

## Hoke Agricultural Extension News

by Willie Featherstone, Jr., Agricultural Extension Agent

### AGRICULTURAL LIME CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Spring is a time of promise. But the promise of a good crop production year could fall far short of expectations due to a poor liming program. Every year, county agents are called out on farm visits to identify crop growth problems. Most of the time, the farmer suspects some exotic disease has taken over, or he suspects that a micronutrient is at fault, or he was sold bad seed, or the fertilizer was at fault.

These problems do occur, but reports show that about 8 out of 10 times the culprit is acid soil. Acid soil in 1982 will rob farmers of hundreds of thousands of bushels of corn, soybeans, small grains and thousands of tons of hay. Acid soils will turn green pastures into, at best, exercise fields. Vegetable and fruit crops will suffer the same fate -- reduced

yields, poor quality and total failure in extreme cases.

At the same time, thousands of dollars will have been invested in fertilizers and herbicides that will be less effective because of acid soils.

All of this can be avoided by a sound liming program. It starts with a soil test and is followed up by applying the amount of aglime recommended. Agricultural lime can make the difference between success and failure.

### NITROGEN EFFICIENCY AND LIMING

Nitrogen fertilizer prices at 75 cents to \$1 per pound of nitrogen. Ridiculous -- maybe? A tripling of percent nitrogen fertilizer prices are being predicted in the next couple of years. Whatever the increase in cost, increasing the efficiency of nitrogen use by crops is a must.

Most nitrogen fertilizers are applied to the soil in the ammonium form. But most nitrogen is taken up by plants in the nitrate form. Therefore, ammonium nitrogen must be changed to the nitrate nitrogen form. This is accomplished by bacteria.

Soil temperature, soil moisture and soil pH all influence the conversion of ammonium nitrogen to nitrate nitrogen. The process is very slow in cold soils and in very acid soils. Also, adequate moisture must be present. Wet or dry soils slow up the process. Also, too much rain will leach nitrogen from the soil.

On very acid soils, nitrification of ammonia sources of nitrogen slows to a standstill. Even though adequate amounts of nitrogen fertilizer may be applied, crops grown on very acid soils may suffer from nitrogen deficiency.

A sound liming program and maintaining the soil pH between 6 to 7 will increase the efficiency of use of expensive nitrogen fertilizers.



**TAILORING WORKSHOP** -- These women are shown at a modified-tailoring workshop sponsored by the Hoke County Agricultural Extension Service. Mrs. Onnie Dudley is seated at the sewing machine working on a jacket she is tailoring. The others are showing the jackets they made. L-R, Mrs. Beu Graham and Mrs. Annie McKinnon, and, right, Mrs. Deborah Wright. [Staff photo.]



**20 YEARS COMPLETED** -- Julian D. Parker, Jr., [left], known to his associates as J.D., recently completed 20 years' continuous service with the Raeford Plant of Burlington Menswear. He is shown receiving his service certificate from his supervisor in the maintenance area, Bobby Edwards. Parker began work at the local plant as a service man in the Cloth Department, worked on several jobs in the Preparation Department and has been in the Shop the past six years, currently serving as a maintenance technician.

## School Board Accepts Roofing Bids

The Hoke County Board of Education Tuesday night accepted bids of \$46,000 to re-roof the J.W. Turlington school building and \$17,000 to repair an Upchurch Junior High School building roof.

The Turlington bid was submitted by Parker Of Fayetteville, and the Upchurch bid by York of Lumberton.

The funds were provided in the 1982-83 budget last week by the Board of Hoke County Commissioners.

The school board also during its Tuesday meeting, the regular monthly session for May, granted the requests of parents of two children to permit them to attend McLauchlin School, which will be outside their school district next school year.

The requests were granted for medical reasons for Jonathan Hardman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Guy Hardman, and Michael Hardin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Brent Hardin. Jonathan Hardman was due to attend kindergarten at West Hoke School. The child's father, Guy Hardman, told the school board he wanted to have the boy attend McLauchlin because that school is close to emergency medical services in event the boy's allergy calls for treatment. The board denied Hardman's request that his other son, who will be in the Fourth Grade, be transferred to McLauchlin from West Hoke.

Brent Hardin asked the board to leave his son at McLauchlin. The child is due to enter the Second Grade next year and was scheduled

to attend West Hoke.

The board did not act on a request of Mr. and Mrs. Bobbie Allen to allow their son to attend either Scurlock School or McLauchlin, instead of South Hoke, so that he would be close to a physician. The board decided to wait to act on the request till the parents presented a note from the child's doctor.

Action on a request by Mrs. Parker also was postponed because Mrs. Parker did not appear before the board Tuesday night. Mrs. Parker had requested her child be transferred to McLauchlin from West Hoke because of her work schedule.

The board denied requests of seven other parents for transfers of their children to McLauchlin or to either McLauchlin or Scurlock from schools in their attendance district, because of a medical reason or the parents' work schedules.

