

4-H Club News

By E. L. TOPPING
Assistant County Agent

The 4-H column this week will attempt to further explain the 4-H program to the parents of this county. Many parents, I believe, who in the past have taken no interest in the 4-H activities, would play a more important role if they had a better understanding of the 4-H Club work.

The 4-H club is a nation wide organization conducted by the United States Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the North Carolina State College of Agriculture and your county. The 4-H has as its objective to give your boy and girl training in better practices in agriculture and home making, and in the broader phases of community organization and the finer, more significant things of life. We mold the destiny of our future through youth organizations of this type.

The basis of the 4-H program was established on project activity. Through the project the 4-H Clubber should find the pride of ownership and a reasonable profit if it is properly carried out.

When 4-H projects turn out to be "John's Pig and Daddy's Hog", or "Mary's chicks and Mama's hens" the very basis of the 4-H project is destroyed. Nothing discourages a boy or girl so much as being deprived of the profits from a project they have so faithfully carried out. I have heard parents say, when it was suggested that their 4-H boy be allowed to own a crop or animal, that their parents never gave them responsibilities of this nature when they were growing up. This excuse for not allowing your boy or girl to own a pig or acre of corn seems to be the best reason I have heard why the parents should do everything possible to help and encourage this boy or girl to carry to completion a profitable project. Others say they can't afford a project. If one would stop long enough to check the record, or some of the active 4-H members in this county you would have to admit that you can't afford not to start your

boy on a project. We have 4 members in this county who have not only done their part of the family chores but with their 4-H projects have earned enough money to buy all their clothes, earned all their spending money, and started a good bank account. You as a parent have a very definite part in making the 4-H achievements and the other activities of your boy or a girl a success.

Many of our 4-H members in this county are becoming purebred hog breeders. Of course, we all know that greatest production is realized by cross breeding in a swine program. However, pure-bred animals must be raised in order to have something to cross and should sell for a premium on the market. This premium is what the boys are going to shoot for. These 4-H members feel that, if we can't get enough good pure bred pigs in the county that we should be able to hold a 4-H pure bred hog sale. Naturally this can't be done unless we have the backing of the farmers and business men of this area. I have talked to several farmers and business men of the county about this 4-H hog sale and most of them talk very encouraging. If there are any of you whom I haven't talked to who are interested and will give your support, let me know how you feel about it.

Some of the 4-H boys now owning pure bred hogs are Thomas Chappell of the Bethel Community, Alton Ray Stallings out toward the Beech Springs vicinity, Clarence Chappell, Jr., of the Belvidere section, Ben Skinner on the New Hope road, Seth Morgan of Winfall, Ray Twine near Belvidere, John William Chappell, out toward Chappell Hill and several others.

Several pure bred hog breeders in the county have agreed to furnish pure bred gilts on credit to 4-H members who want to get started on a brood sow project. So far, however, only purebred Duroc Breeder Preston Nixon has been called on to furnish 4-H gilts on credit. Mr. Nixon lets the 4-H boy pick out any gilt he has, then they agree on a fair price. Mr. Nixon absorbs the expense of vaccination, registration, transporting the

pig to the 4-H member's home, and breeding when the gilt becomes large enough. Any 4-H member that wants a 4-H gilt on credit should contact me and I'll introduce him to some of our purebred breeders. Incidentally, any of you hog raisers that get tired of hauling water to your pigs every day might stop by Mr. Preston Nixon's and notice that self-hog waterer he has.

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DATES TO REMEMBER:
4-H County Council meeting, June 14.
4-H Short Course in Raleigh, July 24-29.

4-H State Livestock Judging Contest, July 24.
Farm and Home Week, Raleigh, July 24-29.

July 31-August 5
4-H Summer Camp, Manteo, August 7-12.

