

THE GAB BAG

By ALAN BROWNING, JR.



IT'S UP TO YOU!

We were reading The Tribune the other night when we ran across the following article in a Washington news column, and decided that we would print it again just in case you didn't see it:

"No matter how much national ballyhoo there is about scrap collection, its success or failure is going to depend upon the real work which is done on it in each town and each home.

"This isn't a case of finding some little knickknack to throw into the collection as might be done for a church bazaar. This is a case of digging out every knickknack and every ounce of all the scrap you can possibly lay your hands on—and doing something to get it into the hands of a junkman even if no effort at all is made by volunteer workers to collect."

Elkin has already formed a committee to plan and direct the salvage program here, but this committee, without the cooperation of every citizen, won't be worth two cents. The committee can't go around and hunt up

the scrap — you've got to do that. Yet from here it seems that a lot of good people appear to think that the government is calling for scrap iron and other materials just to have something to do to pass the time.

With the German war machine going like blazes on one side of us, and the Japs scheming and planning to choke us on the other side, it's no time to sit back and hope someone will come along and do what's necessary to ease matters. And if the government is to get the scrap materials it desperately needs to build guns and tanks and ships, this complacency one bumps into here at every turn has got to be changed into some action on our part.

Elkin really went to town in July on the purchase of war bonds. That was a record to be proud of, but you must still remember that all the money that

Surry Leaf Crop Is Better Than In '41

Ordinary Crop Takes Turn For the Better

According to reports this week the tobacco crop of Surry county has changed in the course of a few weeks from one which appeared to be ordinary, to one that has already excelled the good crop of 1941. With prices what they are on the border, and other early markets, Surry tobacco growers can already feel the pleasant jingle of tobacco money in their pockets from this year's golden weed.

In scattered sections of the county, there were complaints several weeks ago about too much wet weather, but even these sections now report from fair to good crops. Practically any farmer talked to will express the opinion that his crop is better than his last year's yield. This is the general consensus of opinion after so much apprehension was expressed early in the growing season due to the prolonged wet weather.

In recent weeks farmers in certain sections of Southern Surry have expressed the belief that they have their fields topped a little too low, which may cause the tobacco to be too heavy, with a consequent loss of quality, but then it is pointed out by experienced county growers that these fields stand an excellent chance of making some fine quality wrappers, the highest priced tobacco sold on local markets. The recent dry spell was the cause for this low topping.

Farmers in every section of the county are well on their way toward the finish of the tobacco harvest season. For the past three weeks it has been an everyday job, with nights and Sundays thrown in. Some farmers still have as much as half of their crop to harvest, while many others have already started pulling top leaves. Seldom is there a complaint about the color of the weed cured. The poundage appears to be good, too.

Surry county farmers should realize a great deal more money from this year's crop than they did last year's. There are about 12,000 acres planted to this crop in the county this year, compared to 11,050 acres last year.

Figures taken from the Surry AAA records show that county farmers will use about 10,000 tons of lime as a conservation material this year. This is one of the highest tonnages ever used by Surry farmers as a conservation material. In addition to this, county farmers have bought privately 2,000 tons of lime for this year which will give a total of 12,000 tons for the year. Farmers are being urged to grow their own nitrogen this year because it is feared that the war situation will prevent shipments of nitrogen materials into farm areas. Nitrogen producing Austrian winter peas, crimson clover and vetch are among the legumes holding first place in this respect. It is also stated by AAA officials that it is doubtful whether farm deliveries of a lime as a conservation material will be possible another year. This is a major reason why farmers need to take full advantage of this year's hauling.

A lot of 10,000 pounds of rye grass has recently arrived in the county to be used by farmers as a conservation material. This seed is to be used as winter and early spring pasture, and also as a cover crop.

In connection with the war effort, county farmers show a big per cent of increase in soybean acreage for this year. It is hoped that the beans may be harvested and sold for oil to aid the war effort.

The hay crop, centering around the all-purpose lespedeza variety, stands to be as good as it has been in any recent year. The recent rainy weather has been ideal on the growth of grasses and fall legumes.

Wife: The girls tell me that I ride so well I actually appear to be part of the horse.

Hubby (casually): Uh-huh! Which part?

TOBACCO CARDS ARE AVAILABLE

Allotment and Marketing Cards May Be Obtained At County Agent's Office

SLIGHT CHANGE MADE

Tobacco allotment and marketing cards for 1942 are now available at the office of the Surry county farm agent at Dobson, A. P. Cobb, county agent, has announced.

The number of cards expected to be issued from the Surry office will total about the same number as were issued last year, or 3,200.

It was pointed out that a slight change has been made in the rules, whereby a farmer may arrange to hold over any tobacco from excess acreage this year and then deduct that amount from the acreage allotment for 1943. Full particulars of this plan may be obtained from Mr. Cobb's office.

The tobacco poundage cards do not limit the amount of pounds to be sold, providing the farmer has not exceeded his acreage allotment for the year. A farmer can market all the poundage he can produce on his allotted acreage.

was spent for war bonds will be returned later with good interest. But if our government can't get the scrap iron and steel and other materials it needs, it could be that not only would our citizens lose all the money that has been put into bonds, but also their liberty as well.

So—instead of looking at the salvage drive as something for someone else to contribute to, why not get busy and take a part yourself? When folks say "let George do it," they often overlook the fact that George is just as slack as they are.

And that ought to be a lesson to somebody.

STRANGE, BUT TRUE

Mrs. Sallie Smith, of State Road, who has a son, Garvey Smith, serving overseas in the armed forces, made a special visit to this office last week to tell of a strange occurrence.

Mrs. Smith said she had worried quite a bit about her boy since he had sailed for foreign soil, and that a few days ago while she was sitting on the porch thinking of him, a number of dirtdaubers, flying in formation like so many airplanes, suddenly appeared and set to work building a mud house — or whatever it is you call those mud nests dirtdaubers build — on the ceiling of the porch.

The insects, Mrs. Smith said, worked quickly, then as suddenly as they appeared they flew away. And there on the ceiling, perfectly formed, was a mud "V."

Strange, isn't it.

THIS AND THAT

Tomorrow is Friday, August 14. Two years ago tomorrow the Yadkin river made its entry into the basements of stores along Main street, washed away the laundry and numerous other buildings on South Bridge street, flooded homes on Front street and did untold damage up and down the Yadkin valley.

Interested citizens of North Wilkesboro and Elkin are seeking government action on a flood control dam at Wilkesboro. The government has made surveys — is still making surveys — and time passes. Let's hope a flood control dam will become a reality before another destructive flood rolls down the Yadkin.



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