

FHA Farm Ownership Loan

One of the chief functions of the Farm Ownership loan is to assist eligible farmers to become the owner-operator of a family farm, and to make efficient use of their land, labor and other resources. Loan funds may be used to provide land and water development and conservation essential to the operation of the farm. Also to ditch and level stream banks to do away with silt and other forms of pollution plus many others.



**Excellent Crops
And
Good Land Use**

'Nature's Bank Is The Top Soil'

**SPRUCE PINE MICA
Company**

Spruce Pine Mica Meets Challenge Of Future

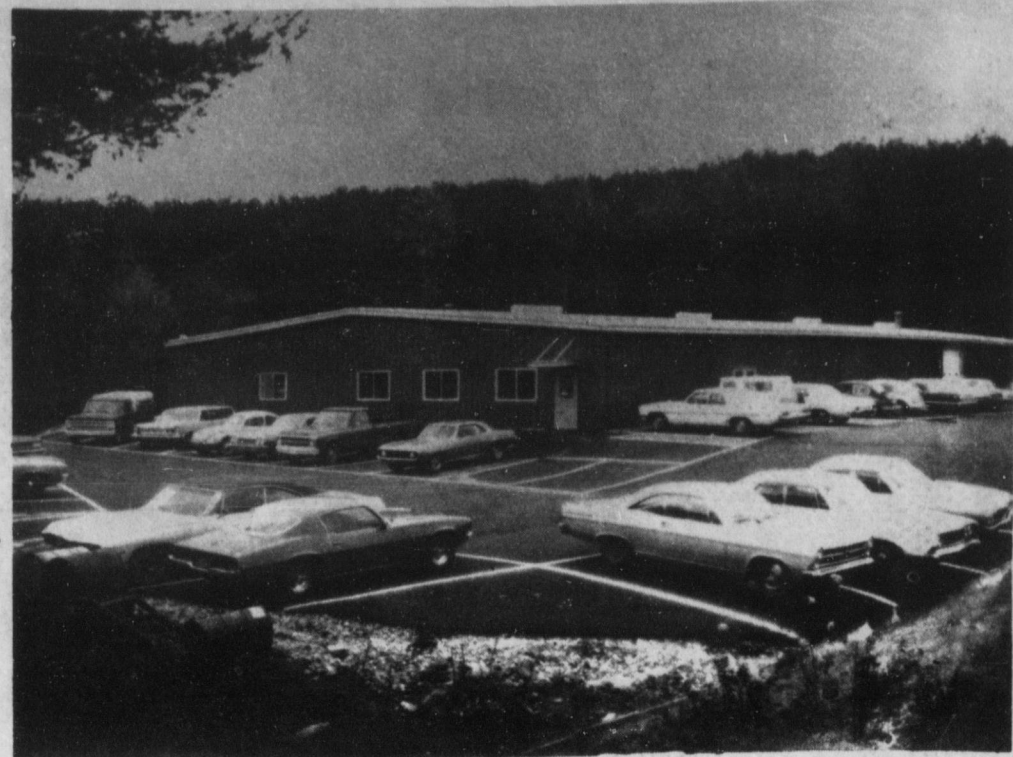
The last 25 years have brought about a great technical revolution in American industry. New materials, new products, and new ideas have changed nearly every phase of industry. This transition is especially evident in the mica industry.

At one time, the bulk of the mica business was in insulators for the appliance industry. Now, most of this has been taken over by synthetic materials. But for extremely precise, delicate or demanding applications, mica is irreplaceable. Such fields are aviation, space flight, laser, optical instruments, communication, precision instrumentation, medical electronics and a wide range of other forms of advanced technology. Many materials have replaced mica in the non-precision fields. And Spruce

Pine Mica has expanded into the fabrication of these materials. Terminal boards, bushings, jack panels, mounting blocks, and a great variety of other items are produced from such materials as Delrin, Nylon, Kapton, Phenolics, Glass Resins, Epoxy, Melamine, and Silicone—a complete range of industrial laminates. The uses of these parts are as varied as our mica products. Our parts, both mica and non-mica, have been a part

of our nation's industry, defense and space programs. Our reputation for quality and our ability to remain flexible in meeting new challenges combined with the pride of workmanship of our employees and their ability to meet new and unusual demands have made Spruce Pine Mica Company the leader of the industry.