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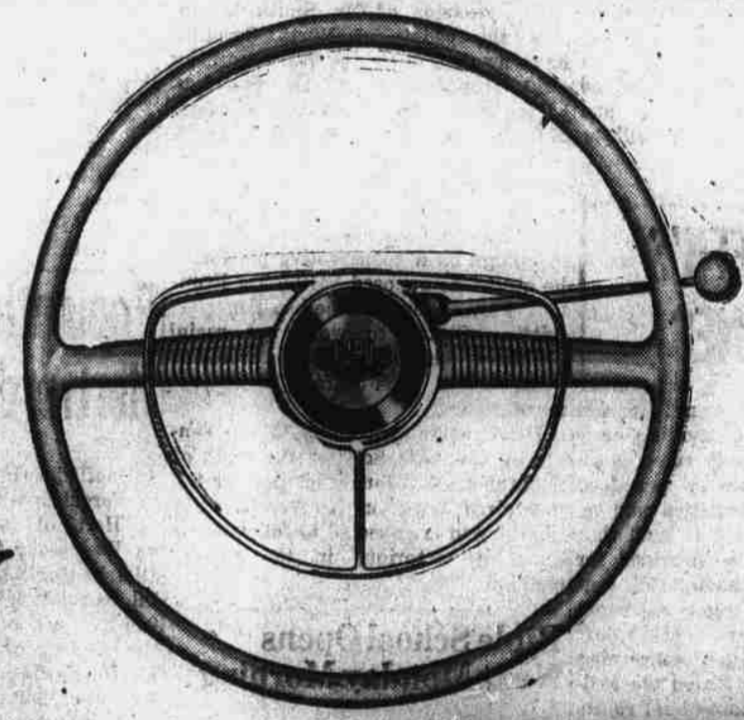
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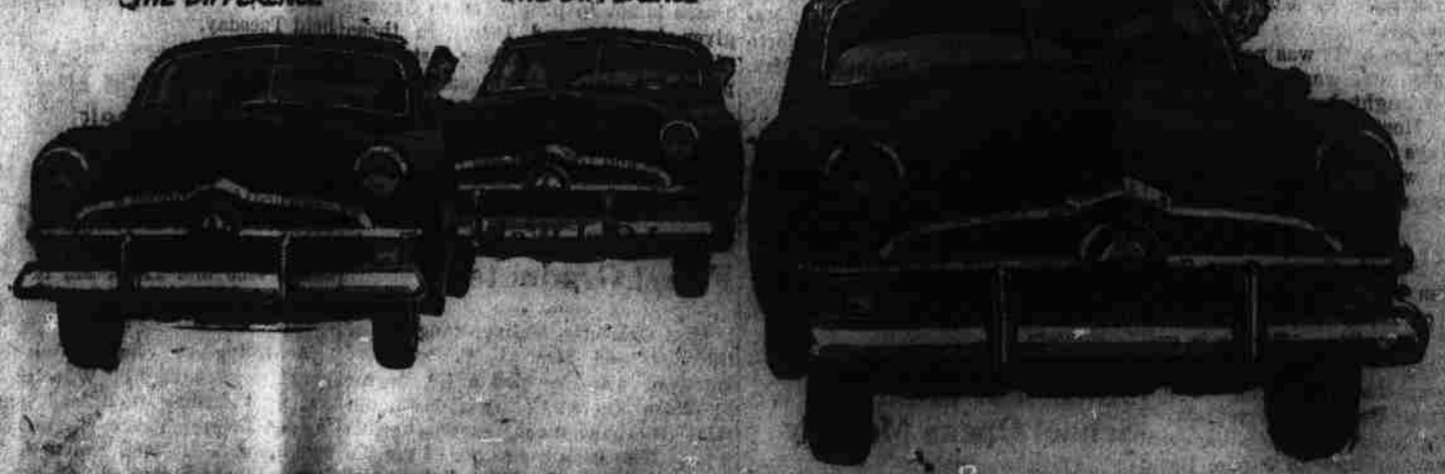
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