

# Taylor's Farm or Fantasy Land?

By: Ruth Wells

Most people who have ever lived on a farm, or even observed a farming area are familiar with the female domestic fowl, better known as a hen, and her young, known as "chicks." But did you ever see a

Millie Fleur Bantam Rooster, caponized, calling the biddies to come get a choice bug he has just found, or cluck to them, telling them the ways of poultry life? Did you ever see a pheasant that made you think you were looking at a fashion model? I have.

A visit to the Leon Taylor's of Route 1, Faison is about as pleasant and fascinating, as well as informative thing as can happen to a person. Mrs. Taylor said she had been packing peppers for market, but she looked lovely enough to have just come from a beauty salon.

She showed me an arrangement of gourds that she had collected over a period of 20 years or more. She had painted them the loveliest colors and they were just beautiful. Another arrangement she had, made you think you were seeing an arrangement of balloons. They were long and round and grew into such graceful shapes you'd think they grew in a mold. The colors she had painted them were as pretty as the rainbow.

Outside the pretty lawn gave way to the barn yard. You instantly forgot that you were on a farm and again became a kid at the zoo! Wild turkeys, peafowls in all their glory, little bantam roosters raising families, Chinese honker, Mallard and Wood Ducks, and little roosters appearing to be wearing daintily ruffled leggings. Mrs. Taylor said she had a pheasant she wanted me to see. I expected one of those lovely tanish, brown birds that has so many vivid colors that adorn ladies hats, was I surprised when a little character paraded out before me looking and carrying herself exactly like a fashion model. The pheasant's legs, or lower part of the costume was black, a shiny jet black! The upper part of its body was white with just a tiny suggestion of black near the feather tips. Just below a stunning black head piece, was a brilliant red necklace. Fifth avenue has never produced a more stunning attire.

And then there was the Mexican Pheasant. His colors were more of the expected colors of the pheasant, which are vivid and beautiful, but he seemed to be wearing sort of a hat, or an extra amount of plumage about his head. No amount of persuasion could get him to display this plumage. Then when he thought I was no longer interested, in a sort of a strut he arranged them into a mexican sombrero, displaying the

most beautiful shades of gold and orange. He was a real treat.