The board also voted to accept County School Supt. Raz Autry's recommendation that Judith Christian Cothran be employed as interim teacher at Upchurch Junior High School for the remainder of the current school year, to serve in the place of Donna Kennedy, who is on maternity leave.

The board accepted the low bid of \$3,935 of Avery Connell Insurance Co. to insure all the school system's vehicles.

The board spent nearly three hours in executive session on a request of parents of a student in a drug case but took no action.

## "Things That Matter"

by Lucien Coleman

Well, the free-thinking souls who wanted to rid our society of all those Victorian hang-ups in the area of sexual behavior have just about succeeded. And now we're paying the price. Boy, are we paying the price.

According to the National Center for Health Statistics, one out of six American babies is born to an unwed mother. That amounts to a 50 percent increase in the last decade.

Nationally, more than one million girls between 15 and 19, and another 30,000 who are 14 or younger, become pregnant each

year. According to the Washington Urban Institute, 22 percent of these teenage pregnancies end in out-of-wedlock births, 13 percent end in miscarriage, and 38 percent terminate in abortions.

Health professionals worry about the high-risk factors in teenage pregnancies. They point out that teenagers are more likely to lose their babies soon after birth than women who deliver in their 20s, and that babies delivered by teenage mothers are more than twice as likely to be born with neurological defects.

Mothers 15 and younger run a 60 percent higher risk of death in childbirth than women in their early 20s.

Even when pregnancy is avoided, sexual promiscuity exacts a terrible toll in venereal disease. Genital herpes, for instance, is a growing health threat of near-epidemic proportions. This painful disease produces a variety of serious complications, including aseptic meningitis, neuralgia, and, very probably, cervical cancer. It can also cause fatal infections in newborn infants. The estimated incidence of this disease is 300,000 cases a year. And there is no known treatment for it.

Pelvic inflammatory disease (P.I.D.), a sexually transmitted disease, is the single greatest cause of infertility among young women. This disease resulted in at least 800 deaths in the U.S. in 1978.



**MOTHER'S DAY SING** -- A Mother's Day Sing will be held at 2:30 p.m. Sunday at J.W. Turlington School with the Choraleers [shown above] and The Crusaders participating. The program is being sponsored by the Hoke County Semi-Pro Baseball Association.

## The Walton's SEAFOOD RESTAURANT

**OPEN**  
 Under New Management

**Walton's Seafood Restaurant**  
 of  
 Laurinburg, N.C.

Tuesday thru Saturday  
 4:00 p.m. - until - 10:00 p.m.  
 Sunday 12:30 until 10:00 p.m.

**Try Our Sailor's Special**  
 4 SEAFOODS \$5<sup>25</sup>

Gerald & Ann Pittman  
 MANAGERS

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 You'll like The Walton's of Laurinburg -  
 Nice Family Atmosphere*

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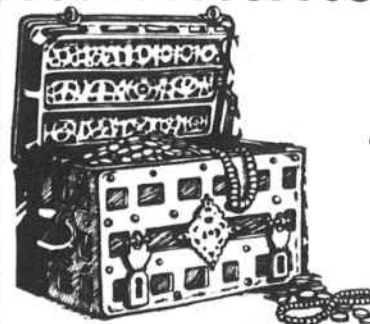
NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES  
 UNDER NEW  
 MANAGEMENT

## Mother's Day Sale

A Special Day means A Special Gift

### The Treasure Chest

Has Just What Mom Would Love

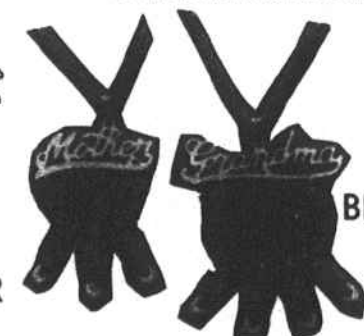


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GOLD FILLED  
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16-24 inch  
 SALE PRICED \$16<sup>00</sup> up

GENUINE DIAMOND  
 FLOATING HEART  
 PENDANT  
 SUPER GIFT  
 \$24<sup>00</sup>  
 5 only at this price



CHAIN & CHARM  
 HOLDER  
 \$10<sup>00</sup>

BABYSHOE  
 BIRTHSTONE CHARMS  
 \$3<sup>00</sup> ea.

CHATEAU DE PARIS  
 8 Enchanting Fragrances  
 1/2 Fl. Oz.  
 Sale Price \$15<sup>00</sup>

Sunday is Mother's Day  
 Many Other Gift Items Sale Priced

OPEN MONDAY thru SATURDAY For Your Shopping Convenience  
 Shop Now For Mother's Day (May 9)

## The Treasure Chest

113 Elwood Ave.

Across from Southern National Bank Parking Lot

Brad Turley  
 (Mgr.)  
 Shirley Turley  
 (Assist. Mgr.)