

13 Percent Of Timber In South Is Destroyed

Destructive mortality accounts for 13 percent of the drain on living timber in the South, says R. W. Graeber, Extension forester of N. C. State College. The destructive forces are chiefly fire, insects, disease and wind.

"Timber farming is a great industry in the Southern states," Graeber said, "but it can be a greater and higher income-producing industry if care is taken to control destructive forces."

Recent data compiled by the U. S. Forest Service and other agencies shows that 40 percent of the timber used in the South is made into lumber. Another 29 percent goes for fuel wood, 4 percent for new cross ties, 4 percent for pulp wood, 3 percent for fence posts, and 7 percent for other uses by man.

North Carolina, a typical Southern state, has more than 10 million acres of farm woodland, or more than 50 percent of the total farm land. Another million and a quarter acres of idle land can and should be returned to forests through planting, the Extension specialist stated.

"We in North Carolina can use our woodlands more advantageously by cutting conservatively, preventing fires, and growing more timber," Graeber stated. Firebreaks can wisely be constructed along property lines, to divide timber into small units of 20 to 25 acres each.

Other points in progressive timber farming are listed by the forester in the form of questions: (1) Have you made an effort to stop fires from reaching your land from adjoining property? (2) Do you cooperate with your neighbors and the County Fire Wardens in preventing and controlling fires? (3) Have you had your land posted against hunting, fishing and camping without permission? (4) Do you inspect your woods for lightning strikes after each storm to remove damaged trees and thereby prevent insect outbreaks?

OUR DEMOCRACY

by Mat

A FOUNDING FATHER OF PREPAREDNESS.

HIS GIN HAD MADE COTTON KING—BUT PAID HIM NOTHING TILL YEARS LATER, IN 1812.

BACK IN NEW HAVEN

HE GOT SOME FRIENDS TO INVEST, AND BUILT A FACTORY FOR ANOTHER PURPOSE. IT SEEMED A FLAT FAILURE, BUT EVENTUALLY HIS INITIATIVE, PATIENCE AND ENTERPRISE PROVED OUT.



IN THIS FACTORY MASS PRODUCTION—INTERCHANGEABLE PARTS—FOUNDATION STONES OF MODERN INDUSTRY AND TODAY'S NATIONAL DEFENSE WERE BOTH DEVELOPED BY ELI WHITNEY—BY 1806 HE PRODUCED 10,000 MUSKETS WITH EACH LOCK, STOCK AND BARREL INTERCHANGEABLE.

Better Farm Buildings Needed In This State

The changing agriculture of North Carolina has brought into sharp relief the need for better farm buildings, says D. S. Weaver, head of the State College Department of Agricultural Engineering. He referred especially to the expansion of livestock production, and the need for animal shelters, feed and cattle barns, and other such equipment.

Two other types of buildings which are in increasing demand, Prof. Weaver said, are grain storages and sweet potato curing houses. Each of these buildings requires careful consideration in properly siting it and in its design and construction.

To assist farmers with the constructing of grain storages and sweet potato curing houses, the State College Department of Agricultural Engineering maintains a free blueprint service which includes plans for these and many other types of structures.

Prof. Weaver suggested that farm people get in touch with their county agents of the State College Extension Service. Agents have complete lists of all plans available at State College, and most of the plans are illustrated. All orders for blueprints should be placed through county agents. They are free.

The agricultural engineer thinks that the time will shortly come when farm buildings can be erected or repaired advantageously with respect to cost of materials and labor. "It is true that building materials are higher than usual now," he stated, "and labor is also affected by defense programs including the establishment of Army camps and the like. However, as soon as these public works are completed both materials and labor should be more reasonable."

Livestock Prices Reported Higher

Raleigh, April 21.—North Carolina farmers received substantially greater prices for the livestock products last month compared with the same period in 1940 as a result of increased purchasing power, partially attributed to an expansion of national defense program, T. L. Stuart, junior statistician of the State Department of Agriculture, reported today.

