

## Disabled Veterans Better Positions In Vocational Training

Disabled veterans who have completed vocational training under the terms of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act, Public Law 16, have shown persistence in carrying through their rehabilitation and have significantly bettered themselves in vocational terms.

These conclusions are indicated by a spot survey completed by one of the Veterans Administration large regional offices of a typical group of disabled veterans of World War II who have completed vocational training.

The earning capacity of the group showed a marked increase. The average monthly earnings of the veterans surveyed was \$181 before they began vocational training. After completion of the training, the average earnings was found to be \$300.

Persistence in their vocation was shown by the fact that 86 per cent of the group surveyed continued in the jobs they had chosen, following completion of their training. Of those who changed, it was found additionally that 6 per cent of the total number had benefitted themselves by changing.

A third significant conclusion was that the veterans' degree of disability was not a factor in the length of time he trained. Some of the more seriously disabled men tended to reach their vocational goals as quickly as the others, which indicated that the guiding factor was the veteran's mental attitude and ambition, rather than the degree of his disability.

## New Tack Used To Lure New Industries

Efforts to attract industry to the South took a new tack in North Carolina last year, according to a report prepared for publication in the 1954 yearbook of the American Peoples Encyclopedia.

At various times during the year, Gov. William B. Umstead sponsored forums in a number of regions in the state at which industrialists outlined the lures which were most attractive to businessmen seeking a plant site. According to the yearbook article, a number of new industries were attracted into the state as a direct result of these unique forums.

In a review of developments in the state last year, the American Peoples Yearbook pointed out that while the severe drought conditions, which existed throughout most of the summer, inflicted considerable crop damage, the lower yields served as a significant price drop. The net result was that the actual dollar loss on crops was almost negligible.

Severity of the drought was highlighted in the fact that normal rainfall in the state in October is more than 2½ inches, but less than a half-inch actually fell during that month last year—the driest October in weather bureau history.

Flue-cured tobacco production last year amounted to 821,640,000 pounds—off 9 per cent from 1952 because of an acreage cut; cotton production, at 460,000 bales was down 19 per cent from the preceding year. The drop in cotton production was attributed to a severe boll weevil invasion coupled with the drought, the yearbook's report stated. On the other side, production of corn was up 3.9 per cent to a total of 58,380,000 bushels.

The state's top cash crop again was tobacco, worth \$451,902,000 compared with \$448,582,000 in 1952.

## Clean-up Can Add Space And Safety In Homes

Plenty of storage space! That is a housewife's dream—and no matter how many closets she has or how roomy an attic or cellar, she never seems satisfied.

But maybe your home provides more storage space than you think. Spring clean-up time is a good time to find out. Here's how you can do it.

As you clean each room, look for piles of old boxes, hats or shoes that are no longer wearable, broken furniture, magazines and newspapers from bygone years—in other words, all useless objects which may have accumulated in closets or corners, attic or cellar.

As you come across them, be honest with yourself: if you haven't used them during the past year, you won't use them this year, either. Don't continue to hang on to them "just in case"—throw them out!

You will probably be amazed at how full your rubbish barrel will be—and at the extra storage space you've provided for yourself.

Better still, you will also have made your home safer from fire, because according to the National Board of Fire Underwriters, combustible rubbish is a serious fire hazard.

No doubt about it, the time it takes you will be time well spent!

Tip-Off

"Do you ever have to hurry to catch your morning train, Mr. Millington?"

"Well, it's fairly even, you know. Either I'm standing on the platform when the train pulls in, or I push in while the train stands on the platform."

## Civil Defense Director



**EDWARD FOSTER GRIFFIN**  
Brig.-Gen. Edward Foster Griffin of Louisburg, new North Carolina Civil Defense Director. General Griffin's appointment by the North Carolina Council of Civil Defense, Gov. William B. Umstead, Chairman, fills the vacancy created six months ago when William F. Bailey resigned to become Director of Prisons.

## Farm Bureau Views

By J. A. Sutton

The offices of Perquimans County Farm Bureau had planned to hold a meeting during the second week of March, for which time they had partial promise of a speaker from the North Carolina Peanut Growers Association.

However, it so happened that the desired speaker could not be secured for that time so this meeting will be held as soon as this speaker becomes available. It is hoped that all peanut farmers in the county will try to attend this meeting.

Many farmers are showing an increased interest in the general farm situation in regards to present and proposed legislation and how it might affect them. In this month's North Carolina Farm Bureau News, R. Flake Shaw has written a very interesting article on the agricultural act of 1949 and its application. It would be well for every Farm Bureau member, or better still every farmer, to read and understand the meaning of this article.

So, if you are a member of the Farm Bureau read your magazine then pass it along to your neighbor who might be interested.

## Merit System Exams Will Be Held April 10

Merit System examinations for professional positions with the State Board of Public Welfare and the county welfare departments are scheduled to be held on April 10, 1954. The North Carolina Merit System Council has announced that these examinations will be given in Raleigh, Wilmington, New Bern, Hickory, Elizabeth City, Wilson, Durham, Greensboro, Winston-Salem, Charlotte, Asheville and Fayetteville.

These examinations will be held throughout the State, if there are a sufficient number of applicants. Applications must be submitted on the official form. These may be obtained from the Merit System Office, Mansion Park Building, Raleigh, N. C., or from any local health, welfare, or employment service office. Bulletins giving further information about the welfare positions and examinations may be obtained from the Merit System Office.

**SAFETY CONFERENCE MAY 4-6**  
The 24th Annual Statewide Industrial Safety Conference will be held in Raleigh May 4, 5, and 6. The Sir Walter Hotel will be conference headquarters.

The program being developed for the entire conference will be interesting and informative and will help in the solution of many safety problems.

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