

SCS Activities

Furman O. Clark
District Conservationist

Under all is the land. Land is what we live on. It is the foundation of the environment that shapes our lives. Our ability to adapt to our environment determines the level of civilization we attain. When we have food to eat, clothes to wear, houses to live in, and health to enjoy, it is because we have made good use of the land. Only then - when we are fed, clothed, housed, and healthy - do we have the time and energy for tasks that will raise our standard of living and create for our environment a higher civilization. Luxuries are possible only after the necessities of life have been assured.

But our American land is being divided and divided again for the multiple needs of a nation growing rapidly in population, in urban development, in highway mileage, and in an array of man-oriented uses alien to nature. Our American land that once seemed so limitless is shrinking before us at every turn - and we are made aware of a challenging crisis. Land uses are changing, and therein lies the crisis - are these changes right for our land and for us?

Civilization is based on the productivity of the land, and the United States is fortunate in having had abundant fertile land to begin with. Productivity depends, however, not only on the rich natural endowment of land but also on the skill and technology with which men use it.

Because our American land was so rich and vast, our forefathers were able to misuse it for more than a century. They had moved in on a continent of

nearly two billion acres of forest and prairie. Underneath lay some of the most productive soils ever known to man. The pioneers worked hard to build their homes and establish their security. They tried to follow European farm practices, but the soils were not like those in Europe. As a result some of the soils suffered. Some of the pioneers recognized this - in fact George Washington and Thomas Jefferson worried about soil erosion.

To the pioneers the land seemed unlimited. Even those farmers who were ruined by soil damage could abandon their gullies and find virgin soil if they moved inland. It was easier to make cropland from grassland than from the forests of the East. As the frontier moved westward, there was always more land available than our small population needed.

We look back on these migrations and tend to think of their effect on land as exploitation. But the pioneer farmer had to cut the timber and plow the sod to produce food. Erosion by water followed land clearing in the East, and erosion by wind and water followed in the West.

Floods also increased as the land was cleared. Flooding was the only water problem at first; scarcity of water became a serious problem later - first in the low rainfall areas of the West and then in other parts of the country.

Land problems varied from one part of the country to another, but the pattern was much the same: A single-resource approach to development, a single-practice approach to problems, and using up resources for immediate gain. In much of the Southeast, for example, cotton or tobacco became the single cash crop. As the farmers expanded their operations they cleared the slopes farther and farther up the hillsides. It mattered little if only a few crops were grown before the topsoil washed away. Two or three crops would pay for the land, and there was always more land to be brought into production with ax, fire, and plow. Crops were planted in rows and were clean tilled to keep down weeds.

(to be continued next week.)



MEETING THEMSELVES COMING AND GOING - There were so many candidates in Hoke County last week that they found themselves asking each other for votes. Senatorial hopeful James Troy Johnson of Wilmington, left, was vote seeking on Main Street when incumbent N.C. Rep. Gus Speros of Robeson County, right, came dashing out of a store. The men spotted each other at the same time, rushed toward each other, shook hands, offered cards and asked for votes in the May primary before each one discovered the other was a candidate on the campaign trail. (N-J Photo)

Deaths And Funerals

Theresa S. Willard

Funeral services for Theresa S. (Tracy) Willard, 82, who died Tuesday at St. Joseph's Hospital, Pinehurst were conducted Wednesday at Raeford Presbyterian Church by the Rev. John Ropp with burial in Raeford Cemetery. Pallbearers were Ricky English, Eddie McNeill, Norbert Schmitt, Sam C. Morris, R. Palmer Willcox and Andrew M. Lamont.

A Hoke County resident for the past 13 years Mrs. Willard was a native of Anadarko, Okla. As a young girl she traveled with a covered wagon train from Wisconsin to Indian territory in northern Texas. She was employed for a number of years at Riverside Indian School in Anadarko.

Survivors include one daughter Ina Lee W. Dickson of Raeford; one brother, Carl Schuler of Altus, Okla.; two sisters, Mrs. C.G. Manschreck of Crebs, Okla., and Mrs. C.L. Lankford of Ft. Worth, Texas; two grandsons, A.B. Dickson Jr. and John W. Dickson, both of Raeford.

Donations in lieu of flowers may be made to St. Joseph's Hospital or the Hoke County Bicentennial Library Fund.

Effie J. McCall

Funeral services for Mrs. Effie J. McCall, 83, of Center Grove Community, were April 21 at the Piney Grove Baptist Church with the Rev. G. Cromwell officiating. Burial was at the East Freedom Cemetery, Raeford.