Quoting the U. S. Agricultural Marketing Service report for March 15, comparing prices with the same date last year Stuart said that hogs brought \$6.30, up \$1.50 per 100 lbs; beef cattle \$6.10 per 100 pounds, up 30 cents; veal calves, \$8.50 per 100 pounds, up 60 cents; sheep, \$4.90 per 100 pounds, up 20 cents.

Chickens were selling for an average of 15 cents a pound March 15, or 1.3 cents above the same date last year; butter averaged producers 24 cents a pound, or two cents above the same period a year ago.

The price report for March 15 compared with the same period in 1940, follows:

Wheat \$1 per bushel, down nine cents; corn, 70 cents a bushel, up five cents; oats, 55 cents a bushel, down one cent; barley, 79 cents a bushel, same as last year; rye, 97 cents a bushel, down one cent; Irish potatoes, 75 cents a bushel, up 15 cents.

Lespedeza Crop No. 2 In Nation

Raleigh, April 21.—North Carolina ranks second in the Nation in the production of clean lespedeza seed, W. T. Wesson, junior statistician of the State Department of Agriculture, reported yesterday.

Production of clean lespedeza seed last year totaled 19,152,900 lbs 22 percent under the previous year.

Federal-State Crop Reporting Service summaries indicate that growers last year sold 34 per cent of their lespedeza seed to dealers, 10 percent to other farmers and held 13 per cent for future sales.

"North Carolina farmers held 43 per cent of their clean lespedeza seed in 1940 for planting this year, with 38 per cent for Spring planting and give percent for later seed ing," Wesson said.

"While North Carolina is an important lespedeza seed producing state, the crop is still relatively new to our farmers," he added. "Lespedeza was planted in Union county in 1915 as a soil-improving crop. Three years later, a few farmers began cutting the crop for hay. And in 1923 it was reported that growers were saving seed for their own use and selling surplus seed."

"In 1923, lespedeza acreage for seed covered 4,000 acres; whereas in 1938, a total of 145,000 acres were harvested for seed. Increased use of combines have brought growers greater savings of seed."

Wesson explained that "the drought in the southern piedmont counties last season cut the yield of lespedeza considerably, with additional losses being incurred because plants were too short for harvesting with combines."

Drunken Drivers Increase Tragic Deaths On Highways

Drunken drivers are on the rampage in North Carolina and constitute one of the factors contributing to the current serious increase in traffic deaths on the streets and highways of this state, the Highway Safety Division reported this week.

Basis for this report was a record number of revocations for drunken driving and a considerable increase in traffic deaths caused by drunken drivers.

Revocations for January, February and March totaled 1,809, the highest three months total on record. Since enforcement of the law relating to drunken driving is more or less constant, an increase in revocations points to an increase in the prevalence of drunken driving officials said.

Drunken drivers killed 120 persons in North Carolina last year, this being 13 percent of the total of 900 traffic fatalities. 11 of the 120 traffic deaths in the state in February of this year and 10 of the 70 verified March fatalities to date were caused by drinking drivers, according to records of the safety division. Thus, 27 out of the 157 fatalities for the two-month period, or 17 per cent of the total, resulted from drinking and driving. This was five percent above the 1940 average.

Twenty seven people were killed in this state in February and March by drivers who were foolish enough to think that they could drive safely after taking a few drinks, declared Ronald Hocutt, director of the Highway Safety Division. Of all types of traffic accidents, I know of none for which there is as little justification or excuse as those involving drinking drivers.

"To the end that accidents of this type may be eliminated as a factor in our accident problem, I appeal to all North Carolina drivers to refrain from mixing their drinking and driving, and I urge all enforcement officers in the state to be unrelenting and extremely vigilant in apprehending and bringing to justice this ruthless killer—the drunken driver."



What's the Answer?

