by the men of the farm families—in many cases by the men who worked on the farm. A few of these implements may still be found here.

In the "smoke house" were generally to be found the meat-trough (section of a big tree cut off and dug out with a foot adz), or maybe hanging middlings and hams of meat, in process of "smoking"—and soon ready to be "ashed." Close by was the "Spring house" with its trough of running spring water for keeping the milk and butter cool. Also, near the house was to be found the "washplace"—the house wife's washpot and "beatlin' block." Listen to the bill-bill-bill! as the woman in homespun beats the "saff soap-billed" clothes with her "beatlin' stick".

The "ash hopper" for the making of lye to make the soap also was to be seen at described homes. (We have heretofore described this process.)

There were no sawmills then. So all the wood that went into these home-made implements had to be either hewn out or sawed with a rip-saw. Those of iron were wrought in the blacksmith shops.

The Schools

As best we can determine by the old records more than half of these pioneer citizens could not read and write—not even their names. The

Rotarians To Hear Their District Governor Friday



Ernest W. Ross

The Rotary Club of Waynesville tomorrow will be host to Ernest W. Ross, Governor of the 380th District of Rotary International, who is making his annual official visit to each of the 37 Rotary Clubs in Western North Carolina. He will address the club and confer with President William S. Ray, Secretary Charles Way and committee chairmen on Rotary administration and service activities, and on plans for the participation by the Rotary Club of Waynesville in world-wide observance of Rotary's Golden Anniversary, February 23-June 2.

Mr. Ross is a commission marketer for the Sinclair Refining Company in Marion, N. C., and is a member of the Rotary Club in Marion. Mr. Ross has been a member of the Rotary Club in Marion since 1945, and is a Past President of that club. He is on the McDowell County School Board, a Director of the Merchants Association, a Past President of the Parent-Teacher Association, a Sunday School Teacher and a Steward in the First Methodist Church. He was elected District Governor of Rotary International for the 1954-55 fiscal year at the annual Rotary Convention in Seattle, Washington last June. He is one of 220 District Governors supervising the activities of some 8,300 Rotary clubs which have a membership of 389,000 business and professional executives in 89 countries and geographical regions throughout the world.

Wherever Rotary clubs are located, President Ray asserted in discussing the Governor's visit, their activities are similar to those of the Rotary Club of Waynesville because they are based on the same general objectives—developing better understanding and fellowship among business and professional men, promoting community-betterment undertakings, raising the standards of business and professions, and fostering the advancement of good will, understanding and peace among all the peoples of the world.

ones who could had, in most cases perhaps, acquired the three elements of an education (the 3 R's) before coming here. The apprenticeship system of education here was almost too negligible to mention. Also the teaching practice by lay leaders and ministers of an earlier period had virtually passed out. So we are left to consider the academies and the (sometimes) little subscription schools. The academies were state-chartered schools, and at this time there was at least one in nearly every county of the state, supported by tuition fees. So you can readily see how very inadequate these schools would be to meet the needs of school children, especially the poor. In addition to Green Hill (Chap. 1) it is said that a few little subscription schools had been occasionally taught in the county by the latter part of this period—at Ford of Pigeon (Canton), Bethel and Crabtree.

Churches and Religion

Not only as regards schools and education was there a need—there was a need for churches and religious instruction. To meet this need the Methodists and Baptists, as organizations soon became active—the Methodists first to erect places of worship—log "meeting houses". Closely following came the Presbyterians and Episcopalians.

An additional Baptist church (the third for the county proper) was built at Waynesville (1823) near the (now) lower Smathers street bridge.

Indian Lands

Between the years 1790 and 1799 the state had made large land-grants to several of its citizens here, as stated heretofore. Some of these grants included large boundaries claimed by the Cherokees. Later, suits were brought for the Indians, and, by our courts, were decided in their favor. So the whites had to give possession.

Years later, about 1829-30, the state of North Carolina purchased back some 25,000 acres of these lands through the Indian Agent. The deed was signed by about forty of the "braves" (heads of families), each family holding 640 acres. We notice that only two out of the forty could write their names.

