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**WALSTONBURG NEWS**

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Harris, of Raleigh, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ray West, last Sunday.

Miss Freddie Riley and Bill Kearney, of Wilson, visited Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shirley, Sunday.

Friends will be glad to learn that Will Gay has sufficiently recovered from a recent illness in a Wilson hospital so that he was able to return to his home here Monday.

Mrs. Earl Lang is spending a few days this week in Windsor with her mother, Mrs. A. K. Davis.

Mrs. E. G. Fields returned Tuesday after spending some time with her sister, Mrs. J. A. Bounds, of Laurel, Del., who has been ill.

Mrs. W. A. Marlowe spent the week end in Norfolk, Va., with her sister, Mrs. Wayne Boyette.

Ray Speight, P. 2, of the U. S. Navy, who has been in the Pacific area, is spending a few days leave here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Speight.

Friends will be glad to learn that Mrs. Ray West, Sr., is able to be out after a recent illness.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Vinson, of Clayton, were week end guests of Mrs. Vinson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. D. S. Dixon.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Bailey spent Sunday with relatives at Princeton.

Mr. and Mrs. James E. Shackelford and children and Mrs. Clarence Jones were Wilson visitors, Saturday.

Friends will be glad to learn that A. R. Gay is much improved and has returned to his home here from a Wilson hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Lang, of Farmville, visited Mr. and Mrs. Earl Lang, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Woodley Lassiter, of Baltimore, Md., spent the week end here with Mrs. Annie Lassiter.

Mrs. Lula Deaman and daughter, Doris, were week end guests of relatives near Black Creek.

**CHRISTIAN**

Circle No. 2 of the Missionary Society of the Christian Church met in the home of Mrs. Tryphania McKeel, Thursday night. Mrs. J. C. Gardner, president, called the meeting to order. Mrs. L. N. Shelton conducted the devotional.

Mrs. J. C. Gardner, Jr., program leader, had about talks given on the Crusade for a Christian World program. Then Rev. W. L. Bennett gave an inspiring talk on "Woman's Place in the Church."

**BIRTHDAY DINNER**

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Gardner entertained at a dinner party Monday evening at their home honoring their daughter, Ola Grace, on her seventeenth birthday.

Guests, young friends of the honoree, included Misses Ann Hicks, Jean Redick, Doris Wheeler, Joyce Rouse, Peggy Reasons, Margaret and Evelyn Fields and Frances Dixon.

An over-zealous desire to please can be obnoxious.

Experience has taught us a lot but it has made us so cautious that we aren't good for much.

**AT HOME ON THE FARM**

with THE CITY COUSIN

If and when the oft-predicted "depression," "recession" or "shake-out" hits North Carolina farmers, how will they be affected?

I got to wondering about this. Mind you, I'm not joining the ranks of "but-times-are-just-around-the-corner" pessimists. I have heard Senator Clyde R. Hoey say there is no need for another depression, and a Chicago economist tells us that 1947 will be our most prosperous year.

And though I take the optimistic view, still I got to wondering, and I decided the best way to get an angle on what might happen to an individual farmer would be to check up on the case history of a man who stuck out the last ordeal.

What did he have to face? What lessons did he learn? How did he pull through?

These questions sent me over to the Piedmont. I figured this would be a good section to sample, so I pulled up at Danbury, county seat of Stokes County, where I sought the office of E. S. Stokes, county farm agent for the State College Extension Service.

In the very pit of the last depression when the gross income from American agriculture had slipped by seven billion dollars from the 1929 high, Stokes himself was a youthful farmer. Since that time he has graduated from State College and has given the past six years to county agent work in his namesake county.

In the rebellion and ferment that came in the wake of bathtub gin and miniature golf, W. S. Steele was fighting to save his Sandy Ridge farm against an appalling set of unfortunate circumstances.

He recalled for us, in the middle of our visit with him, how bank failures cost him "a few thousand dollars," and how, in 1932, his barn burned—destroying all of Steele's wheat, hay, and workstock. Through this trial, he had the courage to tell us:

"Yes, people talk about a depression, but it wasn't so bad!"

Other people—like midwest farmers who blockaded highways with spiked poles and dumped milk in roadside ditches—seemed to think it was pretty tough.

But there were men like Steele who, as Kipling put it, "watched the things they gave their life to, broken, and stopped to build 'em up with worn out tools."

With the "will to hold on" and "starting again at his beginning," Steele added borrowed money to \$500 he collected as insurance on his barn, and began immediately to rebuild, buy workstock, feed and equipment.

Today, Steele's farm is a going concern, founded on the financial success that comes with careful farm planning. On his average-sized farm, he manages to plant corn, oats, wheat, and legumes, as well as his tobacco. His farm buildings, his home, and every member of the family is insured. If there is any secret to surviving a depression, I think it can be summed up in Steele's statement:

"All through the depression, and every year since, I have always managed to save a little money."