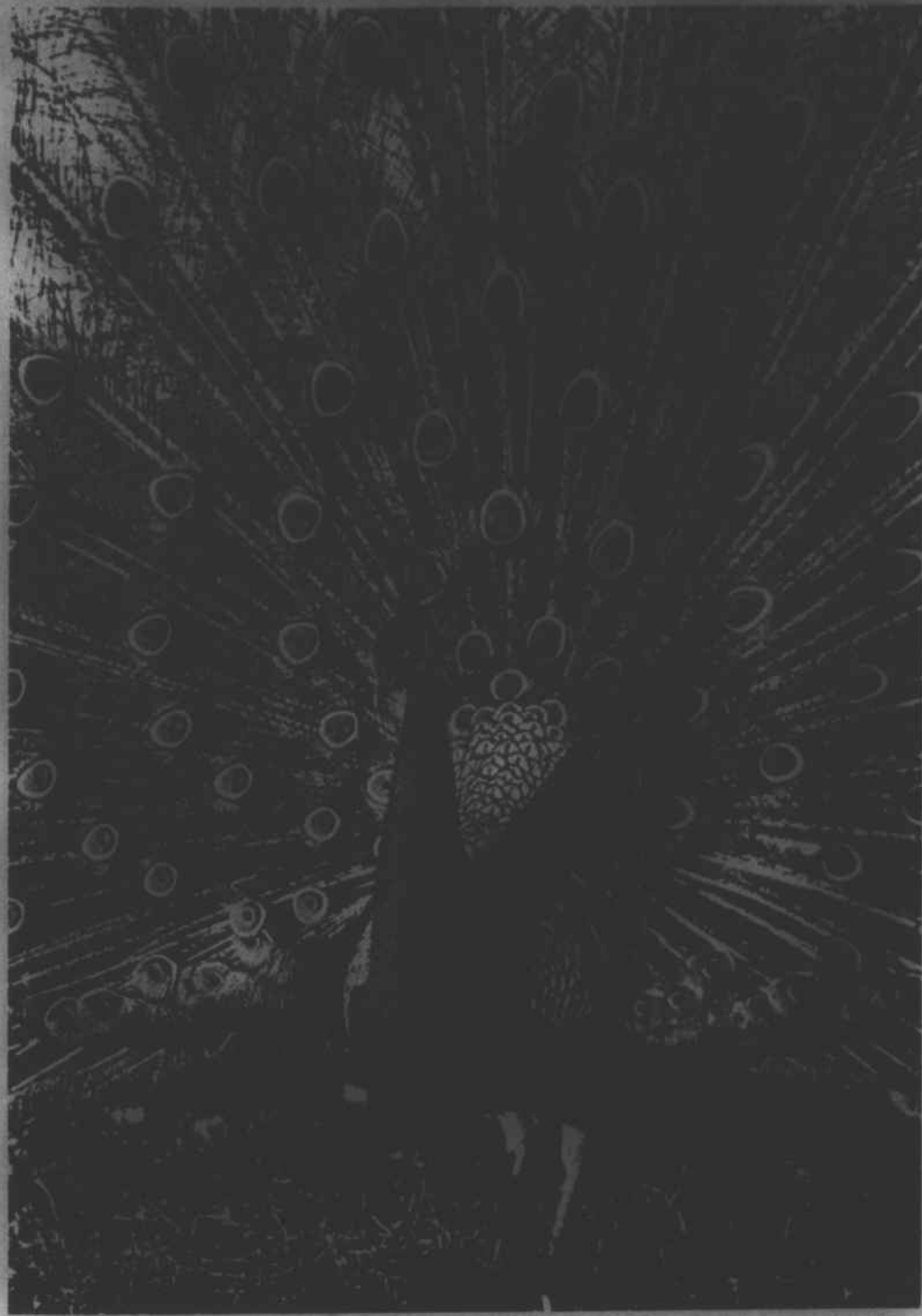
Mrs. Taylor said she wished I could see a peafowl with his fan spread. He was pretty to me with the long colorful plumage projecting at least a yard behind him. And then, all of a sudden he lifted that beautiful plumage up behind him forming the most vividly colored fan imaginable. I tried hard to get close enough to get his picture without frightening him. Just at the right moment to get the picture, a most welcome breeze gently turned him sideways and his back to the camera. The drab little female stood aside and gloried in his splendor.

The wild turkeys were actually raised on their farm. Someone brought them the eggs from Florida and they raised them. Now the wild turkeys are raising wild turkeys of their own. You can tell they are not like the other turkeys. They are much smaller and their color is darker, nature's way of protecting them.

The bantam roosters with the fringed feathers around their legs reminded me of a child playing grown-up, wearing mother's best clothing when her back was turned.

The Taylors, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Taylor and their two sons, Sam and Tiny love the unusual. At one time they had a cross between a quail and a pheasant. They also had until recently, squirrels. The kind that would sit back on his hind legs, his tail curled up into a question mark behind him. If you get too near him or his possessions he would really fuss you out. They no longer have the sly red fox, but the fish pond under the hill was alive with wood ducks, and Mallard ducks and Muscovy ducks, and Chinese honkers, a white goose with a 1-o-n-g neck and a bill of vivid orange. They must never stop honking.

I reluctantly left the Taylors, feeling that I had had a brief look into Fantasy Land.



Peacocks in all their glory are one of the many interesting things that you will find at the Leon Taylor's. They also grow wild turkeys, Mexican pheasants, Millie Fleur Bantams, Chinese Honkers, Mallard and Wood ducks, and many other interesting things.

## County's Farms Now Total 3,526, Reports Census

A total of 3,526 farms was counted in Duplin County during the 1964 Census of Agriculture, the U. S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of the Census reports.