Survivors include three sons, Walter McCall of Miami, Fla.; Linwood McCall of the home, and James Marshall McCall of Newark, N.J.; eleven daughters, Mrs. Rolla Self of Durham, Miss Rovenia McCall of the home, Mrs. Sally Autin of New York, N.Y., Mrs. Estella McNeill, Mrs. Beatrice McCollum and Mrs. Ruth Gillespie, all of Raeford, Mrs. Willie Lee McFachin of Red Springs, Mrs. Donella Johnson of Fayetteville, Mrs. Essie McMillian of Orange, N.J.; Mrs. Montez Gillespie of Newark, N.J. and Mrs. Hanna Moore of Mattapan, Mass.; eighty-three grandchildren; ninety-five great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

Robert M. Winchester

VASS-Funeral services for Robert M. Winchester, 46, who died Sunday at Moore Memorial Hospital were conducted Wednesday at Brockington Funeral Home Chapel in Lake City, S.C. with burial in the National Cemetery, Lake City.

He is survived by his widow Mary Nell; two daughters, Alice Elizabeth and Mary Beth both of the home; one son, Robert M. Winchester Jr. of the home; two brothers, Gerald Winchester of Raeford and Lloyd Winchester of Lake City, S.C.; one sister, Mrs. William F. Freeman of Pamlico, S.C.; stepmother, Mrs. Nell Winchester of Lake City.

He was retired from the U.S. Army and served as a ranger at Ranger Station 3 at Ft. Bragg.

James B. Covington

Funeral services for James B. Covington, 59, who died Saturday in Veteran's Hospital, Fayetteville, will be conducted 2 p.m. Sunday at Mount Sinai Holy Church with Bishop J.A. Jackson officiating. Burial with military honors will be in Silver Grove Cemetery.

Survivors include his widow Charlotte B. Covington and his mother Icy Marsh, both of Raeford; and one brother, Robert Marsh of Brooklyn, N.Y.

RURAL FIRES
CALL 875-4242

Bucks Second In Track Meet

by Charlotta King
and Martha Ann Wood

In the last home track meet of the season, Hoke took second place behind Pinecrest. West Montgomery took third place. Blue and Cameron led the scoring for Hoke. Final score was Pinecrest, 94½; Hoke, 50; and West Montgomery, 22½.

Hoke team is participating in the sectional meet in Pembroke today.

Events

120 yd. high hurdles, Blue, Hoke, 15.3 sec.; 100 yd. dash, Cameron, Hoke, 10.1 sec.; mile run, Moody, Pinecrest, 4 min. 19 sec.; 880 yard relay, Pinecrest, 1 min. 37 sec.; 440 yd. run, Powell, Pinecrest, 51.8 sec.; 180 yd. low hurdles, Blue, Hoke, 20.3 sec.; 880 yd. run, Moody, Pinecrest, 2 min. 2.3 sec.; 220 yard dash, Cameron, Hoke, 23.4 sec.; two mile run, Summerford, Pinecrest, 10 min 29.9 sec.; mile relay, Pinecrest, 3 min. 29.5 sec.; long jump, Blue, Hoke, 22 ft. 1 in.; high jump, Simmons, Pinecrest, 6 ft. 4 in.; pole vault, Drakeford, Pinecrest, 10 ft. 6 in.; shot put, Lee, Pinecrest, 5 ft. 3 in.; discus, Lee Pinecrest, 140 ft. 1 in.; triple jump, Bowden, West Montgomery, 42 ft. 11½ in.

Meet

Hoke plunged by Lumberton in a

home track meet April 25. The Bucks zeroed in from the 120 yard high hurdles to the triple jump to take first place in all sixteen events. Cameron led the plunge for Hoke taking three first places. Final score for the meet was Hoke, 125; Lumberton, 15.

Events

120 yd. high hurdles, Blue, 16.1 sec.; 100 yd. dash, Cameron, 10.4 sec.; mile run, L. Cobb, 4 min. 56.4 sec.; 880 yd. relay, 1 min. 34.2 sec.; 440 yd. dash, Rogers, 54.8 sec.; 180 low hurdles, Blue, 23.1 sec.; two mile run, Huff, 10 min. 46.1 sec.; mile relay, Hoke, 3 min. 38.7 sec.; long jump, McQueen, 19 ft. 10½ in.; high jump, Wright, 5 ft. 8 in.; pole vault, Jordan/Kennedy, 10 ft.; shot put, Cameron, 42 ft. 5 in.; discus, Marion, 123 ft. 2 in.; and triple jump, Black, 38 ft. 7½ in.

Be Sure
To Vote

May Meetings Set

Regular monthly meetings of the Hoke County board of commissioners, the Raeford city council and the Hoke Board of education are Monday.

The school board meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Board of Education Building. County commissioners meet at 9 a.m. in the board of education conference room and the city council meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building.

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