By EDWARD FINCH



BEFORE a duel with swords the gladiators of ancient Rome were accustomed to drink. Wine was furnished by a relative or a friend of one of them and to show that there was no poison in the glass of his opponent, the challenger poured his wine into the other's glass and back again until the contents of both glasses were thoroughly mixed. That custom extended to social usage and finally as the days of poisoned wine became past history, it evolved merely to the clinking of glasses.

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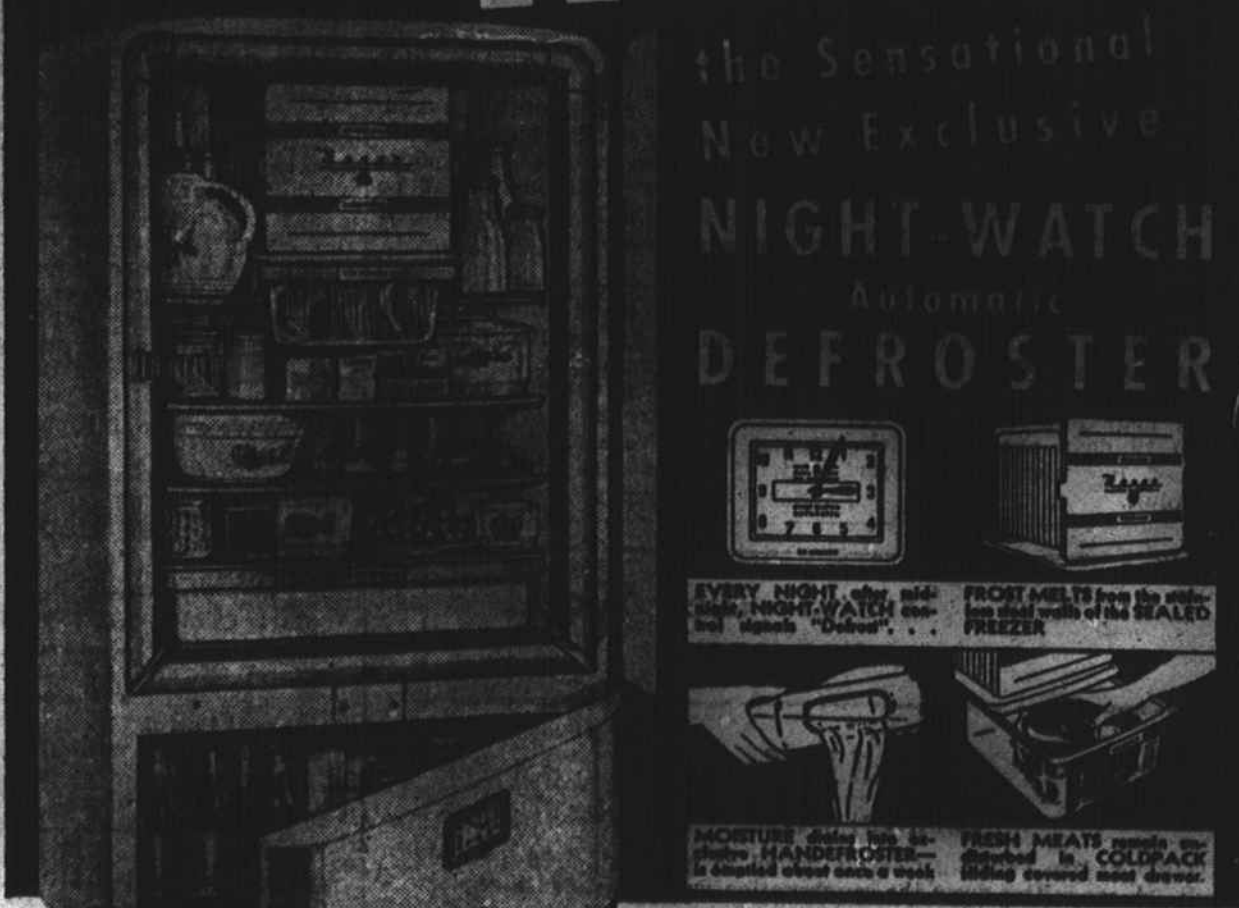
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