**Records Are Helpful**

**Catawba Farmer Finds**

If you're a farmer, and you think record-keeping is not worthwhile, this story about Vernon Sigmon, a farmer of the Monogram section of Catawba County should interest you.

According to Earle Brintnall, farm agent for the State College Extension Service, Sigmon had to keep farm records because he was a Test Demonstration Farmer with the Tennessee Valley Association. He wouldn't be without these records now, he says.

When Brintnall asked Sigmon recently if he ever referred to his records after he kept them, the Catawba farmer replied:

"Yes indeed! Thanks to those records I know just what I did on a certain field during any year."

Thus, he says, records help him to determine which fields he wants to plant to certain crops, which fields he should lime, what fertilizer to use—in short, these farm records help him to determine just what he should do each year to maintain his crop production and to conserve the fertility of his land.

I've been in lots of notable places but for complete luxury I prefer home.

**SHIRTSLEEVE WEATHER IS APPARENTLY GONE**

The State's current off-season spring weather apparently ended sometime, Wednesday night, being swept away by a cold breeze, doubtless a forerunner of the winter weather hanging over Central Canada and expected to reach here during the week end.

Farmville, with other portions of the State, has heaved under warm temperatures since Sunday with the thermometers reaching 75 Wednesday when people began appearing in their shirtsleeves.

The weather bureau predicts rain today—and Saturday is expected to be a bit cooler and partly cloudy.

The week end is forecasted as bringing an end to this spring-in-January weather. These past few sunshiny days have enabled farmers to finish the tobacco plant beds which hadn't been planted earlier and to do some needed shrubbing.

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**New Is Time To Make Farm Machinery Safe**

Predicting that new farm machinery will continue to be hard to get in 1947, Prof. David S. Weaver, head of the Agricultural Engineering Department, State College, says it is highly important that the best farmers get their present equipment in shape for this year's work.

Farm machinery that is poorly conditioned reduces an operator's alertness, is irritating and fatiguing, and fosters carelessness. Prof. Weaver maintains, pointing out that timely servicing of all farm equipment before field work starts will reduce accidents as well as costly field break-downs.

"For safety's sake, farm machinery repair should begin with a thorough check," he says, citing the National Safety Council's reminder list of things that should be gone over. They include: hitches, seats, clutches, wheels, brakes, steering, and unguarded parts such as gears, chains, shafts, fuel lines, and wiring. Leaky fuel lines or hazardous wiring can easily lead to a disastrous fire. Trash and grease should be removed from platforms, pedals, foot rests, or steps if safe footing is to be assured during operation.

An alarming number of accidents occur each year from home-made labor-saving equipment, Prof. Weaver says, advising that special care be taken in checking such equipment.

**PEOPLE ARE ASKING THESE QUESTIONS ABOUT ARMY ENLISTMENT**

**Q. What educational benefits do I get under the GI Bill of Rights?**

**A.** If you serve honorably on active duty for a period of 90 days, one day of which is served between September 16, 1940, and the date of termination of the present war, or you are discharged because of an actual service-incurred injury or disability incurred within that first 90-day period of service, you are, upon discharge, entitled to one year of education in the college, trade or business school of your choice for which you can qualify. In addition, each month of active duty, including the first three, prior to the termination of the war, entitles you to another month of post-secondary education, up to 48 months.

Your tuition, laboratory fees, etc., up to \$500 per ordinary school year will be paid by the government. Also, you will receive \$30 a month living allowance, \$50 a month if you have dependents.

**Q. What about family allowances?**

**A.** For men enlisting or reenlisting now, family allowances will continue until six months after the war is officially ended.

**Q. What are my chances of going overseas?**

**A.** If you enlist for 3 years, you may select to serve in any overseas theater which has openings, especially Japan or Korea.

**Q. Can I still choose the branch of service I want to serve in?**

**A.** Yes. You can pick any branch which has quotas to be filled, if you enlist for 3 years.

**Q. Is there any way I can reenlist in my old grade?**

**A.** Yes, you can, if you reenlist for a 3-year term within 30 days after your honorable discharge.

**Q. Is there any other way I can reenlist in grade?**

**A.** Yes, if you held one of certain military occupational specialties, and were discharged on or after May 12, 1945, you can reenlist in a grade depending on the length of time you held the desired M. O. S.

With your present U. S. Army Exemption Status for service to any other country you may have, or for further details on the above questions, write: "U. S. Army," "Writers of Peace," "Wives of the Army," and "Fidelity We Hold," in your reply.

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G. A. ROUSE, Secretary and Treasurer

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