In the last previous Census of Agriculture (1959), the total counted in the county was 4,342 farms.

The 1964 total is published in a preliminary report on the county just issued. The report also shows that average farm size in the county was 83.9 acres and that the average value of the county's farms (land and buildings) in 1964 was \$21,996.

Other important county statistics in the report are:

1. Value of all farm products sold by farms in the county in 1964, \$40,848,998; in 1959, \$26,765,917.

2. Value of all crops sold by county farms in 1964, \$21,556,796; in 1959, \$17,285,633.

3. Value of all livestock and livestock products sold by county farms in 1964, \$19,291,316; in 1959, \$9,480,284.

Information obtained for the first time in an agricultural census included the amount of income received by the county's farmers (\$887) from recrea-

tional services as well as data on the use of pest control chemicals in the county in 1964. A Census of Agriculture is taken every 5 years in years ending in "4" and "9" to gather information on the nation's agricultural resources and production. The data are needed to make decisions affecting many segments of the U. S. economy. The 1964 farm census was the 18th in a series that began in 1940.

The preliminary report for the county contains more than 500 facts about agriculture in the county. Among additional facts it contains are the number of farms by size, type, and economic class; the number of farm operators by method of tenure, age, color, off-farm work, and number of school years completed; land in farms by use and by land-use practices; data on equipment and families; farm expenditures; number of hired workers; and number of farms reporting poultry and livestock production and those reporting crop production by acres and quantities as well as sales.

NOTE: Single copies are available for 10 cents from the Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233 or from any field office of the Department of Commerce. These are located in major cities.



It is hard to believe that these are just plain old gourds and that they grew into these shapes, however the color was added. This is just one of the many interesting things that the Leon Taylor's produce as a hobby. (Photo by Ruth Wells)

## Planetarium Installs New Instruments

CHAPEL HILL - A quarter of a million dollars worth of new instrumentation will be installed in the Morehead Planetarium with funds granted by the Board of Trustees of the Morehead Foundation.

Hugh G. Chatham, Vice-Chairman of the Board, announced the gift after the Trustees study of the presentation of the new instrument and additions by Mr. Jenzano, Director of the Planetarium.

Order has been placed with the firm of Carl Zeiss, West Germany for the first in a new Model VI series of a highly improved Planetarium instrument. In addition, nearly twenty thousand dollars worth of modern accessory instruments will be installed simultaneously. The new Planetarium instrument prototype was demonstrated for the first time to Planetarium directors from all over the world at their recent meeting and visit to the Zeiss factory in Oberkochen.

On Tuesday, Roy Armstrong, Executive Secretary of the Foundation, concluded arrangements for the modernization program with University of North Carolina Chancellor J. Carlyle Sitterson, Business Manager J. A. Williams, Purchase Director R. L. Hardison, and Carl Zeiss Scientific Director W. E. Degenhard.

Morehead Planetarium Director A. F. Jenzano gratefully acknowledged the gift and said that "in decades to come, the new instruments will assure infinitely greater academic and aesthetic benefits to millions of people in all walks of life."

### Long-Lasting Relief For Headaches

What type of headache gets you down most often? Sinus or sick... "Monday" or tension? Though there are 15 major classifications of headaches, medical science finds that 90% of them are of the basic vascular type.

In this common-type headache, blood vessels of the head swell and press against sensitive nerves. It's this pressure, even slight, against nerves that gives you a pain in the head.

For relief, seven out of 10 adults turn to analgesics and use them at least once a month. But many also find that when the analgesic effect wears off, the headache can "bounce back."

According to headache experts, an effective remedy for

vascular headaches contains pain relievers as well as an agent to decrease swelling of blood vessels. Vanquish, for example, is the non-prescription headache reliever which combines five ingredients— aspirin and acetaminophen for pain, a vasoconstricting agent, plus two unique buffers. By relieving pain and vascular pressure, Vanquish gives long-lasting relief.



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