Thus the state put through a huge real estate deal—in this manner: These large tracts lying mostly on the waters of Oconalufy and Scott's Creek (and former-covered by the Cathcart Grant), were divided into tracts of varying sizes and priced according to grade of land and location. Then the whole was put up at auction and sold at

This Week's Best Sellers

- FICTION**
- Not as a Stranger, Morton Thompson.
 - The Royal Box, Frances Parkinson Keyes.
 - Mary Anne, Daphne du Maurier.
 - Never Victorious, Never Defeated, Taylor Caldwell.
 - Sweet Thursday, John Steinbeck.
 - Bless This House, Norah Lofts.
- NONFICTION**
- The Power of Positive Thinking, Norman Vincent Peale.
 - But We Were Born Free, Elmer Davis.
 - The Mind Alive, H. A. and Bonaro Overstreet.
 - Minutes of the Last Meeting, Gene Fowler.
 - Forty Plus and Fancy Free, Emily Kimbrough.
 - I'll Cry Tomorrow, Lillian Roth.

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A RATTLING GOOD TIME was had by this quartet recently on the Pigeon River Road construction project in capturing this rattlesnake. The reptile measured 3½ feet and had 11 rattles. Left to right are J. C. Weaver, W. H. Coward, Kenny Palmer, and V. R. Rhinehart, Jr.

State Angus Field Day Is Set At Arden On July 28

More than 300 cattle breeders, farmers and extension specialists are expected to attend the state-wide Aberdeen-Angus Field Day to be held at Earl Morgan's Oak Leaf Farms at Arden, on July 28th.

The day-long program will get under way at 9:00 a.m. with a registration of visitors to be followed by a beef cattle type demonstration by Sam Buchanan, well-known specialist from North Carolina State College.

Among the others taking part in the program are Jim Vogt, Caroland Angus Farms herdsman from Tryon, who will give a fitting, grooming and showing demonstration; W. A. Terry, Aberdeen-Angus Association fieldman who will address the group on "Merchandising Your Product" and Sam Dobson, Agronomy Extension Specialist from State College who will discuss "The Care and Management of Pasture and Roughage Supply."

There will also be introductions, judging and weight-guessing contests, a welcome address by Morgan, and an inspection of Morgan's Angus herd.

A lunch will be served on the farm. Located 8 miles from Biltmore, Oak Leaf Farms is found one mile from Route 25A at Cedar Lane Royal Pines.

All cattle breeders, farmers businessmen and interested persons are cordially invited to attend the Field Day.

Mrs. T. C. Davis.

Charles Dean Medford spent the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cash Medford. His father and Frank Medford accompanied him back to Camp Gordon, Ga., where he is stationed.

Mr. and Mrs. Grover Bradshaw and son Bobby of Pasadena, Texas, are spending a few weeks with Mr. and Mrs. Clinton McElroy and other relatives in the community.

Mrs. Frank Davis and Frances Davis returned home last week from Greensboro, where they were called by a death in the family.

Fungi depend on other organisms for their food materials, but often develop complicated chemical processes to digest them.

Lake Speaker Says Most Of World's Ills Are Rural

It was for a Methodist layman, Raymond Miller, world traveler and representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization, a branch of United Nations, to remind delegates to the south-wide Missionary Conference in session here, July 15-21, that ninety per cent of Asia's population is rural and it is in this field that Christianity has its greatest opportunity by helping these people to find ways and means to achieve a better standard of living. In fact, he said, most of the world's problems are rural and a city can't last overnight without food from the country.

The speaker, who has recently returned from six months world tour studying the food situation among underprivileged nations, spoke encouragingly of the spread of the Christian religion in India and other Asiatic countries. He stressed the fact that Christianity came out of Asia and said the secret of success for the Christian faith in countries like Asia is to build an indigenous church that will reflect the genius and spirit of the people and not seek to get them to accept the western brand of Christianity.

Gypsy Moth Moves West

LANSING, Mich. (AP)—The gypsy moth, a damaging pest heretofore found no further west than Pennsylvania, has been found in Michigan. Three infestations were discovered in the Lansing area. Federal and state agencies quickly combined efforts to wipe them out, saying the pests could cause millions of dollars damage to trees, shrubs and other vegetation in a single year if allowed to spread.

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