

State Fair To Present Many Amusements

A sparkling array of outstanding entertainment features has been booked for the North Carolina State Fair starting October 19, Manager J. S. Dorton has announced.

For the first time in many years, the lengthy midway will be graced by a new and different carnival. The James E. Strates Shows, one of the fastest rising outfits in outdoor show business, will bring a half-hundred thrilling rides and good, clean shows to the spacious fairgrounds near Raleigh. This amusement organization, a veteran in the field, has been rebuilt from the ground up within the last few years and now offers one of the finest carnival aggregations on the road.

Grandstand features will be provided again by George A. Hamid, New York impresario whose top-notch en-

tertainment has been a perennial feature with North Carolina fair-goers. The big grandstand stage will be filled with a glittering musical revue each evening, plus 12 spectacular and colorful hippodrome acts gathered from many sections of the world. The acts also will be presented each afternoon in the grandstand arena, augmenting the harness races scheduled for Tuesday, Thursday and Friday of Fair Week; Jack Kochman's world champion Hall Drivers on Wednesday and AAA-sanctioned auto races on Saturday.

Each evening's program will end with a spectacular display of aerial fireworks.

A unique feature of the Fair's entertainment program will be a folk festival, featuring plenty of old-time music and dancing, which will be presented each afternoon and evening under the personal direction of Bascom Lamar Lunsford, famed "minstrel of the Appalachians." The festival will include contests by choirs, bands, square dance teams and individual performers.

Rat Proofing Will Save Grain, Agent Says

If all the rats in Perquimans County were destroyed within the next 30 days, this would probably save more grain than any other attempt, says I. C. Yagel, county agent for the State College Extension Service.

Farmers in this county are losing hundreds of dollars each year through the amount of grain and feedstuffs destroyed or made unusable by the common rat, Mr. Yagel said. Because of this and the fact that they stand to lose even more another year, every farmer in the county should try to rid their premises of rats.

In most cases the use of poison baits is the best method for destroying rats, he pointed out, although traps bring good results when skillfully used. Killing a few rats is only a temporary riddance, however, and usually should be accompanied by the elimination of rat harborage and the rat proofing of buildings. Any one of a number of poisons can be successfully used, but bait prepared with red squill is primarily to be recommended, not only because it kills the rats but because it is relatively harmless to humans and domestic animals.

The cost of rat proofing the entire premises of many Perquimans County farms would amount to less than the loss caused by rats on the same farms during a single year, Mr. Yagel said. In no other place is rat proofing more badly needed or less often accomplished than on the farm.

A rat proof farm is not necessarily one in which the entire farmstead is absolutely proofed, but rather one where conditions are so unfavorable for any invading rats that they either will desert the premises of their own accord or may be easily routed by man or dogs.

Proper Curing Advised For Sweet Potatoes

Farmers who cure their sweet potatoes carefully and store them at the proper temperature and humidity are finding their losses from rot to be reduced appreciably, says H. M. Covington, Extension Horticulture specialist at State College.

Sweet potatoes have for years been "cured" before storage—kept for about 10 days immediately after harvest at a temperature of 85 degrees and a relative humidity of about 85 per cent. The explanation for the success of this process is that when the skin of a sweet potato tuber is broken in the harvesting process, the tuber forms a layer of corky cells which heals the wound. This healing takes place most rapidly in fairly high temperature and moisture conditions.

Even with the greatest possible care in handling, there are at least two small wounds on almost every sweet potato, where the ends are broken in harvesting. Until completely healed by the formation of new cells, these breaks are entrances for disease-producing organisms. U. S. Department of Agriculture specialists working in cooperation with the Southeastern States have found that wound-cork layers formed beneath the dried and hardened wound surface greatly retard infection and to a large degree actually prevent it.

At a temperature of 85 degrees and a relative humidity of 85 per cent this healing process begins by the third day and proceeds rapidly. The potatoes should be placed in the curing house within a few hours after digging, and in no case should they be allowed to remain outside over-night. After curing, storage house temperatures should drop to about 55 degrees, but humidity should be maintained at 80 to 85 per cent. Storage temperatures should not be allowed to go below 50 degrees, or cold damage may result.

MINUTES OF MEETING BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Board of Education met in regular session Monday, September 13, 1948, in the office of the secretary. Mrs. Cooke and Mr. Barber were absent. Chairman W. E. Dail presided.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The status of the pick-up truck used by the county for maintenance purposes was discussed at length. Motion was made, seconded and passed authorizing the superintendent to deal with the State Board of Education in establishing ownership of the truck and to define uses to which the truck should be put.

Discussed the use of Memorial Field for various activities. Motion made, seconded and carried to refer the matter to a special committee.

Directed that all schools in the county should continue to operate on regular schedule.

Authorized superintendent to advertise for sale the following school property: Leighs Temple, Cedar Hill, Wyanoke and Saunders Bottom. Committee from public library appeared requesting permission to store Bookmobile in the county school garage. Request granted.

JOHN T. BIGGERS, Secretary Perquimans Board of Education. adv

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(Continued from Page Seven) way of life, and too often they are deprived of that teaching because of our neglect. The first, last, best and most influential teacher of religion

is the family. The family dedicated to goodness will rear children with sound and deep religious feeling. That is what we need.

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people to carry the responsibility for the religious instruction of our children. That is the duty and the high privilege of the family group. The groups gather their strength from the family, the source of all support for church and school and state. Let us see that our own children receive this most essential endowment of the soul."



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