We take great pride in our contribution to American technology.



Spruce Pine Mica Company Plant

The Fourth Pollution: Noise

By Roy T. Roberts
County Sanitarian

The fourth pollution and least talked about of all is that of noise. Noise is the only form of pollution that ceases to exist immediately upon completion of its damage.

Commonly defined as "unwanted sound", noise has become the object of increasing concern for over 20 years. It has been stated that noise levels have shown as much as a 20 decibel average growth over the normal noise level. The decibel is the unit of sound measure. Today one must speak with a vocal force 10 times greater than was necessary 20 years ago. If this continues, in less than 10 years urban noise will become of such intensity as to cause damage in a sizeable segment of our population.

Unfortunately the main source of this pollution is man's technology. It would be easy to point the finger at industry as the culprit, but we must not place all the blame there for the development of noisy products. Vacuum cleaners, for instance, have already been produced with low noise levels, but the American housewife will

not buy them because they associate power with noise. Typewriters made with a roller, which would not produce the sudden and sharp clatter, were rejected by secretaries because they felt their employers gauged productivity by the rapid-fire sound of their typewriters.

Noise is disruptive and destructive. Continued subjection to noise results in fatigue, irritability, tension and generally reduced efficiency. Noise can be disruptive, leaving us upset and feeling out of sorts. Noise may also cause destruction to the tiny and irreplaceable structures in the ear. In 1968, when he was surgeon general, Dr. W. H. Stewart said, "calling noise a nuisance is like calling smog an inconvenience. Noise must be considered a hazard to the health of people everywhere." In other words, Dr. Stewart categorized noise the same as a virus. It is something which must be controlled and where possible, eliminated.

Noise control will undoubtedly be expensive. Whether we are serious about reducing the noise pollution in our environment can be

readily assessed in large measure by our willingness to bear the additional expense. It will be money well spent!

Quality land and water management and the public interest call for skills and resources that some landowners do not have. Several programs have been developed to assist them. The agencies listed below are as near to every landowner as the telephone or the county courthouse. Many additional sources of assistance are available.



Soil Conservation Districts
The laws establish soil and water conservation districts as local subdivisions of the State. The districts are responsible only to the people within the district and to their state government. They are operated by governing bodies consisting of local people, elected or appointed by the state committee, usually landowners or operators. Any landowner may become a cooperator with his soil conservation district by agreeing to conserve and use his land properly. The landowner starts his resource conservation plan as soon as he becomes a cooperator. His plan may take several months to complete, depending on his decisions or resources and how soon the district can furnish him technical advice and assistance. The supervisors for Yancey County are: Earl Young, Route 6, Burnsville; Walter Edwards, Route 1, Burnsville; Carl Rice, Route 6, Burnsville, Luther Ayers, Burnsville and Robert Helmle, Burnsville. Supervisors for Mitchell County are: Ed Wilson, Ted Carpenter and Frank Griffith and W. O. Wilson.



SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

Soil Conservation Service: The Congress established the SCS as an agency of the Department of Agriculture in 1935. Technical services are provided in the use of soil and water and land development along with other resource conservation problems that cannot be solved by generalized techniques. The soil conservationists provide data about soil on any particular land, rural or urban, and helps landowners solve their problems that require special skills or knowledge. Technicians provide services primarily through soil conservation districts to plan and apply the combination of measures, such as drains, ponds, waterways, strip cropping, conservation cropping systems, pasture planting and management and woodland establishment

and improvement. On non agriculture land such as housing, industry and recreation the service may provide soil interpretations and also information on limitations for use such as septic tank fields, sanitary landfill and roadways. Assistance is given for keeping erosion to a minimum during construction and stabilizing the area after earth moving is completed.

If the landowner wants a resource conservation plan it is prepared for his individual use only. The soil data and land use information is recorded on aerial photographs. The plan includes what the landowner wants to do with his soil and water and what he intends to accomplish in conservation and use of the land.

The field technicians provide help in planning and establishing the more permanent practices cost-shared through the REAP program. The SCS also carries out many other programs that could apply to this area such as the small watersheds Public Law 566 and Rural Conservation and Development projects.

The soil conservation technician in Yancey County is Ned Jester and in Mitchell County is Ray Bryant.